



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple President
Brian Epstein

Rabbi
Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime

“The Temple Shofar”

February, 2018

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

Game Night 6:30pm 2/15

Tot Shabbat 6pm 2/16

Baer Bar Mitzvah
Shabbat Eve 7:30pm 2/23

Baer Bar Mitzvah
Shabbat Morning 10am 2/24

Rabbi's Message

משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה

Misheniḥnas Adar Marbim Besimḥa
When Adar Comes, Joy Is Increased

If you ask a Jewish child what are their favorite Jewish activities, Purim would rank near the top of the list. Whether it be dressing up in costumes, acting in plays, spinning groggers, playing carnival games, winning prizes, or just eating Hamantaschen – most children experience the joy of Adar through their celebration of Purim. Purim is often understood as the source of the abundant joy that comes to be associated with the entire month of Adar.

But where are all the adults in costumes, shrieking to drown out Haman's name, bounding enthusiastically from game to game...? Sometimes adults can have a difficult time connecting with the holiday of Purim. In many communities, Purim celebrations are Hebrew School events that are particularly geared toward young children. The role of adults in Purim celebrations often seems to be more along the lines of organization, set-up, clean-up, and supervision of the delighted youngsters. There is no doubt that it can be satisfying and entertaining to watch children having so much fun during the celebration after all our hard work to put it together, but I'm not sure this is what our tradition means when it talks about increasing joy.

There is definitely an idea in our tradition that the joy of a simḥa (such as a baby naming, wedding, commitment ceremony, or b'nei mitzvah) is increased when it is shared with community. Our own joy can be increased vicariously – by proximity to and sharing in the joy of others. Sometimes we can even feel an unexpected delight when

we push past our comfort zones and experiment with a costume. We may be adults, but that doesn't mean that we can't still find delight in playfulness....

Rebbe Nahman taught that “every human being is filled with suffering. Therefore, a person has to exercise great effort in forcing himself to be happy at all times, and to bring himself to joy in any way he can – even with silliness” (Likutey Moharan II #24.2).

Joy can't always be forced, but sometimes striving to find moments of joy amidst suffering can bring relief. For those who are not inclined to experience joy through costumes and carnivals, there is the entire Jewish month of Adar to seek out other sources of joy. What delights you? What helps you feel connected to life? What kinds of silliness help you let down your guard and forget about your cares? What can you do to increase joy in your life during Adar, and then beyond? Costume or no, it never hurts to have an annual reminder that the experience of transcendent joy is a Jewish value and a human need!

As we enter the month of Adar (on February 15th this year), may each of us find joy multiplying in our lives, as an antidote to our human suffering, and as sustenance for every stage of our journeys through life.

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau



***“A little bit of
light pushes
away a lot of
darkness.”***

Temple Donations

- High Holiday Pledge - Andrew Trackman
- Honor of the Temple's 100th Anniversary - Arlene Speiser, Marsha & Joel Dowshen
- Donation towards air conditioner - Betsy Ramos
- Robin & Steve Affrime - Yahrtzeit Evelyn Rothman
- Neil and Karen Nissim - Yahrtzeit Norman Lamonsoff
- Rhoda & Henry Kessler - Yahrtzeit of Ella Kessler
- Robin & Steve Affrime - Yahrtzeit of Joseph Rothman
- Randye Bloom & Michael Scolaro - Yahrtzeit of Julius Bloom
- Eileen Gale - Yahrtzeit of Rebecca Gale
- Randye Bloom & Michael Scolaro - Yahrtzeit Rita Hodes
- Renee Harrison - Yahrtzeits of Walter Harrison & Helene Roseman
- Rita Nissim - Yahrtzeit Marcel Nissim
- Rita Nissim - Yahrtzeits of Lee Nissim & Isaac Grassian
- Brian & Maribeth Epstein – Yahrtzeit Lillian Brewis
- Mazel tov to Mike and Marcia Rosen in honor of their daughter's engagement from Eileen Gale and Art Guyer
- Get well and thinking of you to Robin and Steve Affrime from Eileen Gale and Art Guyer

~Jewish proverb

Hebrew School & Tot Shabbat

From the Education Director

As part of this year's tikkun olam (repair the world) Hebrew school theme, and in partnership with the Temple Sisterhood and local Kiwanis club, Hebrew school students practiced the mitzvah of ma'akhil r'evim (feeding the hungry) this month by packing bag lunches for people in need.

