



Temple Beth Israel

Community | Tradition | Inclusion

Temple Talk



Rabbi's Reflections:

The Omer: Time to Celebrate the Divine Feminine

By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

Is God really masculine? Jewish texts call God "He," "Lord," "His." God always takes masculine forms of verbs and adjectives in the Torah. But now that I have a daughter, my discomfort with God's grammatical masculinity has become more pronounced. Every morning I sing a Jewish prayer to my son and to my daughter: "Thank you, God, living and sustaining King, for returning my soul to me. Your trust in me is great." Even though I find it awkward to do so, I change the Hebrew word for King to the Hebrew word for Queen when I sing this prayer to my daughter, and I change other words, too, to reflect God's femininity. Why do I do it? I'll answer with other

questions: Do I want only my son (and not my daughter) to hear that his gender is like God's? What message do I send to my son and my daughter when I gender God?

I thought of this God-gendering quandary again when I read about the fire last month at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, and Notre Dame led me to think of *Shekhinah*. The phrase "Notre Dame" means "Our Lady," and

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Mark's Remarks: Circles of Membership

By: Mark Frydenberg

When you toss a pebble into a pond, an amazing thing happens. Circles form and flow from the center to the farthest edge and back inward again. This model also applies to synagogue communities. Everything we do as a synagogue has a ripple effect that impacts our members, the Jewish community, and the greater community around us.



At the center circle are the Board of Directors and synagogue officers, who we will elect at our annual meeting on June 2nd. We are responsible for "making waves" and setting the direction for Temple Beth Israel for the years to come.

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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: Yaron Shragai
Ritual: Phyllis Werlin
Sisterhood: Nessie Baron
At Large: Julie Gagnon
 Bruce Trager

Special Interests

Inclusion: Howard Trachtman
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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 of shoes, gloves and backpacks. They also have an immediate need for new underwear.** 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

Children's Services

May 4

Led by Aki Yonekawa, 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.



TBI services and events are open to the community and membership is not required to participate.

Temple Beth Israel provides child care 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.

For more information about children's programming, please contact the TBI office at (781) 894-5146.

Mark's Remarks: Circles of Membership

(Continued from page 1)

In the next outer concentric circle are our "regulars" – the members we can count on to help with our activities, serve on committees, attend minyan when called, assist with shopping, cooking, visiting, organizing programs of interest, participating in services, and doing the important work of the synagogue.

In the circle after that are the people who participate occasionally, attending special programs and events, joining when they seek a minyan to say kaddish, or at the high holy days, or contributing because they want to maintain their connection with the synagogue community.

In the outer circles are the people who may not yet have found us, or who have visited us for the first time. They are finding their place, figuring out what TBI has to offer that works for them. They're all part of the circle of community that is Temple Beth Israel.

Which circle are you in? And are you willing to take one small step closer toward the center?

In June you will receive a letter inviting you to renew your membership with Temple Beth Israel for the coming year (2019-2020). By renewing your membership, you can participate in the religious, social, educational and other activities of Temple Beth Israel, and share in the cost of running the synagogue.

As much as we need your financial support, we also need your participation. ideas, energy, and involvement, especially on these standing (permanent) committees:

- Membership, which oversees recruitment and retention of temple members;
- Ritual/Religious Committee, which oversees

matters of ritual and religious services;

- Program Committee, which oversees social activities at the synagogue;
- Development, which oversees fund raising and applies for grants on behalf of the synagogue;
- Chesed /Caring Committee, for visiting or assisting members seeking community support through life milestones

We also welcome volunteers who have time or talent to help with technology, social media, publicity, shopping, cooking, food shopping, Torah reading, service leading, office skills, making phone calls, and who can be on call to attend our daily minyan.

Please contact the Temple office, and we'll be in touch to say thank you.



Dina's D'var: Foundations

By: Dina Wolfman Baker

This article is adapted from my D'var Torah of March 9, 2019.

How would you like to live in a place described this way:

...a remote stretch...an unforgiving place. ...The snow careens off Lake Ontario and entombs the town in installments of feet, not inches. ... By January, when the temperatures drop below -10 degrees and the wind whips up, your eyelashes can freeze together before you reach your car.

