



Temple Beth Israel

Community | Tradition | Inclusion

Temple Talk



Rabbi's Reflections: A Sip of Midrash: He Took a Cushite Woman

By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

Congratulations to Abby Shectman and to the entire Shectman clan on Abby's becoming a bat mitzvah! Abby, you did a wonderful job at your service, chanting Torah and Haftarah blessings, singing the Sh'ma, chanting from Numbers and from the prophet Zechariah, and your speech was a great success! Moreover, you did it all with a smile on your face. Everyone is proud of you! Your Torah portion, Behaalotekha, is a very deep and challenging portion, with some very grown-up themes. You did a truly inspiring job thinking about it with me in our study time. What follows is the product of our conversations and study together. It was a pleasure being your study partner.

liberation from Egypt, walking through the sea on dry land, receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai, building the desert sanctuary (Tabernacle), and consecrating the Levites for their service there. The trouble begins in Parashat Behaalotkha.

First, Moses's beloved father-in-law Jethro leaves him. Jethro had given Moses indispensable leadership advice. Moses's only mentor in the wilderness, Jethro leaves now for good. Then the Israelites openly yearn for Egypt again (and its juicy, flavorful food) and God hits them with a plague. Moses

(Continued on page 8)

This July, we read the from the Book of Numbers, where Moses's leadership faces repeated challenges and difficulties. The great moments are past: the burning bush,

Mark's Remarks: Two More Years

By: Mark Frydenberg

At the Temple Beth Israel annual meeting on June 2, the membership re-elected me as your president for a third (and final) two-year term. George Isaac was re-elected as treasurer, and we elected Bruce Trager and Julie Gagnon as returning members at large, and Zach Roe as a new Board Member at Large.

The congregation approved, by a vote of 28 in favor, 7 against, 1 abstention, a bylaws amendment to set age 18 as the minimum age for a voting member, and by the same vote of 28 in favor, 7 against, and 1 abstention, to establish the Social Justice Committee as a standing committee of Temple Beth Israel. With the approval of this latter amendment, I appointed Linda Ungerleider as the chair of the Social Justice committee. As is the case with the chairs of all standing committees she will report to the board of the Social Justice committee's activities and will be a voting member of the board of directors.

I also appointed Ben Nudelman to be the new chair of the Program Committee. Many

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Rabbi's Reflections	1, 8
Mark's Remarks	1, 3
Boston Harbor Tour	4
Pot Luck Shabbat	5
Calendar	6
Coming Events	7
Yahrzeits	9
Rabbi's Classes	10
Thank You / Donations	12



Temple Beth Israel

Rabbi: David Finkelstein
Phone: 781-786-8679
Email: rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org
Office Hours: Thursdays
 10:00-11:30 am
 and by appointment

Officers

President: Mark Frydenberg
Vice President: Dina Baker
Secretary: Susan Baron
Treasurer / Finance: George Isaac
Membership: Ramila Maystrovsky

Board Members and Committees

Cemetery: Jim Baron
Chesed / Caring: Susan Holbert
Development: Howard Trachtman
House: Merrill Griff
 Catherine Cantrell
Program: Ben Nudelman
Ritual: Phyllis Werlin
Sisterhood: Nessie Baron
Social Justice: Linda Ungerleider
At Large: Julie Gagnon
 Zachary Roe
 Bruce Trager

Special Interests

Inclusion: Howard Trachtman
Brotherhood: Paul Smith

Stay in Touch

Office Manager: Andrea Baron
Phone: 781-894-5146
Email: office@tbiwaltham.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday
 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Address: 25 Harvard Street
 Waltham, MA 02453

Web: www.tbiwaltham.org
Facebook: facebook.com/tbiwaltham
Twitter: @tbiwaltham

Join our Drive to Help Our Neighbors

The Community Day Center (CDC), the only day shelter for the homeless in Metrowest Boston, continues to be in **need new underwear and socks**. Temple Beth Israel has been supporting this valuable organization for well over a year now. Your donations have been greatly appreciated. They have gone directly to their clients in need immediately. Please leave your donation in the box near the coat room. Brad Baker delivers from TBI to the CDC on a regular basis.



Thank you,

Linda and Dina

Thank You More Than Words

On Monday June 24, a TBI group of nine toured the More Than Words Bookstore, our neighbor on Felton Street in Waltham. We were graciously greeted by their staff and we were given a tour of their building. There are thousands of books in this warehouse and even more books listed online at Amazon and Ebay. If you are looking for any book, this is the place to go. This bookstore started by accident when the founder saw 2 books on the ground. She decided to start collecting unwanted books that needed new homes and walla, More Than Words was launched.

