

Temple B'nai Abraham

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Brian Epstein

Rabbi
Julie Pfau

Sarah Siedel Sisterhood President
Robin Affrime



Temple Officers

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Liz Mitchell

Chair, Adult Education

Chair, Building
Neil Nissim

Chair, PR & Social Media
Kim Ehrlich

Recording Secretary

Important Dates

Family Education Day Hebrew School	9/6
5:30pm-7:30pm	
Rosh Hashanah	9/9
7:30pm	
Rosh Hashanah 10am	9/10
Rosh Hashanah 10am	9/11
Lunch 11:30am	9/11
Kol Nidre 6:15pm	9/18
Yom Kippur 10am	9/19
Yom Kippur 6pm	9/19
Break the Fast	9/19
7:45pm	

“The Temple Shofar”

September, 2018

Rabbi's Message

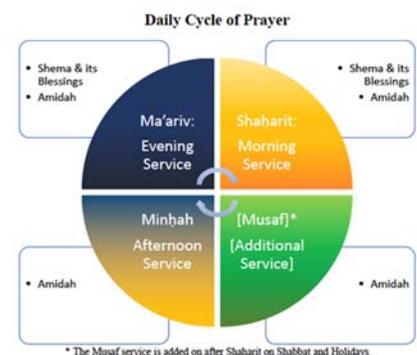
Conversations with several congregants over the past year or so have revealed that there is interest in learning more about the structure of services. In response to this, I have decided to do a newsletter series on this topic – providing some instruction about the structure of services while also highlighting elements that are spiritually meaningful.

It is both fitting and challenging to dive into a newsletter series on the structure of synagogue services as we enter into the *Yamim Nora'im*, the Days of Awe. One of my intentions in this series of articles is to attempt to foster a greater familiarity and comfort with the rhythm of prayer in Jewish tradition, but the High Holidays already present us with disruptions to the usual pattern.

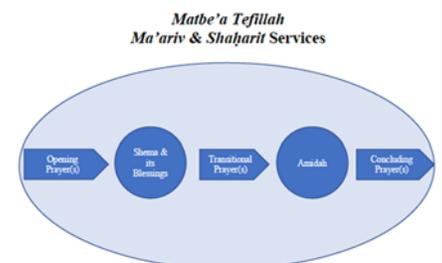
Our *siddur* is wonderfully full of translations, transliterations, and supplementary readings. However, the multitude of material can obscure the underlying structure of services. This despite the fact that the name for a Jewish prayer book, *siddur*, is derived from the Hebrew root that means order! During High Holidays, we have a special name for the prayer book – the *maḥzor* (and it contains even more supplementary material!). The name might be different, but the *maḥzor* still shares a deep underlying structure with the prayers in our Shabbat *siddur*.

The ancient Jewish sages sometimes used the terminology “*matbe'a ha-tefillah*” to refer to the structure of prayer – *tefillah* means prayer, while the word “*matbe'a*” refers to a minted coin. A mint repeatedly stamps the same impression onto different materials, and this is how the sages understood the deep structure of a prayer service. They lived before the age of the printing press, so a mint was their best analogy for this concept. Each service has a basic underlying stamp that can be identified, but this prayer-press is stamping onto time rather than matter, so the difference is not in physical materials (different metals or papers) but in the stuff of time – time of day, time of week, time of year.

As you can see in the diagram, the Amidah, or standing prayer, is a multi-part prayer that is a constituent component in every service – the evening service (*ma'ariv*), the morning service (*shaharit*), the afternoon service (*minhah*), and the additional service on Shabbat and holidays (*musaf*). The Shema and its Blessings is an additional key component of the evening and morning services. (Each of these sections – the Amidah and the Shema, has its own *matbe'a*, its own stamp, which I will discuss in more detail in months to come.)



