



TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL
WALTHAM, MA

Temple Talk

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Adar I - Adar II 5776

Rabbi's Reflections: Welcome! *Brukhim HaBa'im!* by Rabbi David Finkelstein

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Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am - 12:00pm

A few months ago, we convened the first TBI Community Conversation by discussing the broad question of Temple Beth Israel's identity (see <https://padlet.com/checkmark/tbinovconv> for details). Now, on Sunday March 6 at 10 a.m., we will delve into a topic that is narrower, but still of great importance: "Involving Those Who Are Not Jewish."

Some may ask, Why is this topic so important? After all, we are a small synagogue, with a small number of interfaith families, and we treat those interfaith families as our beloved friends, which is what they are. Are we a welcoming community? Of course we are. And yet, there are other synagogues – unaffiliated and Conservative – which do more to involve the non-Jews in their midst. When we think in the abstract about the non-Jew in the synagogue, often our next thought is whether non-Jews can be called up to the Torah to have an *aliyah*. But Jewish law is clear on this question. There are ritual actions that only a Jew may perform, and taking an *aliyah* is one of them. In order to involve non-Jews more deeply in our community, we must focus on those areas of Jewish life where Jewish law does not limit non-Jewish participation.

Two of those areas are Jewish education and cultural excursions – areas of Jewish life from which both Jews and non-Jews can benefit greatly. I think we would all agree that our community must do everything it can do to increase access to a full Jewish life. From prayer to Shabbat meals, from holiday observances to simchahs, from Torah and Talmud study to klezmer and *cholent* and falafel and *baba ghanoush* – a full Jewish life is a beautiful, admirable life! To that list, I would add field trips to botanical gardens, baseball games, symphony concerts, and whatever else American Jews do. On the education side, we also might consider offering a Judaism 101 course, a Basic

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The next bulletin will be for April. If you have an article that you would like to submit please get it in to the Temple office before March 15th.



Return to Upper Remety: Niggunim and Zemiros of the Hollender Family

with Hankus Netsky

**Shabbat Evening Services and Dinner
Featuring an Eastern European themed menu**

Friday, March 4th

Featuring Niggunim and Zemiros of the Hollender Family

Services begin at 6:30 pm

Dinner begins after services, around 7:30 pm.

Vegetarian option available on request. Please let us know if you have any other dietary requirements when you sign up by contacting the Temple office.

\$18 per adult, \$40 per family if paid by the Weds. before the dinner

\$21 per adult, \$45 per family for later reservations

You can register online at <http://tbiwaltham.org> or contact the Temple office to sign up.

Future Shabbat Service and Dinner Dates

(Subject to Change)

May 13

June 3

July 1

August 19

First Night of Passover Seder

Save the Date

Friday, April 22nd

See page 11

for sign up form and details

**Please Note: The Passover Seder
replaces our monthly Shabbat service
and dinner in April.**

Mark's Remarks:

Evolving and Involving: Welcoming Non-Jews in our Community

By: Mark Frydenberg

Many independent traditional and Conservative synagogues have been discussing their policies regarding welcoming individuals and families with non-Jewish members as part of synagogue life.

Synagogue practices and policies in non-Orthodox communities have been evolving on this matter as national demographic studies show the number of Jewish families with non-Jewish members continues to rise. While certain ritual honors such as having an Aliyah are reserved for Jews, many communities are considering the possibilities for non-Jews to participate in meaningful ways both at services and in the daily life of the community.

At Temple Beth Israel, some non-Jews in our community are very involved: They frequently attend services, classes, and holiday celebrations, sponsor Kiddush lunches, make donations, and help plan Shabbat meals. We include their names on our membership list and offer blessings for their healing and recovery. Last fall, Temple Beth Israel established a new section of the Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park where members of interfaith families can be buried together. How else might we enable non Jewish individuals and members of interfaith families to become involved or affiliated while remaining true to our core values as a traditional egalitarian synagogue?