More than 10 years later, More Than Words is more than just a bookstore, it is a job training program for youth, 16-24 years old, that need a jump start into the job market, or just need direction in their lives. We were all fascinated by the number of books that come into this warehouse, get checked for quality and desirability, assigned an online bookseller or donated to organizations that give away books to those less fortunate. Some of the books remain at the warehouse to be sold to the public at very reasonable rates. If you are looking for a good book, check out More Than Words on Felton Street.



Mark's Remarks: Two More Years

(Continued from page 1)

thanks to Yaron Shragai who has served in this role for several years and is stepping down. Through his time as chair of the Program Committee, we have held several concerts and folk dance events, institutionalized our Chinese dinner on December 25th, and arranged group outings and social activities. He leaves the Program Committee in good hands with Ben Nudelman, who has been a member of the committee for the past few years and brings good ideas and organizational skills to this role. Congratulations and thanks to both Yaron and Ben for their service.

As I begin my third and final term as the president of Temple Beth Israel, I thank Dina Baker, Susan Baron, George Isaac, and Mila Maystrovsky for their service. One of the reasons I decided to seek re-election for a third term was because of you. You are an Executive Committee that is respectful, functioning, and supportive – you made this past year a joy for me to lead the Board of Directors. Thanks to each committee chair and member at large for the dedication and willingness you bring to your roles. When we agree, it is wonderful, and when we disagree, we have lively discussions that open each other's eyes to differing perspectives. We attack issues, not people, and sharing and listening to alternative opinions strengthens us. Thanks too to Rabbi David and Andrea Baron for keeping Temple Beth Israel going every day.

We have accomplished a lot together during the past two years. Among the highlights:

- Through the election of members at large, we have begun to develop a pool of future leaders for Temple Beth Israel.
- We completed the renovation of our sanctuary, installing flexible seating, repairing the floors and ceilings, fixing windows and blinds, making TBI a much more inviting and contemporary prayer and community space
- Guided by Dina Baker and Zach Roe, we held a community conversation on building the TBI brand, which resulted in developing a vocabulary for talking about TBI consistently and enthusiastically, and a new visual identity through our open-star logo. Inspired by the Star of David embedded in our social hall doors, this new visual identity is evident on the bulletin, other synagogue communications, and our recently relaunched website at tbiwaltham.org.
- Temple Beth Israel was accepted as a Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Program partner, and will receive \$5000 grant toward promoting inclusion and accessibility in the synagogue – with thanks to efforts from Dina Baker, Howard Trachtman and the inclusion team,

- We gathered to support the greater Waltham community the day after the synagogue shooting in Pittsburg, with over 150 people in attendance including Mayor McCarthy, city councilors, city clergy, and Sen. Mike Barrett who joined to denounce anti-Semitism, and to bring hope and healing.
- We filled our sanctuary with music. We had a sell-out crowd for a concert with Hankus Netsky in honor of the 120th birthday of Yiddish Radio personality Ben Gailing, and Cantor Band formed a choir for a musical Shabbat service in the spring.
- We replaced and updated our security system and our fire alarm system – with many thanks to Andrea for working with contractors and vendors, Catherine, Brad, Merrill, on the building committee and Marilyn for heading up an ad hoc security committee to look into options that will work for us.