One of my instructors in graduate school used to describe the Shema section and the Amidah section as two foci of an ellipse, with additional prayers attached at the beginning, middle, and end depending on whether it is morning or evening, and whether it is a weekday, Shabbat, or a holiday (as in the diagram). This ellipse will look very different depending on whether the service is in the morning or evening, on Shabbat or a weekday, and during a holiday or the rest of the year. But even if the ellipse is a different size, color, or material, it will always have the same two foci – the Shema section and the Amidah section.



On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur there are a multitude of additions to every section of services – from single lines to multi-page insertions, including *piyyutim* (poems) as well as prose style

Continued on Page 2



**“Gwom flowers
of gratitude in
the soil of
prayer.”**

**-Verbena
Woods**

Rabbi's Message Continued

prayers. Whatever the stylistic form, the insertions ultimately seek to highlight the themes of the holiday – God's sovereignty and judgment, longings for life and goodness in the coming year, repentance, fear and awe in the face of God's power and our own frailties and failures, hope in God's compassion and forgiveness, etc...

Although each of these insertions is attached to part of the existing framework, it isn't hard to lose track of the regular pattern of prayer amidst all the exceptions... And yet, this can be a reminder that however regular the patterning of our prayers, however repetitive the words we recite, we are always called to be responsive to the moment. Just as the call of the shofar can jar us out of our complacency, so too the changes to the *matbe'a tefillah*. The variations of the High Holidays are a prime example that Jewish prayer is not meant to be a rote recitation but a living moment of connection between our authentic selves and the divine.

This year during the Yamim Nora'im, I invite you to find moments of groundedness in the familiar structures of the prayers so that you feel safe to go deep, but also open yourself to disruption, change, and transformation.

Shanah tovah u'metuqah l'kulam – may it be a good and sweet year for all!

Shalom,
Rabbi Pfau

Temple Donations



HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES

- Caroline Ehrlich
- Judy Schimmel
- Marcy Schwartz & Rick Shain

- Joseph Pollard donation for Hebrew School books in honor of his Bar Mitzvah.

Rosh Hashanna / Yom Kippur

The Religious Committee is requesting volunteers for the aliyahot at the High Holiday services. We're trying to streamline some of the other things that we used to need volunteers for, and won't be giving out as many index cards as in prior years. Many of the readings are in English.

The second morning Rosh Hashanah service will be replaced with a Lunch and Learn at 11:30 am on Tuesday, September 11th. Please let us know if you are attending so food can be prepared or ordered please contact Marcia: 609-298-2799 or email mjanrosen@comcast.net.

Please consider attending even if you've not had a chance to reply.

-Marcia Rosen



לשנה טובה

L'Shanah tovah

tikateiv

veteichateim!

Tashlich Service

A Tashlich service will be held directly following the service on Rosh Hashanah Day One. We will walk or ride to the boat dock in Bordentown. (All of this assumes weather permitting of course...!)

*May you be
inscribed and sealed
for a good year.*

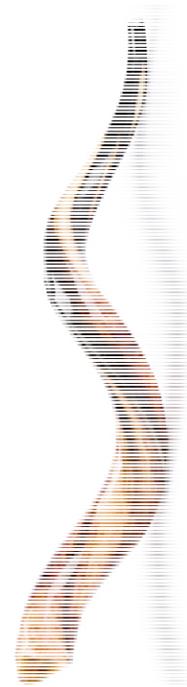
Break the Fast

Temple B'nai Abraham and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood invite your family and you to join us for Break the Fast on Wednesday, September 19th (around 7:45 p.m.). Each family attending is asked to bring a prepared covered dish, which you can sign up for with your reservation. You must also volunteer to help set up or clean up. *Cost is \$12.00 adults, children 6 - 12 \$6.00, and children 5 and under are free.*

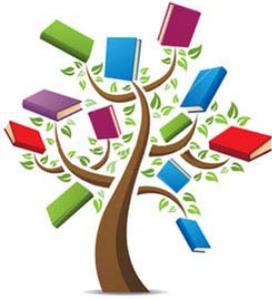
Please contact Karen Nissim at karennissim@aol.com or Robin Affrime (609) 499-1761 with your reservations by September 12th. Please make your checks payable to Sarah Seidel Sisterhood.