A discussion on this topic may open a number of sensitive issues on which many of us may have a range of opinions: Can a traditional egalitarian synagogue have non-Jews as members? If so, to what does their membership entitle them? Can they be officers? Or vote? Serve on the board or committees? How can they participate at services? As JTA columnists Dan Pine and Uriel Heilman wrote in an article in JWeekly (3/6/2014), "These questions are not trivial. They cut to the heart of a philosophical and practical debate about how open [Conservative synagogues] should seek to be toward the non-Jews in their midst."

I invite you to join us on Sunday, March 6 at 10 am as Rabbi Finkelstein and I will lead a conversation where we can share our viewpoints on this issue through small group discussions, study texts, and sharing. We will look at our synagogue's current practices, and see how other conservative-identifying synagogues have adapted theirs. We won't be voting, or changing by-laws, but this community conversation will help inform the board as to future paths we might or might not explore. The goal of this meeting is to give those present an opportunity to speak and listen to each other (and if you can't be present, but have something you'd like to share, please contact me).

In an article entitled "Making a Place for Non-Jews in Our Synagogues" that appeared in the Jewish Week (1/29/2014), Conservative Rabbi Gerald Zelizer wrote "Those who join our institutions -- and certainly not all do -- are active partners, materially and spiritually, to perpetuate our people and religion. Our sacred responsibility is to find broad places within our synagogues for these non-Jews to feel welcome and nurtured."

Rabbi's Reflections (continued from page 1)

(Continued from page 1)

Hebrew course, and an Explanatory Service that runs for 30-45 minutes during our Saturday morning Shabbat services. This would enable Jews and non-Jews alike to acquire the fundamental tools for deep participation in Jewish life, and they could do it all right here at Temple Beth Israel. In addition to increasing our understanding of the grammar of Jewish life, learning and playing together both strengthen the bonds of friendship within our community. If you want to help TBI with any of these programs, please contact me at the email address at the end of this article.

A full Jewish life is one with constant learning and constant making of new connections. The more we learn and explore together, the more our non-Jewish friends and family members will be engaged by the community we create. That being said, we must be realistic. We are a small community. We must be careful not to over-extend ourselves. The following question is crucial and it's one we will be focusing on at the Community Conversation on March 6: **Are there ways in which we can involve non-Jews more deeply in our community without overtaxing our limited resources and within the bounds of Jewish law?**

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and learning with you at the Community Conversation.

Contact Rabbi David at rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org or 781-786-8679

The Rabbi's Classes will continue in March

Wednesdays 7:00pm - 8:30pm

March 9 - Psalms

March 16 - Weekly Torah Portion

Inclement Weather Policy

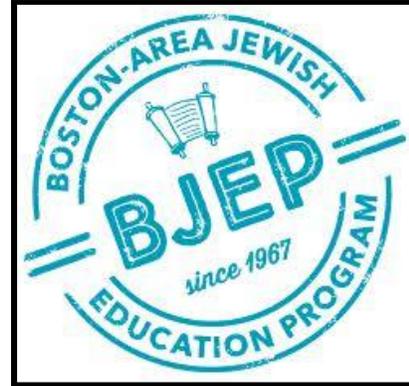
In case of inclement weather, check the school cancellations on the radio or online. If Waltham schools are closed or open late, we automatically cancel weekday morning minyan. We will update the TBI website at www.tbiwaltham.org and our outgoing phone message ([781 894 5146](tel:781-894-5146)) if Shabbat evening or morning services are cancelled.

If the roads look bad, please stay safe and stay home.

**Temple Beth Israel and the
Boston-area Jewish Education
Program (BJEP)**

**to bury books at Beth Israel
Memorial Park on**

Sunday, April 3, 2016 at 10 a.m.



You may have noticed that there are boxes piled up in the library and under the staircase. Thanks to the newly formed library committee headed by Marilyn Racette, books in the library are being sorted, including the old religious books such as siddurim (prayer books), chumashim (bibles) and machzorim (high holiday prayer books).