Together we decorated bags, made sandwiches, assembled juice boxes, fruit, and cookies, and packed 50 lunches and 50 sets of flatware. Lunches and flatware will be delivered to residents of local temporary housing and guests at nearby Trinity Methodist Church's weekly soup kitchen.

Interested in supporting other collaborative, hands-on, community-driven projects like this one? Please consider donating online at <https://squareup.com/store/bnai-abraham>.

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director



Sisterhood News & Announcements

Shalom Friends,

The next meeting of the Sarah Seidel Sisterhood will be Wednesday March 14th at 7:30. Our theme for this month will be a book club. Hostesses for the evening are Marsha Caldwell and Susan Zaveloff.

I suggest we read: *The Two Family House* by Lynda Cohen Loigman. Below is a short preview of the novel.

“Brooklyn, 1947: In the midst of a blizzard, in a two-family brownstone, two babies are born, minutes apart. The mothers are sisters by marriage: dutiful, quiet Rose, who wants nothing more than to please her difficult husband; and warm, generous Helen, the exhausted mother of four rambunctious boys who seem to need her less and less each day. Raising their families side by side, supporting one another, Rose and Helen share an impenetrable bond forged before and during that dramatic winter night.”

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.

On Friday night **February 9th an oneg will be hosted by the Affrime and Kranger families.** And on **Friday night February 23rd and Saturday February 24** the temple will help **Jadon Baer to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah.** We are very excited for him and his family. **Shari and Tom will host an oneg on Friday night.**

****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.

We have started making quilts for people who are experiencing a difficult time physically or emotionally and could use the comfort of a quilt with the added value of prayers said for the receiver. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please contact me at the email address or phone number below. I look forward to seeing you soon. Be well.

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



“Do not be wise in words, be wise in deeds.”

~Jewish proverb

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

Sisterhood Donations

- Get well Steve Affrime from Bonnie Goldman and Steve Ledderman
- Get well Patricia Light-Tolomeo from Marcy Schwartz and Rick Shain
- Get well Patricia Light-Tolomeo from Steve and Robin Affrime



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.

*“The time is
always right to
do what is
right.”*

*~Martin Luther
King, Jr.*

Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to the Sunday and Hebrew School students, teen teachers and some volunteer Moms (experts in PB&J) for making 50 bag lunches for the Pine Motel residents and for wrapping napkins and plasticware for the soup kitchen in Bordentown! An extra thanks to Jaden and Ethan Weiss and Marcy Schwartz for helping to deliver all the lunches to the Pine Motel.

Save the Date

Temple B'nai Abraham Community Seder, **Saturday March 31 6pm** and led by Rabbi Julie Pfau.

More information to come.

Any questions contact KimAubry@gmail.com



Women in History

Women in History: an interactive event organized by the Women's Rights Panel of Bordentown Neighbors Acting Together (BNAT) will be held on Fri., March 23 and Sunday, March 25 (the Sunday event oriented for children) at Old City Hall in Bordentown City. Our very own *****Bonnie Goldman***** will play the role of one of our favorite Bordentown historical figures!

Jadon Baer’s Bar Mitzvah

On Saturday February 24, Jadon Thomas Baer will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah and will be reading from the book of Exodus. In this Torah portion Parashat Tetzaveh, the children of Israel are commanded to bring pure olive oil for lighting, for the constantly burning light above the sanctuary. This Torah reading also tells us how Aaron and his sons are chosen to serve as priests, and how G-d instructs Moses to make special clothes for the priests.