Additionally, we could use some help in setting up. Please volunteer!

Thank you and L'Shanah Tovah



Hebrew School & Tot Shabbat



“Knowing the answers will help you in school. Knowing the question will help you in life.”

-Warren Berger

Welcome to a new school year at Temple B'nai Abraham!

September is a time for lots of firsts at Hebrew school and Sunday school. At our Family Education Day on Thursday, Sept. 6, we'll get together with friends old and new to orient ourselves to the year, including a game where we'll share highlights of our own Jewish stories. This event runs from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, and I hope you all can join us.

The next Thursday, Sept. 13, is our first regular day of Hebrew school. Returning students can look forward to resuming our school-day rituals—including our opening song, silence, and blessing—while new students can experience them for the first time. During the first half of this first regular day, we'll open our discussion of the Yamim Noraim (the Days of Awe, also known as the High Holidays) with a story that'll lead us into a discussion of teshuvah (turning), a major theme of this season. We'll hold our first student-led Erev Shabbat service, and conclude the day with a beloved tradition: writing Jewish New Year resolutions to be sealed tonight and opened on the last day of school.

After that, on Sunday, Sept. 16, we'll welcome our Sunday school students to a new year with stories, songs, our first Hebrew letter of the year . . . and some honey, so that learning will be sweet. In Hebrew school, we'll share our first havdalah together and meet with our Hebrew language groups for the first time. After this, new and returning teen teachers will lead us in our first text study activity of the year.

And don't forget about our first Tot Shabbat on Friday, Sept. 28, where our first craft will be creating a poster that'll introduce each of our Tot Shabbat programs this year.

I look forward to sharing this month of firsts with you!

Shalom,
Jill Ratzan
Education Director

Hebrew School and Sunday School - Save the Dates



Thurs., Sept. 6, 5:30-7:30pm: **Family Education Day**

Thurs., Sept. 13, 4:30-6:30pm: **First Day of Hebrew School**

Sun., Sept. 16, 9:00-9:55am: **First Day of Sunday School**

Fri., Oct. 19, 7:30-9:30pm: **Welcome Back Service**

note: no Hebrew school or Sunday school on Sun., Sept. 9 or Thurs., Sept. 20

Tot Shabbat Dates

**School Year 2018-2019 (5779)
Temple B'nai Abraham**



Programs run 6:00pm-7:30pm and include a preschool-friendly service, a pizza potluck dinner (dairy/vegetarian), and a craft. For more information please contact Education Director Jill Ratzan at jratzan@bnai-abraham.org.

September 28
October 12
November 16
December 7
January 11
February 15
March 15
April 12
May 3 (Bring a Friend)
June 7

**“Worries go
down better
with soup than
without.”**

-Jewish Proverb

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

Social Action -- Hunger Relief

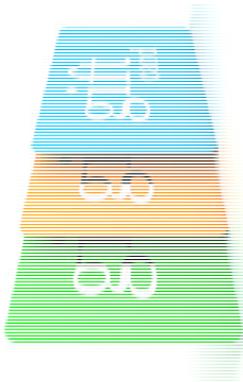
Please make a donation of food for the food pantry or our interfaith hunger relief efforts this month! Our neighbors need our support throughout the year. Items we need:

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

**“I can shake off
everything as I
write; my sorrows
disappear, my
courage is
reborn.”**

For a donation of \$5.00, 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.