On the other hand, what would you think of living in a place like this:

...one of the most politically tolerant counties in America, ...where people can disagree on politics but still...give each other the benefit of the doubt. ... They are likely to describe their political opponents as "patriotic" and less likely to describe them as "selfish."

What if I told you that they are the same place? Where people say it's "the least biased [place] I've ever been." Where a person took issue with an op-ed in the local paper by telling the author "I thought that article you wrote was crap. But I still like you because you're my friend." Would this harmony outweigh the fact that "in the 1970s Walter Cronkite called the town 'Snowtown USA' while covering the 220 inches of snow that fell there one winter?"

I've been describing Watertown, NY and quoting from an article by Amanda Ripley published in The Atlantic. It's titled *The Least Politically Prejudiced Place in America*.

I'm not sure that I could bring myself to live in a place where -10 F is a January norm and the snow can reach the hundreds of feet. But I recognize that the weather isn't what's foundational about where and how we live. It's just the adornment. Our shared humanity, living together on equal terms, taking each other at face value—that's foundational. And a part of me wants to run to Watertown, NY as fast as I can. A place with this type of foundation can feel like a sanctuary, especially considering how different it is here. Our neighboring Suffolk County, Massachusetts, is considered one of the most politically biased counties in the US, according to the article.

I didn't always value political inclusion as much—or as explicitly—as a I do now. After my father died, we created The Bernard Wolfman Civil Discourse Project. We held moderated discussions between nationally-recognized experts with differing views on highly divisive public policy issues for audiences of hundreds, in part to delve into the topic but principally to a model an approach to civil discourse to audiences of hundreds. In the process of recruiting and working with the speakers and handling the publicity, I took a neutral stance on the topic and stayed open to the views from each speaker. I've never learned so much about an issue and the many ways to approach it with good intention.

Parashah Pekudei, which we read on March 9, is about creating a sanctuary; it begins with an inventory of all that goes into it. Some of these items are breathtaking to consider: large quantities of gold, embroidery "in blue, purple, and crimson yarns and in fine linen." It goes on and on with descriptions, and these items are made from the treasures of those with the wealth to own them and the heart that moves them to donate them. We are riveted by the extreme beauty we imagine in the tabernacle in much the way we are riveted by the extreme winter we imagine in the North Country of New York State. But it's just adornment.

The foundation is of less tantalizing substance, and it's hidden away beneath the glitter. Every Israelite, regardless of economic status, gives equally toward this foundation—one-half shekel of silver from every individual counted in the census, from which were cast the sockets of the sanctuary, the sockets for the curtain, the hooks for the posts and their overlay and the bands around them. The community is equal in ensuring that the mishkan—the tabernacle—will stand, that the curtains will be secure, that the posts will be stable. The foundation rests on what equalizes us, not on what differentiates us.

Does the adornment matter? As humans we respond to beauty, and the parashah conveys great value placed on the artisan talent that makes the mishkan beautiful. Individuals' generosity feeds this beauty. With the careful

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Notice of Annual Membership Meeting

Our Annual Membership Meeting is coming up on Sunday, June 2nd. The Board of Directors scheduled this meeting, which in previous years had been held at the end of August, for the beginning of June, to better align with our fiscal year which begins now on July 1. The earlier meeting date will give the board time to meet during the summer to begin planning for the coming year.

By now, all Temple Members should have received a letter outlining the proposed slate of officers and Directors at Large. An election will take place at the meeting. We will also vote on two proposed bylaws modifications, one related to the minimum age to be a voting member, and the other, on whether to create a Social Justice committee as a permanent (standing) committee of the synagogue. I refer you back to the letter to read position statements in favor and opposing the latter proposed amendment, summarizing the Board of Directors conversation about this issue.

The Nominating Committee nominates the following slate of officers and directors at large for election at the annual meeting:

President:	Mark Frydenberg (2 years)
Treasurer:	George Isaac (2 years)
Director at Large:	Julie Gagnon, incumbent (2 years)
Director at Large:	Bruce Trager, incumbent (2 years)
Director at Large:	Zachary Roe (2 years)

Thanks to members of the Nominating Committee (Catherine Cantrell, Susan Holbert, Bob Macauley, Alan Levine, Linda Ungerleider) for their service.