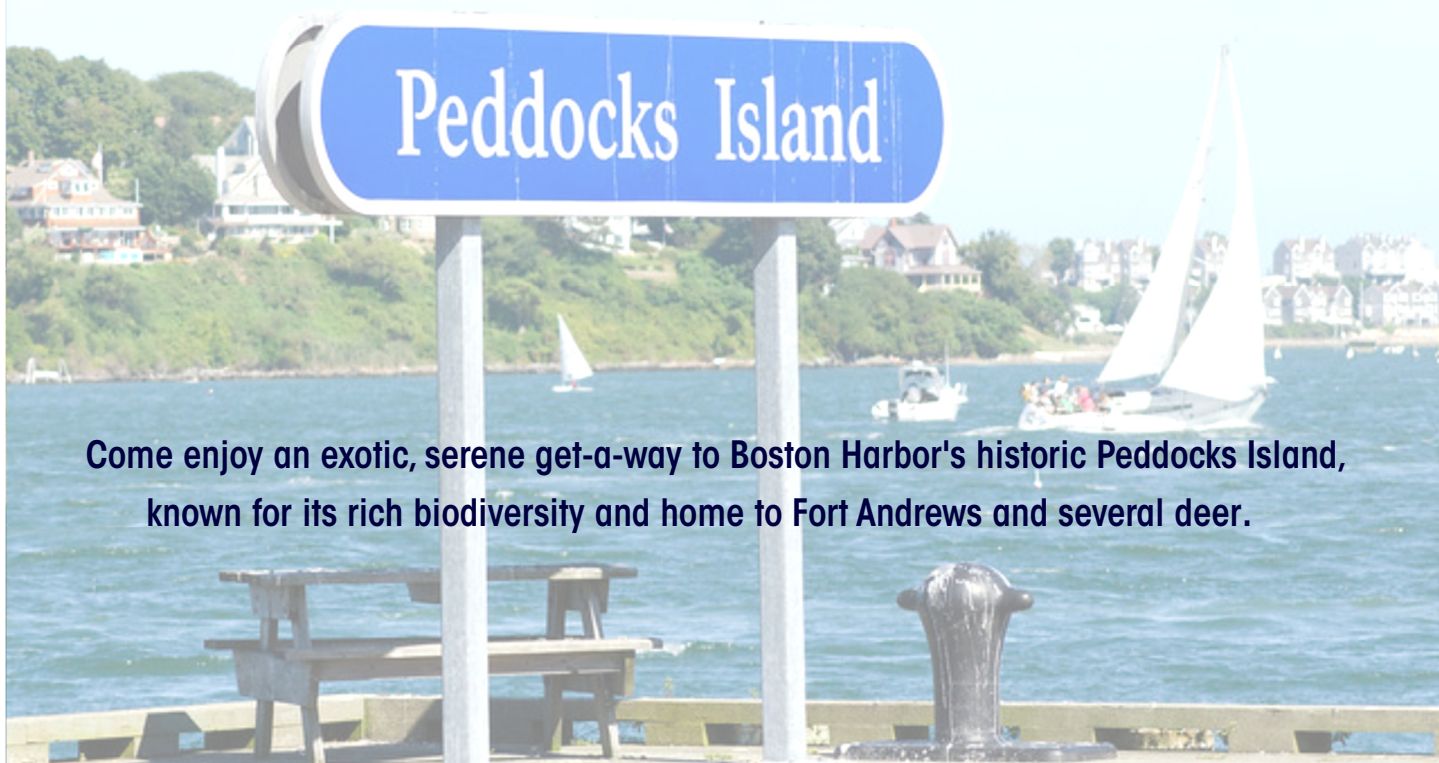
Despite these successes we still face several challenges:

- Our expenses keep rising and we remain committed to keeping our membership costs affordable and accessible to all.
- Our Monday and Thursday minyans remain small, though when they are requested, we usually can round up ten people. Please offer to be one of them!
- Our membership is small but dedicated – and we could benefit from more people like us, so if you know them, please invite them to join us!

This has been a hard year for small synagogues across the country and in our own back yard. Synagogues are shutting their doors as members get older or move away, membership dwindles, and they are no longer sustainable. Temple Beth Israel will survive and thrive in the years ahead by adapting to the needs of the community around us. We've taken steps on this path and we're doing the right things, but we need to do more to get the word out that Waltham is a great place to live, and Temple Beth Israel has a lot to offer those who walk in our doors, whether they live in Waltham or beyond, I welcome your participation to help us thrive.

Thank you for your continued trust and encouragement and I look forward to the next (as I write this) 1 year, 11 months, and four days as the president of Temple Beth Israel. (But who's counting!)

Sunday, July 28th 10am
Boston Harbor Island Trip



Come enjoy an exotic, serene get-a-way to Boston Harbor's historic Peddocks Island, known for its rich biodiversity and home to Fort Andrews and several deer.