It is the Jewish way to treat any item with the name of G-d with special care and respect. For this reason, old religious texts are set aside in an area known as *genizah*, which is Hebrew for a storage place. Once this collection of old or worn-out texts reaches a critical mass, the items are brought to a Jewish cemetery for burial.

On Sunday April 3, a grave will be opened for this purpose at our own Beth Israel Memorial Park, located at 190 South St. After a brief ceremony and teaching about G-d's name led by the Rabbi, members of the Temple Beth Israel community and students from BJEP will help lower boxes into the grave which will then be filled and covered.

All are Welcome.

PURIM ACTIVITIES Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday March 23



Julie Gagnon will lead a special Purim program for young kids and their families on Wednesday March 23 at 6 p.m. before the congregation's megillah reading. All little kids (and big kids and adults!) are invited to come in costume to celebrate.

6 PM - Family and kids crafts activity and snacks

6:30 PM- Megillah story telling with Rabbi David, Adult maa-ariv service

6:45 PM - Costume parade and Multimedia Megillah reading begins

Hamentashen will be donated by Merrill and Carol Griff and Family in loving memory of their father, Harris Griff.



Children's Services and Shabbat Babysitting at TBI

Temple Beth Israel provides babysitting every Shabbat from 10 am to 12 noon. We have a large, carpeted playroom downstairs with a variety of books, toys and games and sufficient space for both quiet and active play. Children are also joyfully welcome in the main service and often move between the playroom and services.

There is no charge for babysitting.

Led by Brandeis senior Dani Nurick, our monthly children's service includes singing, storytelling and movement and provides an opportunity to meet other families in the greater Waltham area. Children join the main service for Adon Olam, and the congregation then enjoys kiddush, challah and a light lunch. The program is geared for children ages 2-7 but all ages are welcome.

Upcoming children's services will be held on March 12, April 9 & May 7, starting at 11 am.

For questions about children's programming, please contact Susan Kane (suekane@umich.edu) or the TBI office at [\(781\) 894-5146](tel:7818945146). Contributions are welcome to subsidize the cost of babysitting and other activities for families and kids at Temple Beth Israel.

TBI EVENTS CALENDAR

March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:00 pm TBI Board Meeting 	3 7:00 am Morning Minyan	4 5:21 pm 6:30 pm Candle lighting Shabbat Dinner and Service w/ Hankus Netsky 	5 Parashat Vayakhel Shabbat Shekalim 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 10:00 am Babysitting 6:22 pm Havdalah (42 min)
6 10:00 am Community Conversation 	7 7:00 am Morning Minyan	8	9 7:00 pm Rabbi's Class - Psalms 	10 Rosh Chodesh Adar II 7:00 am Morning Minyan	11 5:29 pm Rosh Chodesh Adar II Candle lighting 	12 9:00 am Parashat Pekudei Shabbat Morning Services 10:00 am Babysitting 11:00 am Children's Service with Dani Nurick 6:31 pm Havdalah (42 min)
13 Daylight Saving Time starts 	14 7:00 am Morning Minyan	15	16 7:00 pm Rabbi's Class - Weekly Torah Por- tion 	17 7:00 am Morning Minyan	18 6:37 pm Candle lighting 	19 Parashat Vayikra Shabbat Zachor 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 10:00 am Babysitting 7:39 pm Havdalah (42 min)
20	21 7:00 am Morning Minyan	22	23 Erev Purim Ta'anit Esther 6:00 pm Erev Purim Megillah Reading and Celebration 	24 Purim Purim (Tel Aviv) 7:00 am Morning Minyan	25 Shushan Purim Shushan Purim (Jerusalem) 6:45 pm Candle lighting 	26 Parashat Tzav 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 10:00 am Babysitting 7:47 pm Havdalah (42 min)
27 10:00 am Easter Sunday Purim program with Leonard Solomon 	28 7:00 am Morning Minyan	29	30 7:00 pm TBI Board Meeting 	31 7:00 am Morning Minyan		

Donations

General Fund Donations

Alan Zinn, in honor of an alyah he received.

