



Affiliated with the
Jewish Reconstructionist
Movement

Temple B'nai Abraham

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Brian Epstein

Rabbi

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Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President

Robin Affrime

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Chair, Religious School

Liz Mitchell

Chair, Adult Education

Chair, Building

Neil Nissim

Chair, PR & Social Media

Kim Ehrlich

Recording Secretary

Important Dates

Temple Board Tech Talk 7pm	3/2
Tot Shabbat 6pm	3/3
Josh Kunkler's Bar Mitzvah 10am	3/11
Purim Carnival 10am	3/12
Sisterhood Meeting & Book Discussion 7:30pm	3/13
Sisterhood Trivia Night 7:30pm	3/25
Shabbat Service 10am	3/25
Temple Board Meeting 10:15am	3/26
Baby Naming - Schilling 1pm	3/26
Game Night 6:30pm	3/30

"The Temple Shofar"

March, 2017

Rabbi's Message

The Sefat Emet was a prominent Hasidic rabbi who lived in the latter half of the nineteenth century. His name was actually Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter, but he became known as the Sefat Emet – named after the title of his collected commentaries, Sefat Emet (translated "The Language of Truth"), teachings and sermons on the parashah.

The Sefat Emet taught that part of God's design for creation was that it was not a one time event. The world was designed so that there would be an abundance of new life on a daily basis, all waiting to be noticed and appreciated. Therefore, the Sefat Emet suggested that, each day, a person should take notice of at least one new thing. According to the Sefat Emet, taking notice of the abundance and newness of creation is of great benefit to a person, for "when one perceives something new, one merits feeling something new."

In this instance, I think the Sefat Emet managed to express a principle that is psychologically sound as well as spiritually uplifting! Cognitive psychology is based on this principle, that changing patterns of thinking and ways of perceiving the world has an impact on emotional experience. We humans are holistic beings. Mind, body, spirit, emotions – all are intertwined with each other and in constant interaction with the world around us, and making a change in one dynamic of the self's interaction with the world will inevitably result in a shift in other areas.

It is easy to relate to the world in the same old ways, day after day. Routine and habit are powerful and sometimes comforting forces. But sometimes they can keep us

stuck. The beauty of the Sefat Emet's teaching is that it holds out hope that change can grow from small things. Making a point to notice newness and abundance in the world around us can shift how we feel. For example, it might remind us of the potential for inner renewal or bring a sense of appreciation and hope during a difficult time. I invite you to try this approach, and see what you notice in your own life!

Amidst our synagogue services with their regular liturgy and repetition of prayers, it is especially important to keep an eye out for something new – either in the text or in oneself. Perhaps you have recently learned Hebrew letters, or you might be caught by a sentence that has previously gone unnoticed, or even a single word leaps out and connects to the present moment. Perceiving the prayers in a new way can add a new emotional and spiritual dimension to services.

The same principle can apply to our community more broadly. Members might know each other for years and still discover things about each other, or share new experiences that deepen their connection. Familiar rhythms and routines sometimes obscure gradual and subtle changes that take place over decades. Our synagogue's 100th anniversary is a wonderful time to look at the community with fresh eyes, to notice the changes, and to watch for the new experiences that can emerge as we move forward into a new century of existence.

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau



Story Time

You are invited to the first of a series of Jewish storytelling programs that Jill Ratzan be presenting on behalf of Temple B'nai Abraham at local public libraries in the coming months.

This program will be held on *Tuesday, March 7 from 9:30-10:15am at the Hamilton Free Public Library,* located at 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito Junior Way in Hamilton, NJ.

The program is intended for children ages 2-5 and a caregiver, so Tot Shabbat and Sunday school families are especially invited to attend. Please also feel free to share this message with other interested families.

The Hamilton library asks attendees to *register by calling them at 609-581-4064*.

Here's the link to the program's webpage.

<https://hamiltonnpl.org/event/storytelling-from-the-jewish-folktale-tradition>

Hope you can join us!

Purim Celebration

Here's (hopefully) all the information about our upcoming Purim celebration! It's a lot, so I've organized it into two sections.

1. Scheduling:

Our Purim celebration will take place on ***Sunday, March 12**, during regular Hebrew school hours (10am-12noon)*. *Sunday school will not be held* that day; instead, families with children of all ages are invited to join us at 10am.

