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Jewish Reconstructionist
Movement

Temple B'nai Abraham

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Important Dates

Interfaith Dialogue	11/14
Morning Service	11/16
Tot Shabbat	11/22
Congregational Hanukkah Celebra-	11/24
Sisterhood's "Flower Arranging"	11/25

"The Temple Shofar"

November, 2013

Rabbi's Message

Thanksgivukkah, Thanksgivukkah
Come light the menorah
Let's eat some turkey
We'll all dance the horah
Gather round the table
We'll all have a treat
Football and Mummies,
and latkes to eat.

I feel an especially delightful anticipation this year as I await the arrival of Thanksgivukkah. For those who may not be familiar with this ancient Jewish holiday... it isn't ancient and isn't entirely Jewish. Thanksgivukkah is the name that has been given to the rarity of the overlapping, and possibly blended, Jewish and American holidays of Hanukkah and Thanksgiving. (In true American fashion, this name has been trademarked... Can you imagine if ancient Jewish holiday names had been trademarked?!)

This year may be the first occurrence of Thanksgivukkah, and it may be the last depending on whether we believe humanity, the Jewish people, and/or the United States will all still exist in any recognizable form in 79,043 years. Of course, in almost Talmudic fashion, every one of these stipulations is disputed. Some say that Thanksgivukkah may have occurred once before in the late 1800's, some say that it has occurred three times (in 1888, 1899, and 1918), and some that it has never previously occurred. And then there is the (characteristically) special case of Texas... As to Thanksgivukkah happening again? Some say it will happen again in 2070 and then in 2165, but a quantum physicist named Jonathan Mizrahi created a computer model indicating that it would be well over 70,000 years before it could happen again. So ultimately your decision about what to believe might depend on whether you lend more credence to the calculations of chabad.org or those of a quantum physicist...

Let me digress for a moment into some historical details to give context for the discussion. 1863 is the year when Abraham Lincoln set the date for the observance of Thanksgiving to the last Thursday of November – in years when there was a

fifth Thursday there was the potential for overlap with Hanukkah if the Jewish calendar was running on the early side that year. But in 1942 Thanksgiving was set by Congress to the fourth Thursday of November – an action that made it exceedingly rare that any overlap could occur. Although this change was made on a national level in 1942, apparently Texas kept to its own practice of observing the last Thursday of the month well into the 50's – which means Thanksgivukkah could have occurred there in 1945 and 1956 (among the masses of Jews who populate that state...).

The rarity of Thanksgivukkah has resulted in a whole host of innovative recipes, songs, and ritual objects. If you want to immerse in the hype, be sure to get your t-shirt and holiday cards. You can also try to order the infamous Menurkey – a turkey menorah – invented by a 9-year-old named Asher Weintraub. I find the most appeal in the recipes that are floating around – creative blendings of some of my favorite holiday foods! The recipes for sweet potato latkes with cranberry apple sauce, raspberry and cranberry jelly filled sufganiyot, and challah apple stuffing for the turkey sound absolutely divine to me! I also anticipate watching the Steelers/Ravens game to the light of the menorah...

In reading a wide variety of posts and articles about Thanksgivukkah, complete with disputations about the calendar and various ritual and culinary innovations, I have had a sense that I am being treated to a snapshot of how Judaism evolves, has always evolved, in conversation with surrounding cultures. The vibrancy and creativity of Jewish life can be magnified when integrated and open to its host culture. Even if Thanksgivukkah won't come again for 57 years or 70,000 years, I can't help but wonder if some of these new recipes might become part of the stream of Jewish holiday food long after Thanksgivukkah has passed.

This month, I wish all of us a Thanksgivukkah sameach, a happy Thanksgiving-Hanukkah!