Columbus Jewish Foundation, in memory of Richard Fligel.

Martin and Rhoda Koocher in memory of Jacob Koocher and Rose Cohen.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Chanukah appeal. Remember it is never too late to donate.

Rob and Catherine Solomon

Yaron Shragai and Felisa Weiss

Laurel Brody

Saturday Kiddush Sponsors

Saturday Feb 27 - Brown and Gagnon Families in honor of Renee Browns 75th Birthday.

Thanks to those who read Torah, Haftarah, or gave a D'var Torah in February:

Rachel Hayward

Mark Frydenberg

Rabbi David Finkelstein

Susan Kane

Rabbi Sara Meirowitz

Mike Rosenberg

Genevieve Fosa

Hazzan Yosi Weintraub

Please contact readtorah@tbiwaltham.org to volunteer to read from the Torah or chant a Haftarah, or susan@theindexpros.com if you would like to give a d'var torah in the coming months.

Sponsor a Kiddush Lunch

The cost to provide our Kiddush lunch for our usual attendance of 30 to 40 people is about \$150. To ensure that we can continue providing Shabbat lunches into the future, we are asking members, and friends of Temple Beth Israel to sponsor a Shabbat lunch once or twice during the year. It is a great way celebrate a birthday, wedding or Bar/Bat Mitzvah anniversary, or other milestone with your TBI family. You might also sponsor lunch in memory of a loved one, or just because

To sponsor a lunch, please contribute \$150 to the Shabbat Kiddush fund or, if that amount is prohibitive, please consider co-sponsoring a lunch with another congregant by making a smaller contribution (\$36, \$54, \$72, or any amount you can afford).

We will thank all lunch sponsors at announcements at the end of services, and list names of sponsors in the Temple newsletter. Please send your check to the office along with the date of the lunch you would like to sponsor or co-sponsor, and if there is a special occasion. We will contact you to find out your favorite Kiddush lunch foods to put on the menu.

March Yahrzeits

Plaque Loc.	Name	Date	Plaque Loc.	Name	Date
6-4	Sal Araten	2-Mar Adar I 22	2-4	Alice Wolf Cohen	9-Mar Adar I 29
3-2	Dora Milesky	2-Mar Adar I 22	1-2	Robert Gordon	11-Mar Adar II 01
3-2	Jennie Goldberg	2-Mar Adar I 22	1-2	Harry Freedman	11-Mar Adar II 01
	Martha Mikelbank	3-Mar Adar I 23	4-3	Goldie Rachel Webb	11-Mar Adar II 01
3-1	Rose Nussinow	3-Mar Adar I 23	2-4	Abraham Tatelman	11-Mar Adar II 01
2-1	Rose Braverman	5-Mar Adar I 25	3-3	Benjamin Lebowitz	11-Mar Adar II 01
1-1	Annie Alpert	6-Mar Adar I 26	1-2	Eva Kaitz	12-Mar Adar II 02
	Sandra Gustin	7-Mar Adar I 27	4-4	Mildred Marion	12-Mar Adar II 02
3-4	Rose Wolk	7-Mar Adar I 27	5-4	Evelyn Myers	13-Mar Adar II 03
1-2	Aaron Greenblott	7-Mar Adar I 27	1-1	Gnesia Crevoshay	19-Mar Adar II 09
2-4	Harry Wolf	8-Mar Adar I 28		Harris Griff	24-Mar Adar II 14
6-1	Clara Wiggetman	8-Mar Adar I 28	4-1	Dr. Samuel Messer	27-Mar Adar II 17
1-3	Bessie Levison	8-Mar Adar I 28	3-4	Elizabeth Rosenberg	30-Mar Adar II 20
2-4	Lena Smith	9-Mar Adar I 29	4-4	David Goldstein	1-Apr Adar II 22
2-4	Aaron Mordecai Smith	9-Mar Adar I 29	4-3	Patricia Wexler	8-Apr Adar II 29
	Abraham B. Feinsand	9-Mar Adar I 29			

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one listed above please send it along with a brief note of who you would like remembered to the Temple Office.