Members not on the slate of nominees from the nominating committee, who wish to place themselves on the ballot must do so by notifying Linda Ungerleider, Nominating Committee contact person, before May 3, 2019. Contact Linda Ungerleider at ulinda@gmail.com or 617-962-6347.

TBI now has an AED Defibrillator

Special Thanks go out to the Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood for responding to a request from the Security Committee members to purchase an AED device. It is located on the wall between the sanctuary and the social hall. We hope that we never have to use it, but if you find yourself at the Temple and you see someone go down on the floor and become unresponsive:

- ◆ First - Call 911
- ◆ Second - Get the AED machine located in a cabinet on the wall, on the far side of social hall. Take the entire bag, not just the machine.
- ◆ Third - Open the bag and power the machine on. The machine will walk you through every step.

If at anytime you feel uncomfortable with using this device, please wait for the first responders.

MA Gen Laws 112 § 12V, **from 2017**, Grants Good Samaritan protection for UNTRAINED users. Trained users are covered under Chapter 142 updated to include AED devices in 1999.

It is extremely important that any time you see someone in need of medical assistance, that you call 911 FIRST.



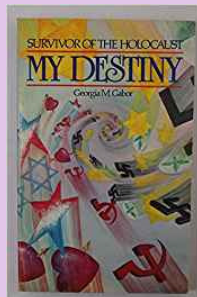
Shabbat Evening Services

MAY 3	Services (no dinner) 6:30 pm Come and share a melody or learn a few new ones.	
MAY 17	Services and Dinner 6:30 pm: Menu: Salmon or Dairy Dinner Please contact the Temple office if you have special dietary requirements. Vegetarian / non-dairy options will be available at all meals. Cost for dinner is \$18 per adult, \$40 per family if paid by Weds. before the dinner. \$21 per adult, \$45 per family for later reservations. Register online at http://tbiwaltham.org or contact the Temple office to sign up.	
JUNE	June 7 (no dinner), 21 (with dinner)	

TBI Bookshelf

by Marilyn Racette

This month, as we commemorate the victims of the Holocaust, I would like to tell you about a book that chronicles the life of a survivor.



My Destiny: Survivor of the Holocaust is by Georgia M. Gabor. In her memoir, Georgia gives an eyewitness account of the invasion of Hungary. The fourteen year old was captured by the Nazis but managed to escape three times, and to survive the physical and mental depredations of war and occupation, as well as 'liberation' by the Soviets. She came at last to America, and still she suffered trials and tribulations. But she persevered, had a successful career, and ultimately found her happy ending. You can find ***My Destiny*** in the biography section of our temple 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.



Festive Musical Shabbat Saturday, May 4th with Cantor Ellen Band

On Shabbat, May 4th, TBI will have a Festive Musical Shabbat. During the repetition of the Shacharit Amidah, a congregant choral group will sing texts composed by Cantor Ellen Band. We will also use familiar melodies for other texts so that the congregation can participate.



Services begin at 9 am, and Shacharit will begin at about 9:30 am. Please plan to arrive by 9:30 am to show your support for our talented group of synagogue singers!

We hope this is the beginning of more choral and festive singing together.

Celebrate Nate Kelly's Bar Mitzvah!

Join us on **Saturday May 11th** as we celebrate Nate Kelly's Bar Mitzvah! Thanks to Nate's mom, **Amy Rothman**, and his sister **Encie**, for sponsoring lunch in Nate's honor.



Celebrate Lillian Etkind's 100th Birthday!

Join us on **Saturday June 8th** as we celebrate and honor **Lillian Etkind** on her 100th Birthday with a festive Kiddush lunch!

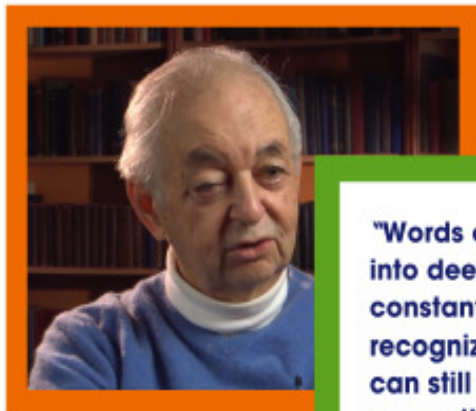


Mark Your Calendar

Yom HaShoah Program—Sunday May 5, 2019 at 6:30 PM

Yom HaShoah: Stories of Liberation from Local Holocaust Survivors

Susie Davidson is a local journalist and author. She will speak on her experiences interviewing and documenting the stories of Boston-area Holocaust survivors and WW II liberating soldiers, and how it has enriched her life. Among her books is "I Refused to Die: Stories of Boston-Area Holocaust Survivors and Soldiers who Liberated the Concentration Camps of World War II" (2005).