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau



Interfaith Dialogue

"Fear, Faith and the Future"

The next Interfaith Dialogue will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the Dorothea Dix Unitarian Universalist Church on Park St. in Bordentown. Once again, our own Rabbi Julie will be participating on a fascinating panel about various faiths' approach to the uncertainties of the future, the mysteries of the unknown, and the power of faith in confronting our human limita-

Sisterhood News & Announcements

Sisterhood Officers

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Marcy Schwartz

Recording Secretary
Ellen Wehrman

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The outing to the Rutgers Jewish Film Festival on October 27 was greatly enjoyed by those who attended. The films, Let's Dance! and Sukkah City, were interesting and thought-provoking. We are so fortunate to have this excellent film festival so close to our community. Hope to see you there next year!

The November meeting of Sisterhood will be held Monday, November 25, 2013. Karen Nissim, florist extraordinaire, will guide you as you make a Thanksgiving centerpiece that you can be proud to share with family and friends. This is a very popular event and always fun as well as productive. You are welcome to attend even if you do not wish to make a centerpiece- but it is much more fun if you participate. Karen will provide the flowers, container, and any other materials you need, you provide \$40 for the cost of these items. If you pay by check, please make it payable to the Sarah Seidel Sisterhood. The cost is less than you would pay to purchase a Thanksgiving centerpiece of this quality- you will be amazed at how much Karen puts into these arrangements. Please make your reservations and send your checks directly to Karen Nissim, 38 Thompson Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505, [609-298-4845](tel:609-298-4845), KarenNissim@aol.com. **Please make reservations by November 18 so that Karen is able to order the correct amount of flowers. Thank you.**

The Temple blood drive will be held Monday, December 23 at the Temple- the bloodmobile will be parked in the front of the building. You will receive more information next month, but if you are available to make phone calls, hang posters, or assist the day of the blood drive, please contact Randye. Thanks.

How would you like to give your favorite children or use for your own family Seder, a personalized Haggadah? We are looking into a Personalized Haggadah fundraiser and will have more information in the next newsletter- watch for it.

Have a good month and a Happy Hanukkah,
Randye

~Randye Bloom

Temple Donations

In memory of Loretta Klein from Elaine and Jay Trackman, Marsha and Joel Dowshen, Eileen Gale, Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom, Robin and Steve Affrime

In honor of Debby and Charlie Weiss from Doris Schreiberman

In memory of Sol Kushner from Phyllis Chudoff, Eileen Gale, Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom

In memory of Bettie Schwartzberg from Eileen Gale, Phyllis Chudoff, Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom

In memory of Aaron and Bettie Schwartzberg from William and Marianne Bird

Remembering the yahrtzeit of Abraham Zackler from Marsha & Joel Dowshen

In memory of Helen Roseman & Walter Harrison from Renee Harrison

In memory of Louis Rosenberg from Michael Rosenberg

Remembering the yahrtzeit of Gertrude Herzog from Marcia & Michael Rosen

High Holiday Pledges: Elaine & Jay Trackman, Betsy Ramos, Marsha & Joel Dowshen, Judy Schimmel, Phyllis Chudoff, Randye Bloom & Michael Scolaro, Eileen Gale, Brian & Cathy Carlis



Memorial & Sisterhood Donations

In memory of Constance Maxson from Charyl and Sid Morginstin

In memory of Raymond King from Elaine and Jay Trackman, Phyllis and Is Kamer, Randye Bloom and Michael Scolaro

In memory of Milton Weisberg from Rhoda and Henry Kessler, Randye Bloom and Michael Scolaro, Phyllis and Is Kamer, Rita Nissim, Elaine and Jay Trackman

In memory of Sol Kushner from Elaine and Jay Trackman, Fran and Karen Sutter, Phyllis and Is Kamer, Rhoda and Henry Kessler, Renee Harrison

In memory of Sol Kushner: Jeff and Phoebe Nissim, Barbara and Jeff Streisfeld, Peter and Karen Granaldi, Marsha and Joel Dowshen, Phyllis Chudoff, Rita Nissim, Ellen and John Wehrman, Robin and Tony Zak, Neil and Karen Nissim

In memory of Milton Weisberg: Phoebe and Jeff Nissim, Ellen and Steve Benowitz

In memory of Bettie Schwartzberg: Elaine and Jay Trackman, Marsha and Joel Dowshen, Phyllis Chudoff, Rita Nissim, Renee Harrison, Ellen and Steve Benowitz, Phyllis and Is Kamer, John and Ellen Wehrman

In memory of Sol Kushner: Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Lavine

Old Prayer Books & Kippot

Old prayer books, Tallim, kippot, or other religious items that are no longer needed should be buried. Please place these items into the box (by the sanctuary stairs). Items will be brought to the local Chabad House for burial. \$5 donations are appreciated.