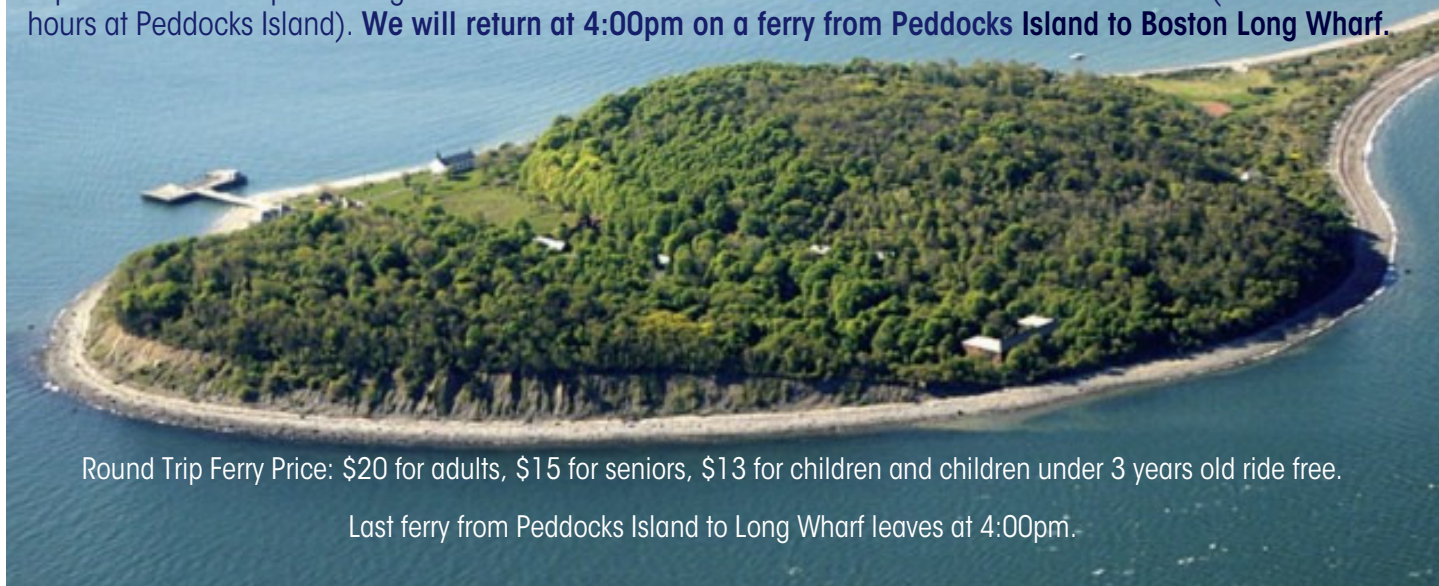
Sunday, July 28th

Leaving Temple Beth Israel at 8:30 AM

(to catch our boat which leaves Long Wharf at 10:00 am)

Returning from Peddocks Island at 4:00 PM.



We will **depart Long Wharf at 10:00 am** and arrive at George's Island where we will have a little time to explore. We will depart George's Island at 11:25 am for Peddocks Island and arrive at noon (we will have 4 hours at Peddocks Island). **We will return at 4:00pm on a ferry from Peddocks Island to Boston Long Wharf.**



Round Trip Ferry Price: \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, \$13 for children and children under 3 years old ride free.

Last ferry from Peddocks Island to Long Wharf leaves at 4:00pm.

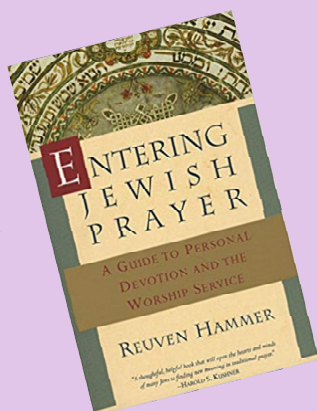
Shabbat Evening Services

July 5	6:30 pm Services (no dinner) Come and share a melody or learn a few new ones.	
July 12	6:30 pm Services Under the Stars (Pot Luck Dinner at the home of Dina and Brad Baker) See page 7 for details.	
August 9	6:30 pm Services (no dinner) Come and share a melody or learn a few new ones.	
August 23	6:30 pm Shabbat Services and Dinner	

TBI Bookshelf

by Marilyn Racette

Recently, Rabbi David said that prayer is not a transaction, though many of us often think of it that way. But what is prayer? In **Entering Jewish Prayer: A Guide to Personal Devotion And The Worship Service** Reuven Hammer provides an



introduction to the liturgy of our prayer book. Rabbi Hammer writes, "Learning about prayer is a way of entering the world of Jewish tradition." He sketches the history of Jewish worship, as well as the historical background of individual prayers, provides interpretations of the language and literature of Jewish prayer, the problems we face in making these ancient documents relevant to us, and the value and importance of prayer. You will find copies of Rabbi Hammer's book in the Theology section of our library.

The Membership Committee Needs You!

The next Membership Committee meeting will be on **Sunday, July 28th** at the home of Mila and Vadim Maystrovsky 101 Kings Grant Rd, Weston) at 1:00 pm.








