

Temple B'nai Abraham

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Rabbi

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Robin Affrime



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Kim Ehrlich

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Important Dates

Game Night 6:30pm	3/1
Sunday/Hebrew School—Purim Celebration 10am	3/4
Tot Shabbat 6pm	3/9
Sisterhood Meeting 7:30pm	3/14
Adult Education 12:30-2pm	3/18
Shabbat Morning 10am	3/24
2nd Night Seder 6pm	3/31

“The Temple Shofar”

March, 2018

Rabbi's Message

In preparation for Passover (which begins at the end of March this year), I have been perusing the *haggadah*. Of course, it is a bit misleading to speak of “the” *haggadah*, given that it appears in so many forms. I actually have nearly two dozen *haggadot* (so far), two dozen different renderings of the Passover story that we revisit each year. Many of these pre-date my fire and are no longer practical for me to use because of chemical contamination. But I have kept them because each has sentimental value. Each year, since before my conversion to Judaism, I have tried to add at least one new *haggadah* or supplement to my collection. These have become tangible reminders of various stages in my Jewish journey. Each has brought me its own unique flavor to the Passover story – whether through art, a special thematic focus, alternative readings, presence or absence of transliteration for the Hebrew, and even different styles of fonts that can create a different feel to the text.

In the Mishnah, one of the early Jewish law codes, we are told that in every generation a person must regard himself or herself as though s/he personally had gone out of Egypt (Pesachim 10:5). Thus, along with Passover’s powerful call to a wider vision of social and economic justice, we are also called to engage the story on a deeply personal level. I find that exploring a new *haggadah* or two each year helps me find fresh connections and perspectives that facilitate this goal.

One *haggadah* that I have had for a few years is a reproduction of a 1728 illuminated *haggadah* from Amsterdam. The text is entirely in Hebrew, with an extensive Hebrew commentary written in tiny non-vowelized “Rashi script” (a particular way of writing Hebrew letters). The *haggadah* is aesthetically pleasing to me and each page draws me in. It is a reminder of Jews who lived long before me but whose Passover celebrations might have had similarities to our own along with their differences. But, absent a Hebrew-English dictionary and plenty of time to work out a translation, I would not be able to access large sections of the text. (And leading a seder predictably interferes with my ability to get

sidetracked and distracted by minutia of translation...) Indeed, this *haggadah*, while lovely, would be completely unusable to many contemporary American Jews. Thankfully for Jews throughout the ages, tradition holds that it is commendable to translate the *haggadah* so that it will be understood!

My first *haggadah* was E.M. Broner’s *The Women’s Haggadah*. I purchased this *haggadah* early on in my journey toward conversion. It showed me that there was a place in Judaism for women’s voices and experiences, that Jews could use feminine language for God, and that women’s struggles for liberation and social equality resonate with the Passover story. Eventually, I saw that enacted at the seder through the inclusion of a cup for Miriam as a prophetess to parallel Elijah. Over time I added to my collection of feminist Passover resources by adding to my library *The Women’s Seder Sourcebook: Rituals and Readings for Use at the Passover Seder* and *The Women’s Passover Companion: Women’s Reflections on the Festival of Freedom*. I recommend these for anyone who is eager to discover new depths of meaning for the seder.

An especially powerful acquisition to my *haggadah* collection is the one put out by Rabbis for Human Rights in 2003 – *In Every Generation: A Haggadah Supplement on Economic Justice*. It begins by highlighting elements of the UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights that pertain to economic justice – Article 4 which prohibits slavery in all forms, Article 23 which affirms the right to work free of discrimination and unjust conditions, Article 24 which affirms the right to paid holidays and limits on working hours, and Article 25 Section 1:

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of him/herself and of his/her family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.”

Continued on Page 9



Temple Donations

Project \$10,000

- Brian & Maribeth Epstein
- Robin & Steve Affrime

- Robin & Steve Affrime - Celebrating their 45th Anniversary
- Marcia & Michael Rosen - Honor of Robin & Steve Affrime's 45th anniversary
- Susan & Marvin Zaveloff - Yahrtzeit Jillian Zaveloff
- Eileen Gale - Yahrtzeit Mark Blatt
- Phyllis Kamer - Yahrtzeit Max Kamer
- Rhoda & Henry Kessler - Yahrtzeit of Max Kessler

“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.”

~BB King

Adult Education Program

Sunday, March 18, 12:30-2:00

Rabbi Julie will be teaching about the Book of Judges - a part of the Tanakh that is often overlooked. The Book of Judges is one of the more action-packed books in the Tanakh, full of stories about the days after the Jews entered the land of Canaan but before there was a king. We will learn a bit about the origins and authorship of the book, and then study some of the stories more closely. Feel free to read the entire book in advance, but please come even if you don't have time to do homework!