Yahrzeits for Fall/Winter 2013

Nov. 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joseph Rothman, father of Robin Affrime Alma Sacks, mother of Faith Hupfl John Duker, father of Shiri Haines Hyman Goldman, father of Norman Goldman Isaac Grassian, father of Rita Nissim Gerald Rosen, father of Michael Rosen
Nov. 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sidney Klepner, father of Leonard Klepner Jennie Rudenstein, mother of Mildred Leary Pauline Zackler, mother of Marsha Dowshen
Nov. 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samuel Morginstin, father of Sid Morginstin
Nov. 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dorothy Gutstein, wife of Herman Gutstein Nathan Schwartz, father of Phyllis Chudoff Rebecca Gale, mother-in-law of Eileen Gale
Nov. 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lillian Morginstin, mother of Sid Morginstin Pauline Schwartz, grandmother of Phyllis Chudoff Max Kamer, father of Isadore Kamer
Dec. 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ella Kessler, mother of Henry Kessler Lawrence Bowker, husband of Linda Bowker and father of Jonathan Bowker
Dec. 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eudell Rod, friend of Linda Bowker Evelyn Rothman, mother of Robin Affrime
Dec. 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blanche Cantor, mother of Ray Cantor Bernard Zeichner, father of Stan Zeichner Julius Bloom, father of Randye Bloom Jacob Epstein, great-uncle of Brian Epstein Shyrle Kushner, wife of Sol Kushner Jennie Groveman, mother-in-law of Seena Groveman

Siddur & Tallit Donations

A new siddur (prayer book) can be purchased in honor of or in memory of someone for \$35. A tallit (prayer shawl) can be purchased for \$60. Please contact Marcia Rosen at: mjanrosen@comcast.net

Memorial Plaques

Plaques are available for \$250. To order a plaque, send the following to TBA: Marcia Rosen, Plaque Chairman PO Box 245 Bordentown, NJ 08505 or: mjanrosen@comcast.net.

English name of loved one, Hebrew name of loved one and date of death in the English cal-



Tot Shabbat

Friday Evenings, 6:00 PM
Coming Up: November 22nd
Craft: Hanukkah Wrapping Paper

Includes candle lighting, potluck dinner, story time, a theme-related craft and songs. If you need any additional information, or would like to volunteer to help clean up or set up, please contact Kami Knapp at: kami.knapp@googledoc.com.

Community Celebration

TBA Hanukkah Celebration

Open to the community!

Come celebrate Hanukkah (the Sunday before Hanukkah starts because Hanukkah falls with Thanksgiving this year!) with the Hebrew School at TBA.

Sunday, 11/24 10am-12pm

- Learn to play/ play dreidel
- Hear a Hanukkah story
- Craft a Hanukkah craft
- Make latkes!

**Remember, because we are celebrating Hanukkah before it actually starts we will not be lighting candles. But families can receive information at the event about how-to and when to light Hanukkah candles.

We hope to see you there!!!

**“The habit of
giving only
enhances the
desire to give.”**

**~ Walt
Whitman**

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

TBA continues to make meaningful contributions to hunger relief in our area, and YOU can be part of it! Here are ways to help:

Donating boxes of granola bars or cans of tuna or chicken for our monthly contribution to grocery bags for motel residents.

Any non-perishable food items are welcome for the St. Mary's Food Pantry, just place them in the baskets at the temple.

We deliver hot meals prepared by the Friends Meeting in Crosswicks to the Pine Motel on the first Thurs. of every month.

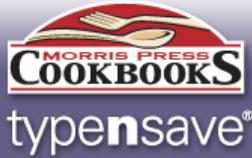
All of these efforts are interfaith collaborations with area worship centers. Together we can make a difference!

