



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple President
Brian Epstein

Rabbi
Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime

“The Temple Shofar”

April, 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

- Hebrew School Trip 4/8
- Tot Shabbat 6pm 4/13
- Shabbat Morning 10am 4/21
- New(ish) Member Shabbat 7:30pm 4/27

Rabbi’s Message

One of my favorite activities at Temple B'nai Abraham is working with students of all ages. One of the best parts about teaching in our community is that it isn't about grades. People come because they want to learn, and there is no institutional pressure about the speed of that learning process. We can collaboratively set flexible learning goals, and no one ever needs to feel as if they are failing. Because being Jewish should never be about failure! Synagogue should be a safe space to grow, and growth shouldn't be rushed or criticized.

One of the most prominent Jewish thinkers of the medieval period, Maimonides or Rambam, had a lot to say about education – from rules about class sizes, to advice for teachers and students. The following passage suggests the proper understanding of how education works:

“Students increase the wisdom and broaden the horizons of their teacher. Our Sages declared: ‘I learned much wisdom from my teachers and even more from my colleagues. However, from my students I learned most of all.’ Just as a small branch is used to light a large bough, so a small student sharpens the teacher’s thinking processes, until, through questions, s/he brings forth brilliant wisdom.” (Rambam, Mishneh Torah, Talmud Torah 5:13)

I love watching students grow. Because of my vantage point, I often get to see the first signs of growth even before a student does. It is powerful to see the budding confidence when a student too starts to see his or her own growth. One of the

best things I learn from my students is more about who they are and how they grow. Teaching and learning, the back and forth of dialogue and questions, the frustrations and victories – all of these shared moments are a blessing to me.

Over the last few years, we have had a variety of educational programs – an adult beginning Hebrew class, an adult Bnei Mitzvah class, and Lunch and Learn programs. I am planning to try something different this year and schedule some educational programming over the summer, and I would like to find out what would be of interest to members of the community.

I already have one student who is going to begin learning Hebrew letters – is there anyone else that would like to join a summer class of beginning Hebrew? Is there any interest in a Modern Hebrew class? Perhaps a seminar-format class on a particular topic? Is anyone interested in studying Jewish history or Jewish literature?

If there is anything that you have always wanted to learn but have been too bashful to ask, don't be shy – send me an email. Nothing would delight me more than to have more students learning things they have always wanted to learn (even if they thought they never would)!

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau

Temple Donations



Project \$10,000

- Shari & Thomas Baer
- Get well to Rita Nissim from Elaine Trackman
- In memory of Rita Ehrlich from Michael Scolaro & Randye Bloom
- Renee Harrison Memory of Dr. Sid Lavine
- Brian & Maribeth Epstein, Yahrzeits of Selma Levitsky and Howard Brewis
- Elaine Trackman Yahrzeit of William Trackman
- Marcia & Michael Rosen Yahrzeits of Lenny Greenblatt and Charles Herzog
- Marsha & David Caldwell Yahrzeit of Ida Caster
- Rhea Goldman Yahrzeit of Sylvia Goldman, Fran Epstein, Irv Epstein
- Rita Nissim Yahrzeit Shemesh
- Marcia & Michael Rosen Yahrzeits of Madge Rosen, Leon Herzog, Belle Rosen
- Patricia Light-Tolomeo, Yahrzeit of Bess Light

“There is no such thing as ‘a small act’; there are only ‘small people.’ ”

~unknown

AC Donation

The Temple community sends a special thank you to Sandy SchwartzBird for donating the funds for our new air conditioning system! This system is quiet, ultra efficient and will be a great blessing in the warmer days off Spring, Summer and Fall. We'd also like to thank Betsy Ramos and our anonymous donors for helping with the installation costs, too. So, don't stay away during the hot days, we have you covered! Also, if you see a need around the Temple and would like to make a donation to get it done, please let us know. We thrive on the donations, ideas and volunteerism of our community! Thanks, Brian