Hebrew School & Tot Shabbat

From the Education Director

It's time for Purim! Hebrew school students have been busy rehearsing a Purim play that tells the story of the Book of Esther in the perpetually popular context of Star Wars. (Watch for a certain small, green Jedi master to make occasional appearances . . .) I'm proud of all the energy the students have put into learning their lines, creating costumes and props, practicing staging and choreography, and most of all claiming ownership of the play via their own additions. Yasher koach to the entire cast and crew!

Of course, Purim wouldn't be complete without music, hamantashen, costumes, a carnival, and a special backwards service (to mark the carnivalesque aspect of the holiday). A big thank-you to all the parent and grandparent volunteers who have helped make these events possible. Chag Purim sameach (happy Purim)!

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director



Sisterhood News & Announcements

Shalom Friends

On March 14th we will have our next sisterhood meeting. We will discuss the book: *The Two-Family House* by Lynda Cohen Loigman. I found the book to be a very quick read with interesting and even intriguing characters. For me, the characters always drive a story. Over time, as I read the book, they can even become friends. As in all stories you will like some characters better than others but together the characters in *The Two-Family House* make a story filled with heart, family and home.

Please join us for this discussion at 7:30 at TBA. Hostesses for the meeting are Marsha Caldwell and Susan Zaveloff.

On Friday night March 2, 2018, the Friday night oneg will be sponsored by Mindy Fink and the Weiskott family.

On Saturday March 24th the Saturday Shabbat luncheon will be sponsored by the Rosen and Giachetti families.

Passover begins at sunset on Friday night March 30th and our Temple B'nai Abraham seder will be Saturday night March 31st. Contact Kim Aubry if you are interested in attending at kimaubry@gmail.com.



“It’s not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.”

~Mother Teresa

Sisterhood Donations

- Get well John Wehrman from the Morginstins
- Rejoicing with Amanda Pincus on her engagement from Elaine Trackman, Renee Harrison and Phyllis Kamer
- Rejoicing with Eileen Gale on marriage of her son Ronnie from Elaine Trackman
- Rejoicing with Maricia and Michael on engagement of daughter Leah from Elaine Trackman

Sisterhood Officers

Sisterhood President
Robin Afrime

Vice President
Linda Osman

Treasurer/Financial Scty
Marcy Schwartz

Recording Secretary
Marsha Caldwell

Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Light-Tolomeo

Trustees
Eileen Gale
Susan Giachetti

Healing List

The Healing List has a new chair until further notice. Please send any names to Rhea Goldman at rsegoldman@comcast.net. A new list is commencing March 2018 so please send any names to Rhea at this time.



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.

***“Traditions,
traditions.
Without our
traditions, our
lives would be
as shaky
as...as...as a
fiddler on the
roof!” -Tevye
“Fiddler on the
Roof”***

B’Nai Mitzvah

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that Eileen Gale and Robin Affrime invite you to their B'nai Mitzvah ceremony. Both women have been working very hard for many months to read from the Torah. They would very much like you to join them on Friday night May 25th and Saturday May 26th as they experience a dream come true. They know that often congregants avoid coming when there is a B'nai Mitzvah, but both women would very much like you to be present to share in their joy of this experience. Please let them know if you are planning to attend by email egale10@verizon.net and raffrime@gmail.com

Film Screening

Film screening and discussion: free, all welcome!

The film "Accidental Courtesy", a fascinating documentary about jazz musician Daryl Davis's efforts to sway Ku Klux Klan members away from their path of racism and anti-Semitism, will be shown at the Fieldsboro Methodist Church on Sunday, March 4, 3:00 p.m. Discussion and refreshments will follow.

The church is located at 200 Second St. in Fieldsboro. This program is organized by Building Bridges, a community group associated with Bordentown Neighbors Acting Together. Please come!



Teffilot Shalom - Prayers of Wholeness Prayer Quilts

What is a Prayer Quilt?

Can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its comfort? You can if it is part of a prayer quilt.

The idea behind these quilts is simple, yet powerful. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the layers of the quilt and the ends are left free to be tied by a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone in special need; someone who has asked us to pray for them. The quilt is then given to that person. What makes each quilt so special is not the pattern, color or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These comforters are a statement of faith and a testimony to our belief in G-d and the power of prayer.

I can attest to comfort found in receiving one of these quilts. In an effort to give back to all of the people who prayed for me during my illness and for Steve during his surgery and recovery we have started a group to create quilts to be given to our friends and loved ones.

A quilt must be requested for and by the receiver. Their health and recovery will be treated with the utmost of respect and care. A quilt will be made and prayers for their recovery will be said as the knots are tied. Rabbi Julie will then say a prayer over the quilt and then it will be ready to be given to its new owner with love and prayers.

If you are in need of a quilt for yourself or someone you care about or if you are interested in helping in this effort please get in touch with us.