Al Rosen will give a first-hand account of liberating the Dachau concentration camp, as well as a subcamp of Roma (Gypsy) inmates. He resides in Brookline, MA.

"Words of hate too often turn into deeds of hate, and we must constantly be on the alert to recognize that new Holocausts can still happen, as we have seen with Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and other modern genocides." - Al Rosen

When: Sunday, May 5, 2019, 6:30 PM

Where: Temple Beth Israel is located at 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA, opposite Hannaford Supermarket. Parking is available. Temple Beth Israel is accessible via an outside ramp to the lobby, and a lift from the lobby to the sanctuary. Please contact us at 781-894-5146 or office@tbiwaltham.org for more information.



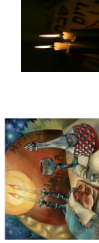



All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. Free of charge.

A brief candle lighting ceremony remembering all who perished during the Holocaust will precede the presentation.



Temple Beth Israel sent all members a yellow candle to light in observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Your contribution to the Yellow Candle Program supports Holocaust remembrance programming at Temple Beth Israel. **Please send in your contribution, and remember to light your candle on the evening of Yom HaShoah, Wednesday, May 1, 2019.**

May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 15th day of the Omer Rosh Chodesh Iyyar Cinco de Mayo 6:30 pm Yom Hashoah event 	6 16th day of the Omer Rosh Chodesh Iyyar 7:00 am Morning Minyan	7 17th day of the Omer	8 18th day of the Omer Yom HaZikaron 11:00 am Torah Study: Midrash on the Garden of Eden	9 19th day of the Omer Yom HaAtzma'ut 7:00 am Morning Minyan	10 20th day of the Omer Candle lighting 	11 Nathan Kelly Bar Mitzvah 21st day of the Omer Parashat Kedoshim 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 8:37 pm Havdalah (42 min)
12 22nd day of the Omer Mother's Day	13 23rd day of the Omer 7:00 am Morning Minyan	14 24th day of the Omer	15 25th day of the Omer 7:00 pm Talmud Study: The Most Significant Talmudic Discussions	16 26th day of the Omer 7:00 am Morning Minyan	17 27th day of the Omer Friday Night Service and Dinner 7:43 pm Candle lighting 	18 Hadassah Mutono Sponsoring Kiddush for her Birthday 28th day of the Omer Parashat Emor 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 8:44 pm Havdalah (42 min)
19 29th day of the Omer Pesach Sheni	20 30th day of the Omer 7:00 am Morning Minyan	21 31st day of the Omer	22 32nd day of the Omer	23 33rd day of the Omer Lag BaOmer 7:00 am Morning Minyan	24 34th day of the Omer Candle lighting 	25 35th day of the Omer Parashat Behar 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Services 8:51 pm Havdalah (42 min)
26 36th day of the Omer	27 37th day of the Omer Memorial Day 8:00 am Morning Minyan 	28 38th day of the Omer	29 39th day of the Omer	30 40th day of the Omer 7:00 am Morning Minyan	31 41st day of the Omer Candle lighting 	

Dina's D'var: Foundations

By: Dina Wolfman Baker

(Continued from page 4)

records of what is given, the parashah stresses leaders' accountability to the people for all the gifts to the building of the mishkan. But what holds the project together is what we accomplish together as equals, even as we recognize the individual choices and talents and economic differences among us.

A few weeks before I spoke about this, when delivering his d'var Torah, Rabbi Finkelstein referred to *The Heart of Torah* by Rabbi Shai Held and strongly recommended it as a resource. So I added it to my library and started reading it with the selection on this week's parashah.