The committee is planning for an open house before the high holy days. Please contact Mila Maystrovsky with your ideas and suggestions.

RSVP to Mila Maystrovsky

ramilaMay@gmail.com

or 781-439-7135.

July Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 am Morning Minyan	2	3 Rosh Chodesh Tamuz Talmud Study: The Most Significant Talmudic Discussions 7:00 pm	4 Rosh Chodesh Tamuz Independence Day 8:00 am Morning Minyan Notice the time change 	5 6:30 pm Friday Night Services 8:06 pm Candle lighting 	6 Kiddush - Sponsored by Sylvia Hobbs Parashat Korach 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 9:06 pm Havdalah (42 min)
7	8 7:00 am Morning Minyan	9	10 11:00 am Torah Study: Midrash on the Garden of Eden	11 7:00 am Morning Minyan	12 6:30 pm Services Under the Stars 8:03 pm Candle lighting 	13 Parashat Chukat 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 9:03 pm Havdalah (42 min)
14 4:00 pm Brotherhood Attending Lowell Baseball Game 	15 7:00 am Morning Minyan	16	17	18 7:00 am Morning Minyan	19 7:59 pm Candle lighting 	20 Parashat Balak 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 8:58 pm Havdalah (42 min)
21 Tzom Tammuz	22 7:00 am Morning Minyan	23	24	25 7:00 am Morning Minyan	26 7:52 pm Candle lighting 	27 Parashat Pinchas 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 8:51 pm Havdalah (42 min)
28 8:30 am Boat trip to Lovell Island 	29 7:00 am Morning Minyan	30	31			

Take Me Out to the Ballgame!!



Lowell Spinners vs. Auburn Doubledays

(Red Sox-affiliated Short Season - A team)

Sunday, July 14 5:05 PM

FREE Jackie Bradley, Jr. MVP bobblehead dolls given out at the entrance to the first 1000 attendees.

Also see professionally-made LEGO structures and build your own. Contact Paul Smith paul_smith135@aol.com 617-999-8448

Friday Night Service and Pot Luck Dinner

July 12 at 6:30pm



Please join us for the annual **Pot Luck Shabbat Service and Dinner** at the home of Dina and Brad Baker, 97 Hamilton Road, Waltham. **Please bring a dairy, fish, or vegetarian main side dish, salad or dessert, or a packaged item with a hekhsher (kosher certification).** Challah and beverages will be provided.

The event will be held rain or shine, but if the weather permits

we'll enjoy bringing in Shabbat together on the Bakers lawn and patio. To help with planning, please email the Bakers at dinawbaker@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Save the Date

Sunday Morning - October 27 10:00 am:
Inclusion at TBI: A Discussion of the TBI
Experience - Details to come.

Membership Renewal

Members will be receiving a letter and annual membership renewal form in the mail in early July. Please complete the membership form and return it to the Temple Office with your payment before August 20. You can also download a copy of this form from www.tbiwaltham.org, fill it out, and return it in person, by mail or email. Thank you for renewing your membership to Temple Beth Israel!

Rabbi's Reflections: A Sip of Midrash: He Took a Cushite Woman

(Continued from page 1)

cries out, "If I have to carry this people by myself, then kill me now!" God hears Moses and attempts to lighten his load by spreading the spirit of prophecy to 70 elders. But Miriam and Aaron, Moses's siblings, are upset. Why did Moses say he was carrying the people by himself? What about us? Miriam and Aaron point out that they also have been hearing God's voice, and they imply that they also have been carrying the people.

In her criticism of Moses, Miriam says, "He took a Cushite woman!" This is a singularly strange and confusing moment in the Torah. **Who is the Cushite woman?** We know from earlier verses that Moses has one wife, Zipporah, a Midianite. Could Zipporah be the Cushite woman? At first blush the answer seems to be No, because Cush and Midian are separate places. Zipporah is not a Cushite! In agreement with a midrash, Rashi says that when Miriam refers to Zipporah as a Cushite, she means not that Zipporah is from Cush but rather that she is beautiful, like a Cushite woman. In saying this, Rashi agrees with the ancient Aramaic translation of the Torah by Onkelos. Miriam says that Zipporah is beautiful in order to protest the fact that Moses has separated from Zipporah. In other words, Miriam says, You have no excuse to separate from a woman as beautiful as your wife Zipporah. So says Rashi. In another midrash, Miriam and Aaron accuse Moses of arrogance for separating from his wife: God spoke to us, they say, but we did not separate from our spouses. Our forefathers heard from God, too. Did they separate from their wives? No. Only Moses is arrogant enough to separate from his wife.

