



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple President
Brian Epstein

Rabbi
Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime

“The Temple Shofar”

January, 2018

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Temple President
Brian Epstein

Executive Vice President
Charlie Weiss

VP, Finance & Treasurer
Michael Rosen

VP, Religious Committee
Marcia Rosen

VP, Membership Devlp.
Kim Aubry

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Liz Mitchell

Chair, Adult Education

Chair, Building
Neil Nissim

Chair, PR & Social Media
Kim Ehrlich

Recording Secretary

Important Dates

Sisterhood Meeting 1/10
7:30pm

Tot Shabbat 6pm 1/12

Shabbat Morning 10am 1/20

Game Night 6:30pm 1/18

Rabbi's Message

This year the Hebrew School curriculum is focused on tikkun olam, repair of the world – including through acts of tzedakah and social justice work. The students at Temple B'nai Abraham are blessed to have many role models in the community who have shown a sustained commitment to these values, in addition to an abundance of traditional Jewish sources that emphasize the necessity of human activity to serve as God's hands in the world.

One thing that has always been jarring to me is that there is no traditional blessing established by the ancient rabbis for the act of giving tzedakah or engaging in social justice work. Tradition teaches that a person should say 100 blessings a day, and there are ample traditional blessings for a wide range of experiences. So why not for tikkun olam? The rationale I have encountered for this absence is that blessings are meant to be said over actions that are about to be completed, and the task of repairing the world is one that cannot be completed through one act. However, although Jews of past ages did not transmit such a blessing, contemporary Jews have created blessings for tzedakah and tikkun olam that are worded so that they do not imply the task is over.

Since members of our community are deeply committed to a whole variety of tikkun olam, I wanted to share a few examples of blessings that have been created to further elevate the activities in which so many of you engage!

Baruch atah YHVH eloheynu melech
ha'olam
asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu lirdof
tzedek.

Blessed are you, ETERNAL ONE, our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who has made us holy with your mitzvot, and commanded us to pursue justice.

The above blessing was on the website for the URJ. The similarity to the traditional candle lighting blessing might make it easier to remember, and it is broad enough to encompass acts beyond the giving of charitable donations. Another broadly applicable blessing is found on rituallwell.org:

Blessed are you, YHVH, Source of Abundance, for providing us with the financial and spiritual ability to give. All humanity participates in the flow of riches that come in and go out. May we use our resources well, and may this exchange be fair and equal. Blessed are you, Provider of Manna, who enriches us all.

Either of these blessings could be said by members of our community, adults and children, when making sandwiches or packaging eating utensils, when bringing contributions to the synagogue for the food drive, when delivering food to those in need, when making an online charitable donation, or engaging in any activity that promotes justice in our broken world. All of these kinds of actions bring blessing into the world and are worthy of sanctification!

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau



Temple Donations

- In memory of Shirley Bober from Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom
- In memory of Jason Kaiser from Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom
- Get well to Steve Affrime from Michael Scolaro and Randye Bloom
- *TBA apologizes for a misprint in our October newsletter. Andrew and Ronnie Smulian generously provided the pulpit flower arrangement for the High Holiday services in memory of their parents, Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Smulian. We apologize to the Smulian family for the error.*

**“One child, one
teacher, one
book, one pen
can change the
world.”**

**-Malala
Yousafzai**

Hebrew School & Tot Shabbat

Temple B'nai Abraham's religious school curriculum includes explorations of Hebrew, prayer, holidays, and Jewish practices and values. This month, I'd like to focus on some ways that Sunday school and Hebrew school are exploring Hebrew language and applying it to various aspects of their learning.

Each week in Sunday school features a Hebrew letter of the week. As students arrive, we color a picture of an object or tradition whose name starts with that letter, often using that as an introduction to our day's activity. (For example, when our letter of the week was hey, we learned about Havdalah, the weekly ceremony that ends Shabbat.) We play games like Ner Adom, Ner Yarok (Red Light, Green Light) and Simon Omer (Simon Says) and learn how to address students' stuffed animal friends in Hebrew (ranging from kevelim, dogs, to hunicornim, unicorns!). Students also recently learned how to write their Hebrew names, and inscribed these on the inside covers of their coloring books.

In Hebrew school, students meet twice a week in pairs or small groups to study Hebrew on an individualized level. First-year students (third graders) are learning to read basic words, while older students practice prayers and refine their sight-reading abilities. Outside of Hebrew class itself, Hebrew words are infused throughout the curriculum. We recently wrote cards in Hebrew to help cheer a community member in need, and every Sunday's lesson begins with students walking around the room and wishing each other "shavua tov" (have a good week).

Stay tuned for more details about our other activities in future months!

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director



Sisterhood News & Announcements

Shalom Friends,

Cookbooks are on sale for \$15 each. There are some tried and true recipes to be found in our third generation cookbook. Remember to gift one to yourself and to your friends and family. For cook books contact Randye at 298-6485.