The morning will start with a Purim play performed by our Hebrew school students, continue with a carnival, and conclude with a bagel lunch.

Also please note that *Daylight Savings Time starts early that morning:* "spring forward" and set your clocks ahead an hour so you're not late to Purim!

2. What to wear, bring, and do

Everyone is invited to dress in costumes, especially Purim-themed costumes. We'll have prizes for the best costumes!

Please bring \$5 per person (maximum \$20/family) to cover the cost of lunch.

Any leftover funds will be donated to our ongoing project to help replant old-growth redwood forests in honor of Temple B'nai Abraham's 100th anniversary (see more information on that coming soon).

*Please fill out the Google Form at <http://tinyurl.com/PurimTBA5777> <<http://tinyurl.com/PurimTBA5777>> to sign up to bring various supplies. *

As usual, if you have any questions (or any difficulty filling out the form), please don't hesitate to ask.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Purim celebration!

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan, Education Director

PURIM

Temple Tech Talk - "I hate passwords and so do you" and Google Docs/Photos Thursday, March 2, 2017 7pm

Temple B'nai Abraham,

I invite you and your friends to a hands on evening of fun discussing why we all hate passwords and what to do about it. We'll delve into other online security best practices as well. If we have time, we'll jump into Google Docs and Photos and how to better use these free, online resources.

If you are interested, please fill out our registration form here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/GautkYEPPhvo9y4JE3>

This talk is open to anyone willing to learn, and the target audience is for any level of technical knowledge.

We recommend that you bring a laptop or tablet to the class so that you can participate while we work.

The cost is free, although your donations are always appreciated. Bring food or a snack for yourself or to share (we have a dairy kosher kitchen). And please share with anyone in the community that might be interested.

Thanks!
Brian



High School Seniors

Do you have any high school member who is headed to college this coming fall? If yes, kindly inform him/her of this scholarship that is available at Drexel University.

In addition to an entire building devoted to Hillel activities Drexel now has a Chabad rabbi with a large house devoted to orthodox synagogue services, followed by free kosher dinners every Friday evening. See <http://www.jewishdragon.com/> <http://www.jewishdragon.com/> .

The KPD Scholarship at Drexel will pay a student \$8000 for completing the Minor in Judaic Studies. Kindly print in color (or in grayscale) and post on an appropriate bulletin board the attached Poster.

The Judaic Studies Minor consists of eight courses, three core and five elective, including five in Hebrew and one in Yiddish. The scholarship is most useful to a student who pursues a liberal arts type of study because many courses satisfy elective requirements in English and History.

Lester Helmus
Primary donor to KPD Scholarship at Drexel
(213) 200 0058



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.

***“Be the change
you wish to see
in the world.”***

***-Mahatma
Gandhi***

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Our on-going hunger relief efforts are in full force. Many thanks to everyone for helping with monthly meal delivery to the Pine Motel. And lots of contributions for the food pantry and the monthly grocery bags for the motel--to which we contribute granola bars and canned tuna--have been a big help.

So let's continue 2017 with ongoing energy and commitment to ease the difficulties of those around us: please continue your generous donations of food items, and the many helping hands that make this possible.

Gratefully yours,
Marcy Schwartz

(any questions or want to join in? feel free to call me at 609-324-0571)



Joshua Kunkler's Bar Mitzvah

Joshua Kunkler will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on March 11. As part of his preparation, Josh volunteered for a monthly meal donation project run by the synagogue. Josh (and his brother and sister) learned a great deal by giving to those in need, and gained an appreciation for the many privileges he has. Josh is looking forward to his big day, and to celebrating with all his family and friends.

Mazel Tov on Josh's accomplishment of achieving his Bar Mitzvah!

Sisterhood News & Announcements

In January, the Sisterhood held its annual Chanukah Gift Swap. Members brought a gift they had received over the holidays, that may be best suited for somebody other than themselves. The evening was a success and everybody went home with a new beloved treasure!

A special thank you to Phyllis Chudoff who generously donated holiday placemats that she quilted for a very successful fundraiser.