Joseph ibn Kaspi, a medieval Jewish commentator, expresses shock that he has to disagree with his forebears in this matter. His comments are worth quoting at some length: "I am surprised at the ancients, who are so much more perfect than me, to the soles of whose feet I do not reach, how it ever occurred to them to explain a text in the Torah the very reverse of its written meaning." Kaspi explains the matter of the Cushite woman as follows: "After Moses married Zipporah, he took another wife, an Ethiopian [Cushite] woman for reasons best known to himself and it is not our business to pry into his motives. He must certainly have known what he was about... Had Moses separated himself completely from woman, adopting a life of celibacy as the ancients averred, Moses would not have been the most perfect man that had ever walked the

world...we cannot accept it that Moses became a celibate since he was no Franciscan, Augustine or Carmelite monk" (quot. In *Studies in Bamidbar* by Nehama Leibowitz, pp. 131-32).

If we follow the thinking of Ibn Kaspi, then Miriam criticizes Moses on account of his second wife, a woman not named or even mentioned anywhere else in the Torah, a woman actually from Cush. Ibn Kaspi says that he is forced into this interpretation in part by the impossibility that Moses would be celibate. But whether we say that Moses became celibate or that he had a second wife, the general nature of Miriam's criticism remains the same: Miriam is upset about how Moses is conducting his married life.

For the ancient rabbis, Miriam's criticism is unacceptable. They say that God punishes her with white leprosy because her sin is slander, or *lashon hara*, the wicked tongue. The great Torah scholar Professor Nehama Leibowitz implicitly accuses Miriam of being "small-minded" and weak: "The desire to make the great man small, to blacken the reputation of the famous, to belittle the character of the good man and minimise any symptom of human greatness is prevalent among the small-minded, those a prey to human weakness, those who themselves fail to achieve any heights of greatness or heroism" (132-33).

But surely Miriam is a great woman, and a leader in her own right, maybe even a hero. The Torah clearly acknowledges her greatness as one of those who saved Moses when he was a baby, as a leader of the Israelites through the Red Sea, and as one whose death leads to a water crisis. The ancient rabbis extol her greatness in numerous midrashim. With apologies to Professor Leibowitz, could it be that God's punishment of Miriam is more about timing and context than it is about her weakness or small-mindedness? With their complaints about food and their rebellious yearning for Egypt, the Israelites are faltering. Their threatened faith in Moses is tied inseparably to their faltering faith in God. Could it be that Miriam is sent into quarantine outside the camp for seven days because God wants the Israelites to wait for her, because God wants to protect her from a potentially volatile nation, because this complaining, faith-challenged, desert wandering people needs to take a deep breath?

A powerful woman – Miriam – publicly criticizes a more powerful man – Moses, about his married life. God comes to the aid of the man. Our interpretations of this episode of Torah, like the interpretations of Rashi and Ibn Kaspi, are influenced by our own life experiences. With whom do you sympathize? What do you think of God's punishment of Miriam? I'd love to hear your thoughts.

Rabbi David

July Yahrzeits

Nathan Freedman	Sivan 28	1-Jul
Dora Rouffe	Sivan 28	1-Jul
Samuel Chorney	Sivan 28	1-Jul
Samuel Kaitz	Sivan 30	3-Jul
Herbert Phillip Dane	Sivan 30	3-Jul
Gertrude Riseberg	Sivan 30	3-Jul
Hyman Benjaminson	Sivan 30	3-Jul
Irma Salus	Tamuz 01	4-Jul
Barbara Griff Kappitt	Tamuz 02	5-Jul
Elizabeth Berman	Tamuz 03	6-Jul
Max Wolk	Tamuz 03	6-Jul
Elizabeth Barack	Tamuz 04	7-Jul
James Cohn	Tamuz 04	7-Jul
Louis Rouffe	Tamuz 04	7-Jul
Ephraim Burofsky	Tamuz 05	8-Jul
Benjamin Kaitz	Tamuz 05	8-Jul
Bernard Wolf	Tamuz 06	9-Jul
Russell Scott Macklin	Tamuz 07	10-Jul
Louis Kaswell	Tamuz 07	10-Jul
Joseph Norman	Tamuz 07	10-Jul
Harry Baker	Tamuz 08	11-Jul
Michael George Macklin	Tamuz 08	11-Jul
Sumner Ginsburg	Tamuz 08	11-Jul
Rubin Mallick	Tamuz 09	12-Jul
Jack Bloom	Tamuz 09	12-Jul
Harry Marion	Tamuz 09	12-Jul
Manuel Greenblott	Tamuz 09	12-Jul
Alex Greenbaum	Tamuz 10	13-Jul
Manuel Shlager	Tamuz 10	13-Jul
Manehan Snyder	Tamuz 11	14-Jul
Ben Goldstein	Tamuz 11	14-Jul
Frank Milesky	Tamuz 11	14-Jul
Elsa Stux	Tamuz 12	15-Jul
Morris Joel Tuchfeld	Tamuz 12	15-Jul
Benjamin Cohen	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
Louise Goldman	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
David Koocher	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
Philip Merowitz	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
Annie Margolis	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
Aaron Mendelsohn	Tamuz 14	17-Jul
David Freedman	Tamuz 15	18-Jul
Harry Smith	Tamuz 15	18-Jul
Mark Nudelman	Tamuz 16	19-Jul
Irving Altman	Tamuz 16	19-Jul
Moishe Simon	Tamuz 16	19-Jul