-Anne Frank

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 August 31 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anette Brewis, Great-Aunt of Brian Epstein Pearl Fishman, Mother of Arlene Speiser Erwin Mann, Father of Steven Mann Samuel Densky, Father of Sharon Coleman Zelda Goldman, Mother of Norman Goldman Deanne Klein, Sister of Arlene Speiser Ida Goldman, Wife of Hyman Goldman Rose King, Friend of Sandy Schwartzbird
Week of Sept. 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harry Roseman, Father of Renee Harrison Elinore Roth, Mother of Elaine Trackman Frank Schwartz, Uncle of Phyllis Chudoff
Week of Sept. 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herman Sternfeld, Father of Mildred Josephson
Week of Sept. 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ida Kushner, Mother of Sol Kushner Bea Schwartz, Aunt of Phyllis Chudoff Fred Gutstein, Husband of Lillian Gutstein Molly Schaffer, Mother of Rhoda Kessler Nissim Nissim, Father of Marty Nissim
Week of Sept. 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prudence Hait (Hyatt), Mother of Lauren Mann
Week of Oct. 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mervin Groveman, Husband of Seena Groveman Elsie Sternfeld, Mother of Mildred Josephson Howard Sacks, Father of Faith Hupfl Paul Goldfarb, Stepfather of Charyl Morginstin

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 2018-19

October 6 th Mollie Cook Bat Mitzvah
November 3 rd
November 17 th Lunch & Learn
December 1 st
January 10 th Harry Krangar Bar Mitzvah
February 9 th

March 9 th
April 6 th
May 11 th
June 1 st Hailey Weiskott Bat Mitzvah
June 22 nd Andy Mann Bar Mitzvah



Host/Hostess Responsibilities for the Year 2018/2019

We are a Temple that relies heavily on volunteerism. Please help us by fulfilling your volunteer assignments. If that is not possible, please get in touch with someone to exchange tasks. Then contact me to let me know of the change as I keep a master list. Thanks very much.
Robin Affrime raffrime@gmail.com

September

- Monday 9/10 Honey cakes for after services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah: Eileen Gale
- Tuesday 9/11 Lunch and Learn I I AM Marcia and Mike Rosen
- Wednesday 9/19 Break the Fast Karen Nissim KarenNissim@aol.com
- Wednesday 9/26 Sisterhood Meeting Hostesses Patricia Light Tolomeo, Susan Zaveloff; the activity will be a gift bag craft instructed by Phyllis Chudoff
- Friday 9/28 oneg Sukkot: Stan and Ronnie Zeichner

October

- Friday and Saturday 10/5 and 10/6 Molly Cook will become Bat Mitzvah; Oneg hosts are parents Kim Ehrlich and Elliott Cook
- Monday 10/15 Sisterhood: Blot Designs by Sandy SchwartzBird Hostesses: Susan Roth and Sandy SchwartzBird
- Friday 10/19 Hebrew School Shabbat Oneg: Mitchell and Mann Families

November

- Saturday 11/17 Lunch and Learn hosted by Ken Sandler and Randy and Michael Scolaro
- Monday 11/19 Sisterhood Flower Arranging Contact Karen Nissim: KarenNissim@aol.com Hostess: Linda Osman

December

- Saturday 12/1 Shabbat Luncheon hosted by Maribeth and Brian Epstein and Julie and Colleen Affrime
- Tuesday 12/11 7:30 Cardiologist Dr. Steven Lederman and Bonnie Goldman present a healthy eating discussion and demonstration. The meeting is open to both women and men Hostess: Robin Affrime
- Friday 12/14 Oneg hosted by Shira Lowry and Betsy Ramos
- Saturday Night December 1st TRIVIA NIGHT Fundraiser AT TBA 7PM Form your own teams of up to 6 people; wine, cheese and desserts will be served. All adults are welcome. Hosted by Linda Osman and Robin Affrime Contact us at raffrime@gmail.com and attyosman@verison.net to make your reservation.