The next meeting of the Sarah Seidel Sisterhood will be **Wednesday January 10th**. The theme will be Hanukah Revisited. Please come with a gift you received that isn't quite right for you, but is suitable for re-gifting. Last year we had a great time! Hostesses for the evening are Eileen Gale and Susan Roth.

There will be no meeting in February and the March meeting will be on Wednesday March 14th at 7:30 PM.

If you are not yet a member but are interested in joining Sarah Seidel Sisterhood, bring a check for \$30 to any sisterhood meeting or send it to the temple care of sisterhood. We look forward to making new friends and having new members.

A long standing sisterhood fundraiser is to send out joy or sorrow cards. If you would like a card sent to someone for joy or sorrow, contact Rita Nissim at 298-5357. The cost of the cards is \$3.50 each. The money can be sent to temple care of sisterhood.

Our next Saturday service will be on January 20th at 10 AM. Luncheon will be provided by the Mann and Kunkler families. We look forward to seeing you there.

I look forward to seeing you soon. Be well.

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



“You will always be...the sister of my soul, the friend of my heart.”

-Anon

Sisterhood Donations

- Get well from Marcy Schwartz and Rick Shain to: Mia Nissim, Steve Affrime and Charyl and Sid Morginstin
- Get well Mia Nissim from Elaine Trackman and Eileen Gale and Robin and Steve Affrime
- In memory of Jason Kaiser from: Neil and Karen Nissim, Rita Nissim, Phyllis Chudoff, Renee Harrison, Elaine Trackman, Phyllis Kamer, Robin and Steve Affrime and Vic and Betsy Ramos
- Get well Steve Affrime from Phyllis Kamer

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.

Joy and Sorrow Cards

“You don’t need a reason to help people.”

For a donation of \$3.50, we can send a card on your behalf for a birth or birthday, anniversary, mitzvah or get well or sorrow. Please contact Rita Nissim for details (609) 298-5357.

-Unknown

Prayerbook Fundraising Drive

I recently took an inventory of the Shabbat prayerbooks that we have been using for some time. I found that one-third of them show a level of damage and wear to warrant replacement. For a donation of \$40 per book, you can purchase a new Shabbat prayerbook for Temple B’nai Abraham, and if you want to, you can have a dedication label displayed in it to honor or remember someone.

The High Holiday prayerbooks are fairly new and don’t need replacement yet. They were purchased with a donation that allowed us to buy the whole set at once without any fundraising activity. Now, for a donation of \$20 per book, you can have a dedication label placed into one of the High Holiday prayerbooks. Some of the money raised from the labels will be put aside for future book purchases as they become necessary.

To participate in this fundraiser, please send a check made out to Temple B’nai Abraham to P.O. Box 245, Bordentown NJ 08505. Please specify if the donation is for a new Shabbat prayerbook or for a label in a High Holiday prayerbook. If you would like a dedication label, please provide the details for the dedication.

If there are any questions, please call me at 609-298-2799. If you email me (mjanrosen@comcast.net) it will probably take me longer to reply. Shalom.

Marcia Rosen
Religious Committee Vice President



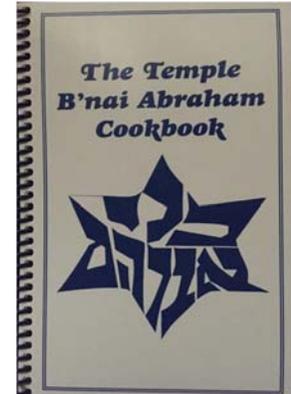
Temple Cookbook

Cookbooks are \$15.00 each. The checks are payable to Temple B'nai Abraham.

To reserve your copies, contact Randye at 609-298-6485 or mikerandye@gmail.com or send a check to 514 Reeder Avenue, Bordentown, NJ 08505.

You can pick up your books at Randye's house or they can be left at the Temple for pick-up at your convenience.

Thank you for your support of this Temple fundraiser.



*“Who acts from
love is greater
than who acts
from fear.”*

-Talmud

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Social Action -- Hunger Relief

Please make a donation of food for the food pantry or our interfaith hunger relief efforts this month! TBA doesn't meet regularly in the summer, but food insecurity knows no seasons. Our neighbors need our support throughout the year. Items we need:

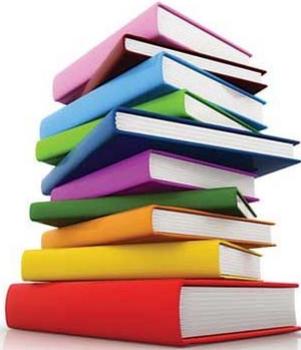
granola/cereal/breakfast bars
canned tuna/chicken

other non-perishable food items and toiletries are also welcome.

We continue to deliver a hot meal to the residents of the Pine Motel during the summer, the first Thurs. of the month. Many thanks to Robin and Steve Affrime, Phyllis Chudoff, and Judy Schimmel for their on-going commitment to this important service. If you would like to join us (about an hour of your time, only once a month), please call Marcy: 609-324-0571.

Gratefully yours,
Marcy Schwartz





*“A book is a dream
that you hold in your
hands.”*

~Neil Gaiman

Children’s Book Drive!