If you would like help arranging a minyan so you can say Kaddish in the synagogue, please contact the temple office at least one week prior to their Yahrzeit date.

Got News to Share?

If you have news to share with the community about things going on in your life, we want to know.

Do you have a personal or professional accomplishment, or a family event or happening that is worthy of celebration?

Would you like visitors or to receive cards from members who care because you're unable to get out, or hospitalized, or gratefully at home? Is there a way we can support you at a time of loss? Could you use a ride to a Temple service or event?

For any of these, please send your information to Susan Holbert (SusanEHolbert@gmail.com) or 781-893-0514 and she will forward these messages periodically to the community by email. If you do not have email and would like to receive this information by phone (or to be part of a phone-tree to help make these calls) please also let Susan know.

If you would like to receive community news, you must let Susan know. Information will not be sent to members who do not specifically request it.



🎭🎭 PÜRIM CELEBRATION 🎭🎭

at Temple Beth Israel, Waltham, with:
LEONARD SOLOMON and his
ONE MAN BELLOWPHONE SHOW

<http://www.bellowphone.com>



🎭 Come in Costume! Costume Contest! 🎭

Sunday, March 27, 2016
9AM minyan - 10AM breakfast - 11AM show
\$18/adult, \$9/kids (under 12)
25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA

Reservations: Please contact Temple Beth Israel, Waltham
781-894-5146 office@tbiwaltham.org

Also please join us for a festive Megillah reading on the
evening of Wed. Mar. 23 (free and open), and if you can, on
the morning of Thurs. Mar. 24

www.tbiwaltham.org

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

First Night of Passover
Friday April 22, 2016
6:30 P.M.

25 Harvard Street, Waltham

For reservations complete the registration below and return it before April 15th along with your total payment to: Temple Beth Israel, 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA 02453

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Number of adults in party x \$30 = \$ _____

Number of children (10 - 18) in party x \$20 = \$ _____

Number of children under 10 _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

We're planning to serve a home-cooked chicken dinner. Please let us know if you have special dietary requirements or require vegetarian meals.

I CAN HELP BEFORE THE SEDER

- _____ Kasher the kitchen
- _____ Shopping
- _____ Food Preperation

I CAN BRING DECORATIONS FOR THE TABLE.

- _____ Candles/candlesticks
- _____ Seder Plate (empty)
- _____ Cup of Elijah
- _____ Matzah plate/cover
- _____ Flowers
- _____ Other: _____

I CAN VOLUNTEER TO HELP ON THE DAY OF THE SEDER

- _____ Set up before the seder
- _____ Work in the kitchen, put out food or serve
- _____ Clean up, wash dishes, reset the hall etc.

Please RSVP BY April 15th

Reservations received between April 15th and April 20 will be \$40 per person.

Reservations after April 15th must be confirmed with the Temple office based on availability.

Contact us at

781-894-5146, www.tbiwaltham.org or office@tbiwaltham.org

Temple Beth Israel

25 Harvard Street
Waltham, MA 02453

Phone: 781-894-5146

E-mail:

office@tbiwaltham.org

Website: www.tbiwaltham.org

March 2016

stamp

Donate on the web
at
www.tbiwaltham.org

- General Fund
- High Holiday Donation
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Carl and Caryl Goldstein Siddur—Memorial Fund
- Morris Hollender Torah Reading Fund
- Children's Services and Programming
- Other, please specify: _____

Temple Beth Israel Donation Form

For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations and send to:
Temple Beth Israel, 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA 02453

I have chosen the fund indicated at the left:

(Please use a separate form for each fund. **Minimum donation: \$10**)

Attached is my check in the amount of: \$ _____

The donation is being made

In Honor Of _____

In Memory Of _____

Other _____

This donation is made by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____