



# Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple President

Charlie Weiss

Rabbi

Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President

Randy Bloom

## Temple Officers

### Temple President

Charlie Weiss

### Executive Vice President

Brian Epstein

### VP, Finance & Treasurer

Michael Rosen

### VP, Religious Committee

Marcia Rosen

### VP, Membership Devlp.

Kim Aubry

### Chair, Religious School

Liz Mitchell

### Chair, Adult Education

Betsy Ramos

### Chair, Building

Neil Nissim

### Chair, Fundraising

Linda Osman

### Recording Secretary

Susan Giachetti

## Important Dates

Tot Shabbat 6:00pm 5/16

Sisterhood Meeting  
7:30pm 5/19

Congregational  
Meeting 7:30pm 5/20

Rachel Aubrey's  
Bat Mitzvah 10:00am 5/23

## "The Temple Shofar"

May, 2015

### Rabbi's Message

Sometimes there can be a kind of synchronicity between the Torah portion and daily life. As I am writing this, the Torah portion for the week is Acharei Mot/Kedoshim. Kedoshim is the alternative Torah reading that we read at Minchah on Yom Kippur, and it has some of the most profound teachings how to live in the world in a way that embodies holiness and justice.

The Torah portion begins by saying: "You shall be holy, for I, your God, am holy" (Leviticus 19:2), and includes the famous teaching: "Love your fellow as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18). This teaching is framed somewhat differently in a famous Talmudic story about a proselyte who approached two of the most famous Rabbis of antiquity – Shammai and Hillel. The man approached Shammai first and said to him: "Convert me, on condition that you will teach me the entire Torah while I stand on one foot." Far from converting him, Shammai shoved him away using a ruler that he was holding in his hand! Clearly, for Shammai, this man did not measure up... But rather than giving up, the man next approached Hillel. Hillel converted him and taught him: "That which is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow – this is the entire Torah, the rest is commentary, go and learn it." (Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 31a) Hillel was not put off by the man's rather unusual manner of spiritual inquiry, nor by his desire for a quick and simplified answer. Hillel was patient and responsive to the man where he was at, while also encouraging him to further his learning in the future. Hillel's Torah on one foot provided a solid foundation for how to live justly in the world and bring a greater holiness.

I had been reflecting on this story of Hillel and Shammai and the would-be-convert who wanted to receive the Torah-on-one-foot, and then I had an experience at physi-

cal therapy that made me see the text in a different light. I was asked to throw a ball at a trampoline and then catch it on the rebound, all while standing on one foot. The task was meant to rebuild balance after surgery on my toes. As I wobbled and swayed and came close to falling throughout the activity, I thought of Hillel's Torah-on-one-foot... I couldn't help feeling that this was one of those hateful things one should not do to another person!

Of course, I also knew that physical therapy isn't a hateful punishment, but rather something intended to help. Yet the story could have an entirely different application. For anyone who has ever had to go through physical therapy, the process can often be uncomfortable and frustrating. It is easy to become discouraged and to feel annoyance with oneself for struggling with things that used to be easy. When the would-be convert approached Shammai, he was greeted with irritation, annoyance, and dismissal. It dawned on me that perhaps I should try to be more like Hillel and less like Shammai in how I respond to my own physical limitations. In the section of Talmud preceding this tale about Hillel and Shammai, it notes: "One should always be humble like Hillel, and not be hot-tempered like Shammai" (Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 30b). This is part and parcel of loving one's neighbor as oneself or of not doing to another what is hateful to oneself. Our interactions should be characterized by patience, kindness, and humility – both our interactions with others and the ways that we treat ourselves. Regardless of limitations, regardless of what we used to be able to do or how we measure up compared to what others can do, we are each of us worthy of thoughtful attention and respect. Whether or not we can stand on one foot... we each have the opportunity to embody holiness through kindness – in the midst of, and perhaps even *because of*, our physical imperfections and limitations.

Shalom,  
Rabbi Pfau

## Sisterhood News & Announcements

### Sisterhood News:

The Sisterhood extends our sympathy to Sisterhood member Charyl Morginstin on the loss of her mother, Anne Zorn Goldfarb. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The next Sisterhood meeting will be held Tuesday, May 19 at 7:30. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Julie Pfau. Men and women are invited to this meeting. The Rabbi's discussion, no matter the topic, is always interesting. We will also elect officers- so please try to attend.