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



***“It’s funny how
most activists
are pacifists.”***

***~Craig
Reucassel***

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Social Action -- Hunger Relief

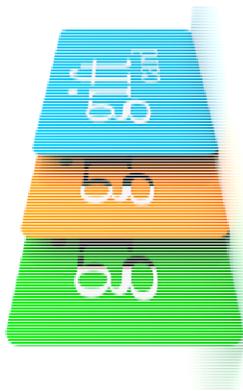
Please make a donation of food for the food pantry or our interfaith hunger relief efforts this month! Our neighbors need our support throughout the year. Items we need:

- 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

We do not see things as “they are”, we see things as “we are”.

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.

Prayerbook Fundraising Drive

~The Talmud

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 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
Week of Mar. 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 23 rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mildred Josephson, Mother of Mark Josephson Faith Hupfl, Mother of Jake Hupfl 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 and Father of Madge Rosen
Week of Mar. 30 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bess Light, Mother of Patricia Light-Tolomeo Jack Harrison, Brother-In-Law of Renee Harrison Seymour Affrime, Father of Steve Affrime
Week of Apr. 6 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albert Dowshen, Father of Joel 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 \$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.

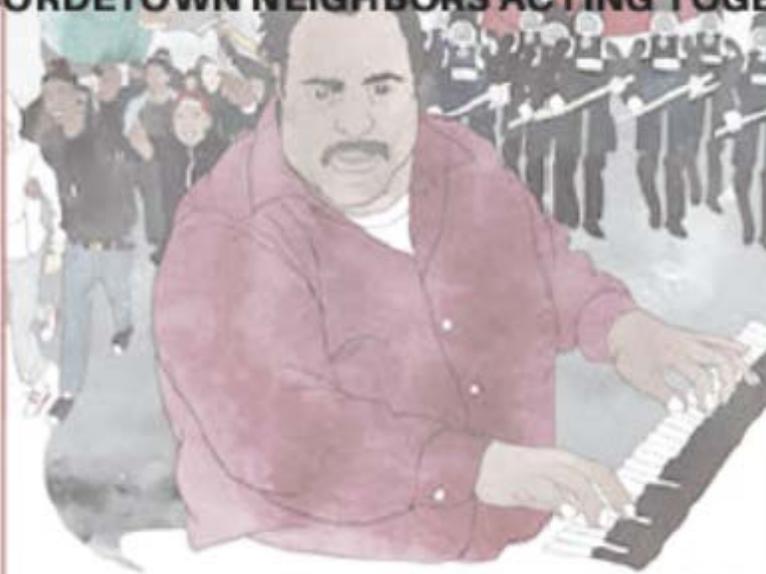
Morning Services 2018

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

Movie Screening: *Accidental Courtesy: Daryl Davis, Race & America*

HOSTED BY BUILDING BRIDGES
 OF BORDETOWN NEIGHBORS ACTING TOGETHER



ACCIDENTAL COURTESY 
 DARYL DAVIS, RACE & AMERICA

SCREENPLAY BY DARYL DAVIS • DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES GUNN • EDITOR JAMES GUNN
 EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LAURENCE J. BROWN • PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BROWN • CAST BY DARYL DAVIS • MUSIC BY JAMES GUNN
 WRITTEN BY DARYL DAVIS • PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BROWN • PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BROWN

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4 AT 3:00 PM
 FIELDSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 200 2ND STREET, FIELDSBORO**

Free to attend, all are welcome
 Discussion and refreshments to follow

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MARCY AT
 MARCYSCHWARTZ2@GMAIL.COM

Rabbi’s Message continued from page 1

The supplement takes these themes and weaves them through the seder, asking participants to envision an America and a world in which these values were embodied. It asks participants to consider how Jewish history and ethics, especially as reflected in the seder, can inform our responses to economic injustice. Although the supplement was produced in 2003, it still feels timely.

The Passover Seder represents a beautiful joining of personal spirituality, Jewish communal connections across

generations, and a call to social justice. Exploring a wide variety of *haggadot* offers an opportunity to access each of these levels of meaning in fresh ways. I encourage everyone, if you haven’t done so before, to try out the practice of exploring a new *haggadah* each year in the days leading up to Passover. Whether or not you plan to use it at a seder, it can help you imagine anew the ways that you have gone and are going out from Egypt.

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau



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
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



March 2018 Adar 5778—Nisan 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
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Game Night	7:30pm Shabbat Services	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00am Sunday/ Hebrew School Purim Celebration 				4:30pm Hebrew School	6:00pm Tot Shabbat Services 7:30pm Shabbat Services	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School			 7:30pm Sisterhood Meeting	4:30pm Hebrew School	7:30pm Shabbat Services	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School 12:30 Adult Education				4:30pm Hebrew School		10am Shabbat Morning Service
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School				4:30pm Hebrew School		6:00pm 2nd Night Seder