



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple President

Brian Epstein

Rabbi

Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President

Robin Affrime

“The Temple Shofar”

November, 2016

Temple Officers

Temple President

Brian Epstein

Executive Vice President

Charlie Weiss

VP, Finance & Treasurer

Michael Rosen

VP, Religious Committee

Marcia Rosen

VP, Membership Devlp.

Kim Aubry

Chair, Religious School

Liz Mitchell

Chair, Adult Education

Chair, Building

Neil Nissim

Chair, PR & Social Media

Kim Ehrlich

Recording Secretary

Important Dates

Russel Cohen 's Bar
Mitzvah 11/11
&
11/12

Temple Board
Meeting 10:1am 11/13

To Shabbat 6pm 11/18

Rabbi's Message

After an intense succession of holidays, we now find ourselves in a lull in the Jewish calendar – the Jewish month of Heshvan. Our last holiday was Simḥat Torah, which fell on October 25th this year, and our next holiday will be Hanukkah, which will begin on the evening of December 24th. The cycle of holidays – from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur and through Sukkot to Simḥat Torah – has carried us on a powerful spiritual journey of celebration and transformation.

It seems jarring to suddenly find ourselves in this lull. Was that it? Is the journey over? A few intense weeks of spiritual ascent and then back to our normal routines? Is it like summer break from school? Perhaps we are on vacation from the spiritual life....?

The answer might be “yes” if we only understand the spiritual journey as a series of momentous events and only see evidence of spiritual progress in the movement from deep valleys to soaring mountain tops. But the cycle of Torah readings that occur during this lull in the calendar point us to a different kind of spiritual reality. Each year after Simḥat Torah, we are invited to embark on a whole series of spiritual journeys through hearing the stories of our spiritual ancestors.

Sometimes their journeys involved momentous events, but they were also

full of mishaps and periods of seemingly fruitless wandering. The Sefat Emet taught:

The human being is called a walker, always having to go from one rung to another. For habit makes things seem natural, and this sense of “nature” hides the inner light. This is true even of Torah and the commandments: when we do them out of habit, they become our nature, and we forget their inward meaning.... Therefore, the blessed Holy One renews each day the work of Creation. The person has to search and seek out this renewal... (as translated by Arthur Green in *The Language of Truth*)

As you read and hear the stories of the treks of our spiritual ancestors in the coming months, look beyond the plain surface meaning that we can so habitually get stuck in. Instead, search for the inward meaning. Seek carefully for the most subtle signs of holiness and for some of the diverse ways that these people experienced God – whether it be in the digging and re-digging of wells, in dreams, in the midst of interpersonal conflict, in times of anxiety, in the desert, in a visit from strangers, in an offer of assistance.... As you search and seek for these signs in their journeys, you just might learn how to find the hidden light in your own walk through life.

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau

Temple Donations



***“A smile is the
universal
welcome.”***

~ Max Eastman

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES:

Shiela Lamonsoff,
Marsha & David Caldwell,
Sandra Cohen,
Yelena Masoti,
Rhea Goldman
Marcia & Michael Rosen,

IN MEMORY OF JAY TRACKMAN:

Carol A Hanford
Mitchell Davis
Phyllis Busch & Ilene Miller
Ted and Joann Lutz

YAHRTZEITS:

Brian and Maribeth Epstein in memory of:
Jerome Epstein
Benjamin Epstein
Annette Brewis
Rita Nissim in memory of Nissim Nissim.

A big thank you to Caroline Ehrlich for donation for the High Holiday Assistant
Thanks as always to the Smulian Family for the donation for the High Holiday
flowers



Thank You

The family of Jay Trackman thanks all those who donated to Sisterhood and the synagogue and who gave us support and comfort during this hard time for all of the Trackmans.

Much Love,
Elaine, Andy, Karen Davis & Marc Trackman

Sisterhood News & Announcements

Shalom friends. I hope that you found the New Year to be a time of thoughtful retrospection and spirituality, and that you had an opportunity to spend time with friends and family.

Our November 21st meeting promises to be a real crowd pleaser. Karen Nissim will be instructing us on the art of flower arranging. Each attendee will make a beautiful arrangement worthy of your Thanksgiving table. If you are interested, please get in touch with me by November 10th. Karen needs to know how many people are attending so she can order the right amount of flowers. The cost of each arrangement is \$45. Trust me, you will be so proud of your efforts! The arrangements will be made the Monday of Thanksgiving week and if

kept in a cool place will hold well until Thanksgiving. Please email or phone me with your reservation. Being a sisterhood or temple membership is not a must. Do invite friends to join us for the fun.