Jadon’s favorite pastime is reading books, specifically fantasy books. He was able to bring this love of books into his mitzvah project. Jadon hosted a book drive, here at the Temple, as well as at a local library, where he was able to collect over 600 books for donation. The books were delivered to the Bridge of Books Foundation, which is an organization that provides 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.



Jadon Baer delivering donated books to Bridge of Books Foundation

**“Whoever is
happy will
make others
happy too.”**

~Anne Frank

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! Our neighbors need our support throughout the year. Items we need:

granola/cereal/breakfast bars

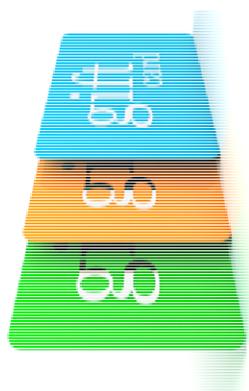
canned tuna/chicken

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

We continue to deliver a hot meal to the residents of the Pine Motel on 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





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

“Only love gives us the taste of eternity.”

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.

~Jewish proverb

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



Upcoming Yahrzeits 2018

Week of Feb. 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jerry Urken, Father of Gail Gernamous
Week of Feb. 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max Kessler, Father of Henry Kessler Jillian Zaveloff, Daughter of Susan & Marvin Zaveloff
Week of Feb. 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nathan Goldman, Father of Maxine & Philip Goldman Rose Kaiser, Mother of Eileen Gale
Week of Feb. 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selma Levitsky, Great-Aunt of Brian Epstein Rose Klepner, Mother of Len Klepner
Week of Mar. 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Howard Brewis, Great -Grandfather of Brian Epstein Lenny Greenblatt, Brother of Marcia Rosen Ruth Killian, Daughter's Mother-In-Law of Sharon Coleman Sylvia Goldman, Wife of Norman Goldman
Week of Mar. 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abe Kaufman, Grandfather of Phyllis Busch Irving Epstein, Father of Rhea Goldman

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

Morning Services 2018

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

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.

Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to the Sunday and Hebrew School students, teen teachers and some volunteer Moms (experts in PB&J) for making 50 bag lunches for the Pine Motel residents and for wrapping napkins and plasticware for the soup kitchen in Bordentown! An extra thanks to Jaden and Ethan Weiss and Marcy Schwartz for helping to deliver all the lunches to the Pine Motel.

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.

Temple B'nai Abraham



Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

58 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown NJ 08505

January 21, 2018

Dear Congregation B'nai Abraham,

The holidays went by quickly and now it is almost the end of January! I have good news that our apartment renovation is coming to an end and we are soon going to put it up for rent. This has been quite an undertaking, and I would like to personally thank Kim Aubry, Neil Nissim and everyone else who has been working hard to see it through completion.

During the renovation, however, the Temple has not been collecting rental income. This is a vital part of our yearly budget, and keeps us able to sustain our Synagogue, Hebrew School and the salaries of our employees. Last month I asked the congregation to work with me in raising \$10,000 to bridge this gap, and the response has been inspiring.

It is not too late to be a part of this campaign. We are 75% of the way there, and with your help, we'll be able to complete our goal of \$10,000.

Make a pledge: <https://www.bnai-abraham.org> (Project \$10,000 Pledge link on the right)

Donate online: <https://squareup.com/store/bnai-abraham>

Thank you for your generosity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Brian Epstein', is written in a cursive style.

Brian Epstein

President - Temple B'nai Abraham



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
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



February 2018 Sh'vat 5778—Adar 5778

TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM

58 Crosswicks
PO Box 245
Bordentown, NJ 08505

609.298.1527
www.bnai-abraham.org

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School	7:30pm Shabbat Services	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School	7:30pm Shabbat Services	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Game Night	6:00pm Tot Shabbat Services 7:30pm Shabbat Services	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School	7:30pm Shabbat Services - Jadon Baer Bar Mitzvah	10am Shabbat Morning Service Jadon Baer Bar Mitzvah
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew				4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm	7:30pm Shabbat Services	