Louis Goldstein	Tamuz 17	20-Jul	Mason Griff	Tamuz 24	27-Jul
Philip Fischer	Tamuz 17	20-Jul	Rebecca Wolk	Tamuz 24	27-Jul
Dora Levine	Tamuz 18	21-Jul	Irma Orovitz	Tamuz 24	27-Jul
Hannah Canter	Tamuz 18	21-Jul	Charlotte		
Beatrice Bloom	Tamuz 19	22-Jul	Pearl Shlager	Tamuz 26	29-Jul
Bessie Levine Hauser	Tamuz 19	22-Jul	Bella Larks	Tamuz 27	30-Jul
David Bronfman	Tamuz 20	23-Jul	Father of		
Harry Joseph Rosenfeld	Tamuz 20	23-Jul	Richard Goldberg	Tamuz 27	30-Jul
Marc David Marion	Tamuz 20	23-Jul	George Lesnick	Tamuz 28	31-Jul
Morris Canter	Tamuz 21	24-Jul	Andrew		
Bessie Gordon	Tamuz 22	25-Jul	Wolf Decker	Tamuz 29	1-Aug
Charlotte Cohen	Tamuz 22	25-Jul	Esther Canter	Tamuz 29	1-Aug
Ruth Milesky	Tamuz 23	26-Jul	Abraham Caplan	Tamuz 29	1-Aug
Max Sulkin	Tamuz 23	26-Jul			

To add a name to our yahrzeit list or purchase a plaque for the Memorial Wall, please contact the temple office by phone 781-894-5146 or email office@tbiwaltham.org.

We wish a long life to our members who are observing a Yahrzeit in the coming weeks. If you would like assistance to arrange a minyan so that you may say kaddish for your loved ones, please contact the Temple office at least two days in advance.

- **David Freedman**, July 1, in memory of his father, Nathan Freedman
- **Irving and Sheila Lesnick**, July 1, in memory of Samuel Chorney
- **Harry Wolf**, July 9, in memory of his father, Bernard Wolf
- **Lester & Ellen Macklin**, July 10, in memory of their son, Russell Scott Macklin
- **Eleanor Baker**, July 11, in memory of her father, Harry Baker
- **Lester & Ellen Macklin**, July 11, in memory of their grandson, Michael Macklin
- **Irving Malick**, July 12, in memory of his father, Rubin Malick
- **Arthur Marion**, July 12, in memory of his father, Harry Marion
- **Ben Nudelman**, July 13, in memory of his step-father, Alex Greenbaum
- **Carol Halberstadt**, July 14, in memory of Manehan Snyder
- **Arthur Marion**, July 14, in memory of his uncle, Ben Goldstein
- **Alan Goldman**, July 17, in memory of his mother, Louise Goldman
- **Martin Koocher**, July 17, in memory of his brother, David Koocher
- **Ben Nudelman**, July 19, in memory of his father, Mark Nudelman
- **Arthur Marion**, July 20, in memory of his uncle, Louis Goldstein
- **Helen Norman**, July 21, in memory of her mother, Hannah Canter
- **Arthur and Marge Marion**, in memory of their son, Marc David Marion
- **Frank Orovitz**, July 27, in memory of Irma Orovitz
- **Irving Lesnick**, July 31, in memory of his father, George Lesnick



Study Groups with Rabbi David

Torah Study Group: Midrash on The Garden of Eden

Wednesday mornings, 11:00am-12:30pm

at Temple Beth Israel

July 10, August 7, and September 11



With the help of Wilfred Shuchat's book, *The Garden of Eden & the Struggle to Be Human According to the Midrash Rabbah*, we will explore and investigate the Biblical text, practice our own rabbinic close reading skills, and explore rabbinic homilies on chapter 2 of the Book of Genesis (*Bereishit*). All are welcome, Jew and non-Jew, veterans of midrash and beginners alike.