Interested people should email me with your reservation and send your check made payable to Sarah Seidel Sisterhood to Treasurer Marcy Schwartz at 110 Prince Street Bordentown, NJ 08505. I hope to see you there. Do call if you have any questions.

Robin Affrime
609-499-1761
raffrime@gmail.com



"You are not alone, and I am not alone. We are in a Sisterhood, together, and together we can make it."

- author unknown

Newsletter Update

We need a volunteer to have our newsletter printed (20 copies) at Hometown Office Printing and mailed (about 12 copies) for about 4 months. This is an easy job as the online newsletter gets emailed to Hometown, with a note of how many to print, and then picked up and mailed. Please email me to offer your help.

Thank you,
Eileen Gale
egale10@verizon.net

Sisterhood Officers

Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime

Vice President
Linda Osman

Treasurer/Financial Scty
Marcy Schwartz

Recording Secretary
Marsha Caldwell

Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Light-Tolomeo

Trustees
Eileen Gale
Susan Giachetti



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.

***“Alone we can
do so little;
together we can
do so much.”***

-Helen Keller

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Please help us continue our hunger relief efforts in the wider community! There are three ongoing projects, and no contribution is too small!

- Any contributions of non-perishable foods are welcome for the St. Mary's food pantry.
- Donations of granola bars and cans of tuna or chicken are welcome for the monthly grocery bags that are distributed to residential motels in the area.
- 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. Anyone interested in helping to deliver meals once a month on Thurs. afternoons, please call Marcy at 609-610-1873.

It's very rewarding to have been collaborating with our friends and neighbors in the area for the past TEN YEARS (!) in these essential projects to help those in need.

Many thanks to Liz Mitchell for joining the monthly team for food delivery to the Pine Mtel!



B'nai Mitzvah

Russell Aaron Cohen Hicswa is an 8th-grader at Thomas E. Harrington Middle School in Mount Laurel, NJ. He plays soccer for the Marlton Recreational Soccer League. Russell also likes football, shooting hoops, running and playing video games. Russell is looking forward to his Bar Mitzvah on November 12th.

Hebrew School

In both Sunday school and Hebrew school, students have been learning about Jewish fall holidays, including their special texts, foods, objects, and customs. Sunday school students wrote their first Hebrew letters in honey (because learning should be sweet!), listened to stories about friendship and community, made Rosh Hashanah cards, and even played Simon Says in Hebrew. In Hebrew school, we've talked about tzedakah and mitzvot, continued our small-group Hebrew lessons, used multimedia technology to learn about Kol Nidre and the Book of Jonah, and taken on the role of contemporary liturgists as we created our own original gratitude blessings. We've also heard the shofar blown (with thanks to Jaden!), decorated a sukkah, and wrote teshuvah New Year's resolutions. And our first Tot Shabbat of the year attracted quite a crowd, including several families new to Temple B'nai Abraham.

None of this would be possible without the wonderful teen helpers who bring their energy, knowledge, and enthusiasm to our classes, especially our Hebrew language groups. We're blessed to have them!

I look forward to many more adventures as the year continues.

L'shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director



THE 4 STAGES OF JEWISH EXERCISE



*“You have been my friend,”
replied
Charlotte.
“That in itself is a tremendous thing.”*