Monthly Oneg Hosts



November 8 th	Berson / Fink
November 16 th	Morginstin / Coleman
December 14 th	K&N Nissim / Lamonsoff
December 20 th	Caldwell / Rosenthal
January 18 th	Schimmel / E&K Schwartz

Fundraising



“As a child my family’s menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it.”

~ Buddy Hackett

We have finally begun the temple and sisterhood fundraiser cookbook. The first Temple B'nai Abraham cookbook was printed in the 1970s, the second in 1987, and now we will commemorate our centennial year. We are working with a company called Morris Press and have the ability to type recipes directly into the website with a specific password that denotes our project. Anyone will have the ability to type their recipes into the project and then a small committee will review the recipes and do final editing. This will help us avoid 6 brisket recipes and 20 brownie recipes. It is important that the book be well balanced with a variety of appetizers, vegetables, soups, salads, entrees, and desserts. We might also want to have a specific area for Holiday fare. If you are interested in working with Randye and Robin on this cookbook, please send us an email to let us know how you would like to help [Randye: mikerandy@gmail.com; Robin: raffrime@gmail.com].

If you have a recipe that you would like to be considered for the cookbook, go to www.typensave.com and insert the **username: TBAS** and the **password: plate294**. Anyone can contribute a recipe and we highly

encourage you to put in recipes from your treasured family traditions. A few guidelines: Recipes must be able to be made kosher so no pork, ham, or bacon, and the recipe cannot include both meat and milk together. That said, recipes can be adjusted to be made kosher. If you have a recipe that you would like to share, but aren't sure if it is kosher or how it can be adapted, please contact us. This is a labor of love and we will be more than happy to help you.

We encourage everyone in the Temple B'nai Abraham community to be a part of this fundraiser by contributing recipes. In order for this to be a successful fundraiser and to cover the first printing, each member or family of temple and/or sisterhood will be responsible for buying a minimum of 5 books that the member can either give as gifts or sell to friends and family. The exact cost per book is not yet determined, but we hope to keep it in the \$10.00 range. This cookbook will represent the entire Temple B'nai Abraham community and family and friends - so please join in and share your best recipes.

Donations

Temple Cards - If you wish to have a Temple joy or sorrow card sent in honor or memory of someone, please contact Randye Bloom by e-mail or phone. She will need the name and address of the person receiving the card, the occasion, and name of the honoree or deceased. The minimum donation is five dollars. There are get well cards as well as cards for any occasion. The donation for the card may be sent directly to Mike Rosen with a notation of what it is for and the check is payable to the Temple.

Supermarket Gift Card Program

It is always the season for sharing and giving. Please share with the Temple by purchasing your gift cards from Acme or ShopRite for your New Year's celebration.

Please make checks payable to **Temple B'nai Abraham** and send to: **Marsha Dowshen / 502 Farnsworth Ave., Bordentown, NJ 08505 / (609) 298-5306**. Your cards will be sent to you the same day.





**TEMPLE
B'NAI ABRAHAM**

58 Crosswicks
PO Box 245
Bordentown, NJ 08505

609.298.1527
www.bnai-abraham.org

*Shabbat morning services begin at 10:00 a.m.
(when there are B'nai Mitzvah, services begin at 9:30 a.m.)*
Novemebr, 2013 ~ Chesvan / Kislev

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	28	29	30	31 No Hebrew School	1 7:30 pm Shabbat Ser- vices	2
3 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	4	5	6	7 No Hebrew School	8 7:30 pm Shabbat Ser- vices	9
No Hebrew School	11	12	13	14 4:30 pm Hebrew School 7:00pm Inter- faith Dialogue	15	16 10:00 am Shabbat Morning Services
17 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	18	19	20	21 4:30 pm Hebrew School	22 6:00pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Shabbat Ser- vices	23
24 10 am Hebrew School and Community Hanukkah Celebration	25 Sisterhood 7:30pm	26	27	28 No Hebrew School	29 7:30 pm Shabbat Ser- vices	30