Hebrew School & Tot Shabbat

From the Education Director

Passover is a season where the old meets the new—and Hebrew school and Sunday school are no exception. Like in years past, we've been practicing the Four Questions, and will hold our annual chocolate seder at the end of March. New this year is a focus on the mitzvah of welcoming the stranger, in keeping with our theme of tikkun olam (repairing the world). We're studying Jewish immigration to America in both Sunday school and Hebrew school, culminating in a trip to the New York City Tenement Museum at the beginning of April. We'll continue on this path by learning about the important role that Jewish people have played in the American labor movement, a topic that combines the themes of Passover with American history and current events. Throughout the month, we'll also be counting the Omer, continuing to explore the text and meanings of prayers, and of course holding our weekly student-lead Shabbat services. Here's to a great month of learning!

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director



Sisterhood News & Announcements

Shalom Friends

On April 16th at 7:30 we will have our next sisterhood meeting. We are going to have a household shower for a family in our community.

Nancy and Abraham Krangar and their three boys are members of our congregation. Several months ago their house caught fire. Everyone is fine, but their home was destroyed along with many of their personal possessions. Recently they moved from a motel into a temporary home while their home is being repaired. We have decided to have a shower to help them replace some of their missing possessions. Below is a list of things that would be useful to them. Please spread the word and join us for our next sisterhood meeting where we can shower Nancy with some things that are greatly needed by their family.

- Glass covered casserole set
- Glass lasagne and bakeware set
- Knife set
- Queen sized cotton sheets

- Bath towels, hand towels and washcloths
- 5 shelf plastic shelving unit
- Standing oscillating fan

Nancy says, thanks in advance for thinking of them. Anything would be appreciated.

Hostesses for the meeting will be Phyllis Chudoff and Kim Ehrlich.

On Saturday April 21st the Saturday Shabbat luncheon will be sponsored by the Epstein and Bakacs/Kopsco families.

On Friday night April 27th, the Friday night oneg will be sponsored by the Affrime Family



"Life is like riding a bicycle: to keep your balance you must keep moving." –

Albert Einstein

Sisterhood Donations

- Get well Charyl Morginstin from: Rita Nissim, Elaine Trackman, Renee Harrison, Robin and Steve Affrime, and Eileen Gale and Art Guyer
- Rejoicing with Marcia and Mike Rosen on engagement of daughter Leah 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

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.

“Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing up is like shoveling the sidewalk before it stops snowing.” - Phyllis Diller

Passover Thank You

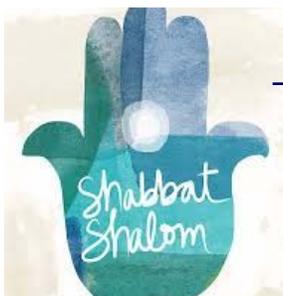
Thank you to all of the organizers, partners and the participants for helping create a joyous Passover Seder!

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.



Shabbat Service Honoring New(ish) Members

Friday, April 27th, 7:30pm

Please join us for a special shabbat service to honor our new(ish) members. We will recognize and offer blessings to those who have joined our community in recent years, with an oneg in their honor following services.

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



“A truly generous person is one who always gives, whether it be much or little, before one is asked.”

~Orchot Tzaddikim

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Social Action -- Hunger Relief

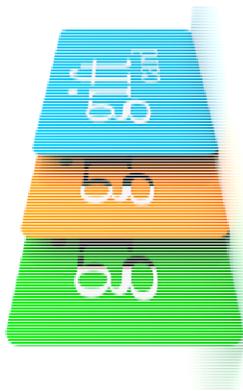
Please make a donation of food for the food pantry or our interfaith hunger relief efforts this month! Our neighbors need our support throughout the year. Items we need:

- 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 609-614-7138. 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. 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
Week of Apr. 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flora Grassian, Mother of Rita Nissim Martin Leichter, Uncle of David Caldwell Belle Rosen, Mother of Gerald Rosen and Grandmother of
Week of Apr. 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawrence Silverman, Father of Marsha Caldwell Madge Rosen, Mother of Michael Rosen and Wife of Gerald
Week of Apr. 27 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leon Herzog, Brother of Madge Rosen and Uncle of Michael Rosen Frances Novak, Mother of Blanche Cantor Lewis Maniloff, Friend of Phyllis Chudoff Mary Gross, Aunt of Shyrle Kushner Philip Kushner, Father of Sol Kushner
Week of May 4 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louis Benson, Father of Charyl Morginstin Gertrude Urken, Sister of Henry Kessler Arlene Schwartz, Mother of Phyllis Chudoff Ann Zeitz, Mother of Carl Zeitz Samuel Kleger, Bonus Father of Marsha Caldwell

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

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



Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

58 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown NJ 08505

March 19, 2018

Dear Congregation B'nai Abraham,

We are nearly there! Thanks to your generation donations, we are well on our way to fully funding our campaign to raise \$10,000 for the temple.

Our rental property is listed and potential tenants are being interviewed. That being said, the renovation was a rocky road to complete. There are numerous unseen issues that came up and we are still fixing up some problems that have just come to light. Your donations will really help in keeping our budget on track after dealing with these unexpected issues.

So, before you get lost in dreaming about the warm summer breeze, please consider making a pledge toward this campaign. Every pledge counts toward us meeting our goal!

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, appearing to read 'Brian Epstein'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Epstein
President - Temple B'nai Abraham

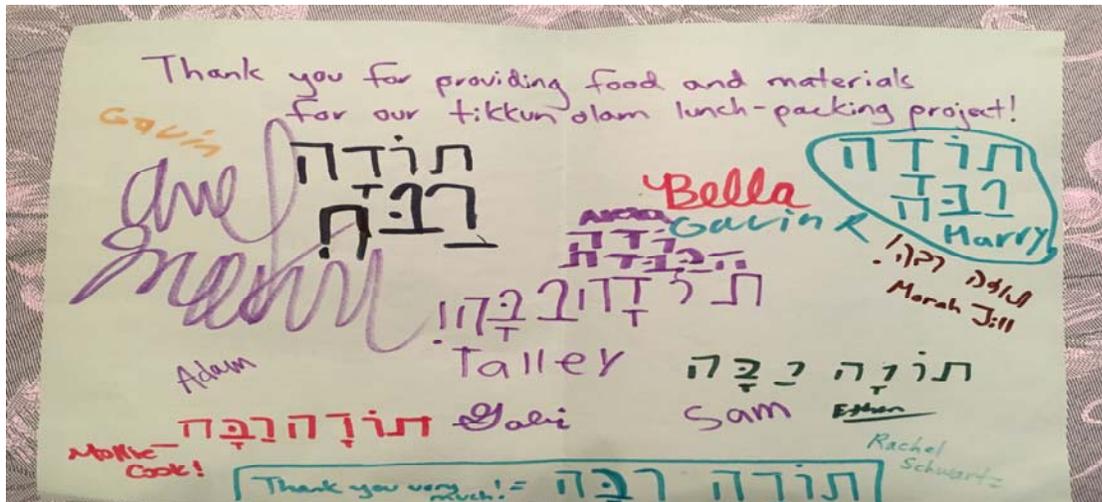


**Temple B’nai Abraham and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Host List for Shabbat Services and Sisterhood Meetings
2018**

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
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	Affrime 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

This picture is a thank you note from the Hebrew School to Sisterhood for providing the food supplies for a lunch packing project. Marcy visited the Hebrew School to speak with the students about Tikkun Olam. Then the students packed a meal. Marcy delivered the meal that day.





April 2018

Nisan 5778—Iyyar 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
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No Hebrew School				No Hebrew School	7:30pm Shabbat Services	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Hebrew School Field Trip				4:30pm Hebrew School	6:00pm Tot Shabbat Services 7:30pm Shabbat Services	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School 11:00am Adult Education	 7:30pm Sisterhood Meeting			4:30pm Hebrew School		10am Shabbat Morning Service
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School 11:00am Adult Education				4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Game Night	7:30pm Shabbat Services New Member Honor 	
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School 11:00am Adult Education				4:30pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Game Night	7:30pm Shabbat Services	