-E.B. White

Yahrzeits for Fall/Winter 2016

Week of Nov. 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray King, Friend of Sandy Schwartzbird • Sol Kushner, Father of Ellen Benowitz • Joseph Caldwell, Father of David Caldwell • Bettie Schwartzberg, Mother of Sandy Schwartzbird
Week of Nov. 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myrna Morris, Wife of Ron Morris • Samuel Gerson, Grandfather of Marsha Caldwell • Mark Blatt, Cousin of Eileen Gale • Gertrude Herzog, Grandmother of Michael Rosen, Mother of Madge Rosen • Walter Harrison, Husband of Renee Harrison
Week of Nov. 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selma Densky, Mother of Sharon Coleman • Ethel Mann, Mother of Steven Mann
Week of Nov. 25 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham Zackler, Father of Marsha Dowshen • Helen Roseman, Mother of Renee Harrison • Lillian Brewis, Great-Grandmother of Brian Epstein • Lee Nissim, Wife of Marcel Nissim • Norman Lamonsoff, Husband of Sheila Lamonsoff, Father of Karen Nissim • Joseph Rothman, Father of Robin Affrime • Alma Sacks, Mother of Faith Hupfl
Week of Dec. 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Duker, Father of Shiri Haines • Hyman Goldman, Father of Norman Goldman • Isaac Grassian, Father of Rita Nissim • Gerald Rosen, Father of Michael Rosen, Husband of Madge Rosen • Sidney Klepner, Father of Leonard Klepner • Jennie Rudenstein, Mother of Mildred Leary • Pauline Zackler, Mother of Marsha Dowshen

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.

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

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 calendar. Once the plaque has been installed, you will be billed. Plaques will not be moved from one board to the other.

Morning Services 2016-17

November 12 th Russell Cohen's Bar Mitzvah
December 10 th
January 21 st
February 11 th Lunch & Learn

March 11 th Josh Kunkler's Bar Mitzvah
April 29 th Mia Nissim's Bat Mitzvah
May 13 th
June 3 rd E. Gale & R. Affrime B'not Mitzvah

**Temple B’nai Abraham and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Host List for Shabbat Services and Sisterhood Meetings
2016-2017**

*If you are unable to host on your date, **please switch with someone** and let Robin know. **You are responsible for finding a replacement.** Contact me with any other concerns you might have. Email address: raffrime@gmail.com Home Phone Number: 609-499-1761*

Date	Event	Host Families
11/11-11/12/16	Russell Cohen Bar Mitzvah	The Cohen Family
11/21/16	Sisterhood Meeting Nosh	Phyllis Chudoff/Eileen Gale
12/2/16	Friday Night Oneg	Caldwell/Erickson Families
12/10/16	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Mitchell/Lowry Families
12/14/16	Sisterhood Meeting Nosh	Rhea Goldman/Bonnie Goldman
1/6/17	Friday Night Oneg	Mindy Fink/ Anita Berson
1/9/17	Sisterhood Meeting Nosh	Nina Glanz/ Susan Giachetti
1/21/17	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Osman/Ramos Families
2/11/17	Tu Bishvat Seder and Luncheon	Seder: Rosen Luncheon: Barman and Rochester Families
2/24/17	Friday Night Oneg	Aubry/ Josh Affrime Families
3/10-3/11/17	Josh Kunkler Bar Mitzvah	The Kunkler Family
3/11/17	Adult Purim Party at TBA all purpose room	Affrime/Chudoff
3/13/17	Sisterhood Meeting Nosh	Nissim/Lamonsoff Families
3/25/17	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Epstein/Ehrlich Families
4/11/17	2 nd Seder at TBA all purpose room	Kim Aubry
4/28-4/29/17	Mia Nissim Bat Mitzvah	The Nissim Family
5/11/17	Sisterhood Meeting	Patricia Light-Tolomeo/Susan Zaveloff
5/13/17	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Stan Zeichner/Sandy SchwartzBird
5/19/17	Friday Night Oneg: Hebrew School Advancement	Weiskott/Schwartz Families
5/20/17	Bordentown Street Fair Table	
5/21/17	Bordentown Street Fair Bake Sale	
6/2-6/3/17	Adult B’nai Mitzvah	Eileen Gale/Robin Affrime
6/12/17	Sisterhood Annual Covered Dish	Randy Bloom/Marsha Dowshen
6/30/17	Friday Night Oneg: Member of the Year	Schwartz/Shain/Weiss Families



**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.)*
November, 2016 ~ Tishrei 5777- Cheshvan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	31	November 1	2	3 4:30 pm Hebrew School	4 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	5
6 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	7	8	9	No Hebrew School	7:30 pm Shabbat Services Oneg: Sandra Cohen	10:00 am Russell Cohen's Bar Mitzvah
No Hebrew School 10:15am Temple Board Meeting	14	15	16	17 4:30 pm Hebrew School	18 6 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	19
20 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	21	22	23	No Hebrew School	25 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	26
No Hebrew School	28	29	30	1 4:30 pm Hebrew School	2 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	3
4 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School	5	6	7	8 4:30 pm Hebrew School	9	10 10:00 am Shabbat Services