Jadon Baer, a B'nei Mitzvah student, is proudly participating in a book drive for The Bridge of Books Foundation (BoB). Operating as a 501(c)(3), the organization’s mission is to provide an ongoing source of new and gently used books to underserved kids throughout New Jersey to support literacy efforts and encourage a love of reading. The organization's name comes from the belief that a book, like a bridge, can take a child to new places - today in his or her imagination and tomorrow through literacy skills!

We are looking to collect:

- ❖ New and gently used books for kids from birth through age eighteen
- ❖ If a book makes sounds, it must work
- ❖ If a book has parts, it must be complete

We are not looking to collect:

- ❖ Adult books, textbooks, encyclopedias, coloring books, used work books or magazines
- ❖ One exception – Bridge of Books will accept parenting books!

A collection box will be placed at Temple Abraham. Please be a part of these efforts to bring the world and all its possibilities to New Jersey’s at-risk children through books. To learn more about The Bridge of Books Foundation, please visit www.bridgeofbooksfoundation.org.

Thank you for giving the gift of literacy!



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive

The blood drive held December 18 was a great success. We collected 31 pints- over our goal of 25! Special thanks to Bonnie Goldman, who helped on the day of the drive, and to Marsha Caldwell, Steve Lederman, and Rachel Schwartz for blood donations.

Upcoming Yahrzeits 2018

Week of Jan. 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron Schwartzberg, Father of Sandy Schwartzbird • Evelyn Rothman, Mother of Robin Affrime • Blanche Cantor, Mother of Ray Cantor
Week of Jan. 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernard Zeichner, Father of Stan Zeichner • Julius Bloom, Father of Randy Bloom • Jacob Epstein, Great-Uncle of Brian Epstein • Marcel Nissim, Husband of Lee Nissim • Shyrle Kushner, Mother of Ellen Benowitz and Wife of Sol Kushner • Jennie Groveman, Mother-In-Law of Seena Groveman • Ethel Speiser, Mother of Bernie Speiser • Ellen Wehrman, Sisterhood Member
Week of Jan. 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minnie Gutstein, Mother of Herman Gutstein • Rose Wasserman, Mother of Linda Bowker • Ida Josephson, Mother of Sam Josephson • Minnie Kaufman, Grandmother of Phyllis Busch • Harry Gutstein, Father of Herman Gutstein • Joseph Schwartz, Grandfather of Phyllis Chudoff
Week of Jan. 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy Leslie, Friend of Marcia Rosen • Rose Goldberg, Mother of Phyllis Kamer • Morris Herzog, Brother of Madge Rosen and Uncle of Michael
Week of Feb. 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Urken, Father of Gail Gernamous

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 \$40. 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 2018

January 20 th
February 24 th Jadon Baer's Bar Mitzvah
March 24 th

April 21 st
May 26 th E. Gale & R. Affrime B'not Mitzvah
June 2 nd Brandon & Gavin Rosenblatt B'nei Mitzvah



**Temple B’nai Abraham and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Host List for Shabbat Services and Sisterhood Meetings
2018**

*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
1/10/18	Sisterhood Meeting	Eileen Gale & Susan Roth
1/20/18	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Mann & Kunkler Families
2/09/18	Friday Night Oneg	Josh and Colleen Affrime & Kranger Family
2/23-2/24/18	Jadon Baer Bar Mitzvah	The Baer Family
3/02/18	Friday Night Oneg: Purim	Mindy Fink & Weiskott Family
3/14/18	Sisterhood Meeting	Susan Zaveloff & Marsha Caldwell
3/24/18	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Giachetti & Rosen Families
3/31/18	2 nd Seder at TBA all purpose room	Kim Aubry
4/16/18	Sisterhood Meeting	Phyllis Chudoff & Sharon Coleman
4/21/18	Shabbat Morning Luncheon	Epstein & Bakacs/Kopsco Families
4/27/18	Friday Night Oneg	Carlis & Cohen Families
May TBD	Sisterhood Meeting	Rhea Goldman & Bonnie Goldman
5/25-5/26/18	Adult B’nai Mitzvah	Eileen Gale & Robin Affrime
6/11/18	Sisterhood Annual Covered Dish	Randy Bloom & Marsha Dowshen
6/29/18	Friday Night Oneg: Member of the Year	Schwartz-Shain & Weiss Families



January 2018

Tevet 5778—Sh'vat 5778

**TEMPLE
B'NAI ABRAHAM**

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

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
31 No School	1	2	3	4 4:30pm Hebrew School	5 7:30pm Shabbat Services	6
7 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	8	9	10  7:30pm Sisterhood Meeting	11 4:30pm Hebrew School	12 6:00pm Tot Shabbat Services 7:30pm Shabbat Services	13
14 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	15	16	17	18 4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Game Night	19	20 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service
21 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	22	23	24	25 4:30pm Hebrew School	26 7:30pm Shabbat Services	27
28 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	29	30	31	1 4:30pm Hebrew School	2 7:30pm Shabbat Services	3