January

- Monday 1/14 Sisterhood Hanukah Revisited. Bring a new but not cherished gift wrapped as a present to participate in our exchange. It's a fun evening to be sure. Hostess: Marsha Caldwell
- Friday and Saturday 1/18 and 1/19 Harry Krangar will become Bar Mitzvah; the Oneg hosts are parents Nancy and Abraham Krangar

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

February

- Saturday 2/9 Shabbat Luncheon Hostesses: Affrime/Gale

March

- Saturday 3/9 Shabbat Luncheon Hostesses Sharon Coleman and Phyllis Chudoff
- Monday 3/11 Sisterhood Book Club, Hostesses: Rhea Goldman and Bonnie Goldman
- Friday night 3/22

April

Monday 4/8 Sisterhood Hostess: Judy Schimmel

May

- Saturday 5/11 Shabbat Lucheon Hosted by the Aubry family
- Monday 5/13 Sisterhood Hostess: Nina Glanz
- Friday 5/17 Hebrew School Shabbat oneg hosted by the Kunkler and Schecter families

May/June

- Friday and Saturday 5/31 and 6/1 Haley Weiskott will become Bat Mitzvah; the oneg hosts are parents Jennifer and Mark Weiskott

June

- Monday 6/10 Sisterhood Covered Dish; Hostesses Randye Bloom and Marsha Dowshen
- Friday and Saturday 6/21 and 6/22 Andy Mann will become Bar Mitzvah; hosts for the oneg are parents Jeremy and Tracey Mann
- Friday night 6/28 Member of the Year service and oneg; hosted by Marcy Schwartz and Debby Weiss

Our first sisterhood meeting on **Wednesday, September 26th** will be gift bag decorating by Phyllis Chudoff; hostesses for the evening are Patricia Light Tolomeo and Susan Zaveloff. Bring a friend to this

A Healing Quilt Thank You

Your kindness buoys us up in a moment that threatens to drag us under. Thank you dearly for your thoughts and your deeds. Mateo will love the quilt, I know it. You may not know but quilting is part of my American Mormon tradition, though I haven't had the fortune of learning the art just yet. We often show considerate, deliberate, and heartfelt love and care for each other with a quilt. Priscila and I received a quilt on our wedding and each of my grandmothers made me quilts or afghans to celebrate my birth and life accomplishments. This is to say, you're speaking our faith language.

Healing List

The Healing List is a part of all of our services. Names are read aloud for Healing and Well Being. Please send any names for the list to Rhea Goldman at rsegoldman@comcast.net. If you want to add a name during services, they can be still be said aloud when these are read.



Temple B’nai Abraham



Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

58 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown NJ 08505

August 28, 2018

Congregation B’nai Abraham,

It’s hard to believe that the summer season is behind us and the Days of Awe are here again. We have a jam packed year of B’nai Mitzvot, celebrations, events and more; be sure to check our calendar weekly.

This is also a year of rebuilding. Last year we made a lot of improvements to the attached townhouse, replaced our front steps, installed new air conditioners, and this summer, upgraded our alarm system. Many thanks to our generous donors for a lot of these projects.

That being said, we still need to rebuild our emergency and operating funds to continue to bring high quality services to this community. Please consider B’nai Abraham as you plan your giving this year.

We are always in need of volunteers! Many of our events came from the ideas and leadership by our congregation. Please consider volunteering your time to ensure the future of the Temple!

Thank you, and looking forward to seeing you this September,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Epstein', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brian Epstein
President
Temple B’nai Abraham



September 2018 Elul 5778—Tisrei 5779

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
2	3	4	5	6 5:30pm Hebrew School Family Education	7 7:30pm Shabbat Services	8
9 No School 7:30pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	10 10:00am Rosh Hashana Service 1:00pm Tashlich 	11 10:00am Rosh Hashana Service 11:30am Lunch & Learn	12	13 4:30pm Hebrew School	14 7:30pm Shabbat Services	15
16 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	17	18 6:15pm Kol Nidre	19 10:00am Yom Kippur 6:00pm Yom Kippur & Ne'ilah 7:30pm Break the Fast	20 No School	21 7:30pm Shabbat Services	22
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hebrew School	24	25	26	27 4:30pm Hebrew School	28 6:00pm Tot Shabbat 7:30pm Shabbat Services	29
30 No School	Oct 1	2	3	4 4:30pm Hebrew School	5 7:30pm Shabbat Services Mollie Cook Bat Mitzvah	6 10:00am Mollie Cook Bat Mitzvah