Hope to see you May 19. Take care, Randye

### Slate of officers:

President: Randye Bloom

Vice-President: Debby Weiss

Treasurer: Marcy Schwartz

Recording Secretary: Robin Affrime

Corresponding Secretary: Patricia Light-Tolomeo

Trustees: Eileen Gale, Susan Giachetti

### Sisterhood Officers

#### **Sisterhood President**

Randye Bloom

#### **Vice President**

Debby Weiss

#### **Treasurer/Financial Scty**

Marcy Schwartz

#### **Recording Secretary**

available

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Patricia Light-Tolomeo

#### **Trustees**

Robin Affrime

Susan Giachetti



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## Sisterhood Donations

In memory of Ellen Wehrman from Judy Margulies

In memory of Anne Zorn Goldfarb from Jeff and Phoebe Nissim, Phyllis and Is Kamer, Anita BersonRick Shain and Marcy Schwartz

Rejoicing with Col. and Mrs. Phil Cook on their marriage from Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom

Get well wishes to Mindy Fink from Anita Berson

***“Nothing is  
Impossible, the  
word itself says  
“I’m Possible”!”***

***- Audrey  
Hepburn***

## Tot Shabbat



Friday evenings, 6:00 PM  
Coming Up: May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Children ages 6 and under (siblings are welcome)

Tot Shabbat 2014-2015

This year will be an exciting year of new projects and new learning! Each month will address an individual theme with a paired craft. Children can take their craft home to remind them to practice Jewish values in and out of the synagogue. We hope you can join us!

If you need any additional information, or would like to volunteer to help clean up or set up, please contact Josh Krulwich-Klatt at: [joshuakrulich@gmail.com](mailto:joshuakrulich@gmail.com).

*“Art washes  
away for the  
soul the dust of  
everyday life.”*

*~Picasso*

## B'nai Mitzvah



Rachel's Mitzvah project has been collecting art supplies (many gently used) for the A-Team which are the artists who use the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). They create wonderful art, from paintings to sculptures and have gallery showings all around the community. She has attended some of their gallery shows and have gotten to know them. They meet on Tuesdays at TASK and over the summer she will visit them and help clean and organize. Art continues to be a moving force in Rachel's life and she understands the importance of it for the A-Team. This ties beautifully into the Torah portion Rachel has which has G-d commanding art and beauty to have an important place with the Tabernacle. Rachel has enjoyed discovering the riches in her Torah portion and being able to do a Mitzvah project around something that touches her heart so deeply. We are extremely proud of the young lady she has become. She has been blessed to have the love and support of all of you, our Temple community in her whole life. We thank you for helping contribute to her character, growth and spiritual well being. We hope all of you are able to join us on May 23 at 10 am to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah.

Thank you. Kim and Curtis Aubry

## Temple Donations



***“No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted.”***

***~Aesop***

- In memory of Michael Ehrlich from Christine Murchio, Robert G. Paulus, Wanda C. Monahan, Employees of Fleming Car and Truck Company, Jeffries and Rona Shein, Steven and Linda Strauchler, Excel Environmental Resources, Inc., Wick Companies LLC, Robert and Sandra Zimmerman
- Prayerbook donated in memory of Michael Ehrlich from The Strauchler Family
- In memory of Anne Zorn Goldfarb from Eileen Gale and Art Guyer, Betsy Ramos, Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom, Neil, Karen, Mia, and Corrine Nissim, Rita Nissim, Renee Harrison, Elaine and Jay Trackman
- Robin & Steve Affrime, Yahrzeit of Seymour Affrime
- Marsha & Joel Dowshen, Yahrzeit Al Dowshen
- Rhea Goldman, Yahrzeits of Irving Epstein, Frances Epstein, Sylvia Goldman
- Renee Harrison, Yahrzeit Jack Harrison
- Len and Liz Klepner, Yahrzeit of Rose Klepner
- Marcia & Michael Rosen, Yahrzeits of Belle Rosen Bernard Greenblatt, Marion Greenblatt
- Arlene Speiser, Yahrzeit of Arthur Fishman

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## Morning Services 2014-15

May 23 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Rachel Aubry's Bat Mitzvah</b>
June 13 <sup>th</sup>



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## Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Please help us continue our hunger relief efforts in the wider community! No contribution is too small!