Talmud Study Group: The Most Significant Talmudic Discussions



Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm at

Temple Beth Israel

July 3, August 14, and September 4

Beginning in Fall 2008, Professor Jon A. Levisohn of Brandeis University collected 25 responses to the question, "What are the Talmudic sugyot (topics or discussions) that every Jew ought to know, the most famous or significant Talmudic discussions?" The sugyot were chosen "for their theological and ideological significance, their contemporary practical significance, or their centrality in discussions among commentators. Or in some cases, perhaps their idiosyncrasy." In this long-term learning project, I hope to learn every one of the 67 sugyot in the list. Let's take the journey together. We'll learn slowly and deliberately, taking one discussion at a time. There's no rush. All texts will be provided in the original language (Hebrew and/or Aramaic) and in English translation. All are welcome. No prior familiarity with Talmud required.

Thank You

Donations:

- Thelma Kennen, in memory of Fannie Kennen
- Alan Zinn, in honor of his Aliyah on May 25th
- Ellen Feinsand, in honor of Lillian Etkind's 100 Birthday
- Ellie Handel, in honor of Lillian Etkind's 100 Birthday

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Michael Epstein

Shabbat Lunch Sponsors:

- July 6 - Sylvia Hobbs

Please sponsor a Shabbat lunch in honor of your special occasion. Sharing a light lunch after services each week strengthens and creates community. \$150 sponsors one Shabbat lunch for 35 to 40 people, Contact the office to reserve your week today!

Thank You:

Thanks to those who read Torah, Haftarah, led a portion of the service, or gave a D'var Torah recently:

- Rabbi David Finkelstein
- Rabbi Sara Meirowitz
- Phyllis Werlin
- Caroline Nudelman
- Bruce Trager
- Mark Frydenberg
- Catherine Cantrell
- Dina Baker
- Zachary Roe
- Sam Blumberg
- Abby Shectman
- Eli Perr

Please email 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.

Security Update

Temple Beth Israel has installed a new security system. A keypad at the front door allows us greater control over who can enter our building. During office hours, please ring the outside doorbell and Andrea will buzz you in.

During services and special events, we will unlock the front doors and a Temple member will greet anyone coming in. If you are willing to be one of our greeters at Friday night or Saturday morning services or other events, please contact Marilyn Racette at marilynracette@gmail.com.

This is a new experience for all of us; thank you for your help in adjusting to it.



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. You may also donate online at <http://tbiwaltham.org/donate>. The minimum donation amount is \$10. Please add additional information on another sheet.

Attached is my donation check in the amount of \$ _____. Please allocate it to the following funds.

____ General Fund ____ Sanctuary Renovations ____ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
 ____ Goldstein Prayerbook Fund ____ Morris Hollender Torah Fund ____ Children's Services

This donation is being made ____ in honor of ____ in memory of _____.

This donation is made by:

Name: _____
 Address: _____

Please send acknowledgment to:

Name: _____
 Address: _____



Temple Beth Israel

25 Harvard Street
Waltham, MA 02453

Help us save on postage!

Pick up your copy of Temple Talk at the synagogue
or read it online at www.tbiwaltham.org.

July Highlights — Mark Your Calendar

4	Thursday Morning Minyan 8am (note the later start time) 
5	Friday Night Services (no dinner) 6:30pm
12	Shabbat Service and Pot Luck Dinner 6:30pm at the home of Dina and Brad Baker
14	Brotherhood - Day at the Baseball Game 4:00 pm
28	Boston Harbor Boat Trip 8:30 am

Morning Service Times

Monday and Thursday, 7 am
Shabbat Morning, 9 am

Please contact the Temple Office
in advance if you would like help
arranging a minyan because you
are saying Kaddish.

Connect with Us



office@tbiwaltham.org



www.tbiwaltham.org



facebook.com/tbiwaltham



[@tbiwaltham](https://twitter.com/tbiwaltham)