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 13th at 7:30 p.m.** We will be having a bookclub

discussion of The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George. “If you are looking to be charmed right out of your own life for a few hours, sit down with this wise and winsome novel”—Oprah.com

Hostesses for the meeting will be Karen Nissam and Sheila Lamanoff.

SAVE THE DATE: Trivia Night at B’Nai Abraham will be on Saturday, **May 6 at 7:00 p.m.** This BYOB event is open to members and non-members, of all ages. More details to follow.

Robin Affrime



Sisterhood Officers

Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime

Vice President
Linda Osman

Treasurer/Financial Scty
Marcy Schwartz

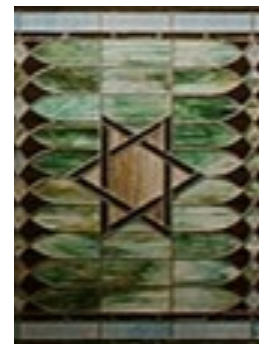
Recording Secretary
Marsha Caldwell

Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Light-Tolomeo

Trustees
Eileen Gale
Susan Giachetti

Temple Donations

- John Wehrman in memory of Louis Rosenberg, Ellen Rosenberg, and Ellen Wehrman
- Phyllis Kamer Yahrtzeit of Rose Goldberg
- Rhea Goldman Yahrtzeits of Irving Epstein, Sylvia Goldman



New Members

Welcome and Mazel Tov to: Marc Brotman and Laurel Harris of Bordentown City, who joined us just a few days before they welcomed their new daughter, Shoshana Rose, into the world (on February 8th)!



Yahrzeits for Winter/Spring 2017

Week of Mar. 3 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selma Levitsky, Great-Aunt of Brian Epstein
Week of Mar. 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rose Klepner, Mother of Len Klepner Howard Brewis, Great-Grandfather of Brian Epstein Leonard Greenblatt, Brother of Marcia Rosen Ruth Killian, Daughter's Mother-In-Law of Sharon Coleman Michael Ehrlich, Father of Kim Ehrlich
Week of Mar. 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sylvia Goldman, Wife of Norman Goldman Abe Kaufman, Grandfather of Phyllis Busch
Week of Mar. 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irving Epstein, Father of Rhea Goldman Rebecca Shemesh, Mother of Marty Nissim Ida Gerson Caster, Grandmother of Marsha Caldwell Arthur Fishman, Father of Arlene Speiser William Trackman, Father of Jay Trackman
Week of Mar. 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mildred Josephson, Mother of Mark Josephson Faith Hupfl, Member of Congregation
Week of April 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haskell Hait, Father of Lauren Mann Mary Bird, Mother-In-Law of Sandy Schwartzbird Frances Epstein, Mother of Rhea Goldman Charles Herzog, Grandfather of Michael Rosen, Father of Madge Rosen Bess Light, Mother of Patricia Light-Tolomeo Jack Harrison, Brother-In-Law of Renee Harrison

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 2017

March 11 th Josh Kunkler's Bar Mitzvah
March 25 th
April 23 rd 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
3/10-3/11/17	Josh Kunkler Bar Mitzvah	The Kunkler Family
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
4/21, 4/23/17	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.)*
March, 2017 ~ Adar 5777—Nisan 5777

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School 11 am Adult Hebrew	27	28	March 1	2 3 pm Adult Hebrew 4:30 pm Hebrew School 7pm Temple Tech Talk	3 6 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	4
5 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School 11 am Adult Hebrew	6	7	8	9 3 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 4:30 pm Hebrew School	10 7:30 pm Shabbat Services Oneg in honor of Josh Kunkler Bar Mitzvah	11  10 am Josh Kunkler's Bar Mitzvah
12 	13 Sisterhood Meeting & Book Discussion 7:30pm	14	15	16 No Hebrew School	17 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	18
19 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School 11 am Adult Hebrew	20	21	22	23 3 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 4:30 pm Hebrew School	24	25 Shabbat Morning Service 10am Hosts: Ehrlich/ Epstein Sisterhood Trivia Night 7:30pm
26 9 am Sunday School 10 am Hebrew School Board Meeting 10:15am Baby Naming 	27	28	29	30 3 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 4:30 pm Hebrew School Game Night 6:30pm 	31 6 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	April 1