- Any contributions of non-perishable foods are welcome
- Come along for meal delivery: on the first Thursday of the month, we deliver dinners to the Pine Motel prepared by the Friends Meeting House in Crosswicks.

## Yahrzeits for Spring 2015

Week of May 1 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leon Herzog, Brother of Madge Rosen, Uncle of Michael Rosen</li> <li>• Frances Novak, Mother of Blanche Cantor</li> <li>• Mary Gross, Aunt of Shyrle Kushner</li> <li>• Philip Kushner, Father of Sol Kushner</li> </ul>
Week of May 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Louis Benson, Father of Charyl Morginstin</li> <li>• Gertrude Urken, Sister of Henry Kessler</li> <li>• Arlene Schwartz, Mother of Phyllis Chudoff</li> <li>• Ann Zeitz, Mother of Carl Zeitz</li> <li>• Samuel Kleger, Bonus Father of Marsha Caldwell</li> </ul>
Week of May 15 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bernard Greenblatt, Father of Marcia Rosen</li> <li>• Julia Affrime, Mother of Steve Affrime</li> <li>• Rita Hodes, Aunt of Randy Bloom</li> <li>• Joseph Harrison, Father-In-Law of Renee Harrison</li> </ul>
Week of May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacob Mervish, Father of Shyrle Kushner</li> <li>• Marian Silverman, Mother of Marsha Caldwell</li> </ul>
Week of May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leon Herzog, Brother of Madge Rosen, Uncle of Michael Rosen</li> <li>• Frances Novak, Mother of Blanche Cantor</li> <li>• Mary Gross, Aunt of Shyrle Kushner</li> <li>• Philip Kushner, Father of Sol Kushner</li> </ul>
Week of May 29 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harry Brewis, Great-Great-Grandfather of Brian Epstein</li> </ul>
Week of June 5 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• George Groveman, Father-In-Law of Seena Groveman</li> <li>• Genevive Maza, Aunt of Sandra Cohen</li> </ul>

### Old Prayer Books & Kippot

Old prayer books, Tallitim, 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.

### Siddur & Tallit Donations

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

English name of loved one, Hebrew name of loved one and date of death in the English calendar. Once the plaque has been installed, you will be billed. Plaques will not be moved from one board to the other.

## Healing List

The Healing List is starting anew. All names have been deleted and we ask if you want a name on the list to please email Eileen Gale at [egale10@verizon.net](mailto:egale10@verizon.net)—subject: “Healing List”. The list will be updated every two months. Thank you, Eileen



## 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.

### Host List for Shabbat Services 2014-2015

If you are unable to host on your date, please switch with someone else and let Randye know. You are responsible for finding a replacement. Thank you.

Date	Event	Host families
May 22	Erev Shabbat Oneg	Kim Aubry & Family
May 23	Shabbat morning lunch	Kim Aubry & Family
June 13	Shabbat morning lunch & learn	Rosen/Kunkler
June 26	Erev Shabbat Oneg Member of the Year	Schwartz-Shain/Weiss

### Hosts for Sisterhood Meetings

May	Light-Tolomeo
June	Covered dish



Shabbat morning services begin at 10:00 a.m.  
 (when there are B'nai Mitzvah, services begin at 9:30 a.m.)  
**May, 2015 ~ Iyyar 5775—Sivan 5775**

**TEMPLE  
B'NAI ABRAHAM**

58 Crosswicks  
 PO Box 245  
 Bordentown, NJ 08505  
 609.298.1527  
 www.bnai-abraham.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>April 26</b>  9 am Sunday School  10 am Hebrew School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  4:30 pm Hebrew School	<b>May 1</b>  7:30 pm Shabbat Services	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>  9 am Sunday School  10 am Hebrew School	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  4:30 pm Hebrew School	<b>8</b>  7:30 pm Shabbat Services	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>  9 am Sunday School  10 am Hebrew School	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  4:30 pm Hebrew School	<b>15</b>  6:00 pm Tot Shabbat  7:30 pm Shabbat Services	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>  Last Day of Hebrew School  9 am Sunday School  10 am Hebrew School	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  7:30 pm <b>Sisterood            Meeting</b>	<b>20</b>  7:30 pm <b>Congrega            tional            Meeting</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  7:30 pm Shabbat Services	<b>23</b>  10 am Shabbat Services  <b>Rachel            Aubry's            Bat Mitzvah</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  7:30 pm Shabbat Services	<b>30</b>