Rabbi Held points out the extraordinary linkage between the construction of the mishkan in Pekudei and the creation story. Just as "God saw all that God had done, and behold, it was very good" in the creation of the world, so "Moses saw all the tasks, and behold, they had done it...and Moses blessed them" in the building of the mishkan. There are many other literary parallels. Each creative process is declared "finished." After evaluating the world, "God blessed the seventh day" and after assessing the mishkan "Moses blessed" the Israelites. And it goes on; I won't catalog them all. The point, as Rabbi Held puts it, is that "the Torah wants us to know that God's creation of the world and Israel's construction of the mishkan are intertwined in a highly significant way." He posits that in a chaotic world, the mishkan is a place of order, where everything happens according to God's plan. And that it is essentially a microcosm of the world reminding us that the world as a whole *should* be a mishkan. *Should* be a sanctuary. Isn't that an appropriate message before we move, in the following week, to Leviticus where we learn how to live as a holy community?

We can feel the chaos that Rabbi Held references in the intense divisiveness of discourse that prioritizes ideology above human interaction. But if we head back to Watertown, NY—where, by the way, it was sunny on the day of my d'var with a very reasonable high temperature of

37 F—we'll find that political diversity is common in neighborhoods and even in households. The article in *The Atlantic* reports that "instead of provoking rage, these encounters seem to provoke something like complexity." A local minister quoted in the story explains that it's because "there is no culture of anonymity." People there are likely to know each other, and that establishes a foundation upon which ideological differences certainly exist, but the political discourse is a bit like the adornments of the sanctuary. For example, there are two women—both named Ann—who live in Watertown. One works devotedly against abortion and the other came to town to help her husband establish the Planned Parenthood there. When they met, they instantly liked each other. They are best friends; each believes the other is wrong but comes to her opinion from a place of goodness.

As humans we care about the political conversation. We contribute to it in differing ways. And there should be accountability for the contributions to the tapestry of dialogue. But just as the mishkan stands upon the sockets, hooks and bands formed from the half-shekel donations of a community of equals, the sanctuary of Watertown, NY stands upon the conviction that every person offers valuable contributions.

It's through the foundation of community that we achieve sanctuary in our own, daily, tangible world. And that brings us back from Watertown, NY to Waltham, MA. It brings us here, to our own sanctuary.

I don't mean the physical sanctuary within our building. I'm talking about the sanctuary of our Temple Beth Israel community. That's our foundation. We know and care for each other. We also disagree with each other on any number of topics, including politics. Recently I debated an issue with another congregant, and the next day we shared an email dialogue about how much we appreciated the opportunity to respectfully disagree and help each other consider the other's point of view.

So I thank all of you for forming my mishkan, my sanctuary from chaos, a world that is very good.



Rabbi's Reflections: The Omer: Time to Celebrate the Divine Feminine

(Continued from page 1)

it refers to Mary, who, according to the Christian Gospels, was a Galilean Jewish woman and the mother of Jesus. Notre Dame Cathedral was first built during the 12th and 13th centuries. Its construction reflects a wider religious trend in Western Europe of increasing devotion to Mary. But this religious trend may not have been limited to Catholicism. During the more than century-long construction of Notre Dame de Paris, something very significant happened in the nearby Jewish community of Spain: the Zohar - Judaism's foundational book of mysticism, or Kabbalah - first appeared.

At Temple Beth Israel, we gather twice a month on Friday night to pray in a Kabbalat Shabbat service. This service was invented by kabbalists in the late 16th century. Kabbalat Shabbat means "reception of Shabbat" or "welcoming Shabbat." In the central prayer of this service, "*Lekha Dodi*," we welcome Shabbat as a queen, the Sabbath Queen, *Shabbat haMalkah*. This feminized personification of Shabbat is not an invention of "*Lekha Dodi*"'s author, 16th century Kabbalist Shlomo Alkabetz. Alkabetz got the idea from the Zohar. In the Zohar, the Sabbath Queen is identified with *Shekhinah*, God's feminine aspect and the part of God that dwells among us. Before the Zohar, there is no talk in any Jewish text that I know of of God's femininity. Some prophets and midrashic texts compare God to a woman, but the idea that God or some aspect of God might be feminine is absent from Judaism before the Zohar.

So where did the Zohar get the idea of the divine feminine from? According to scholar Rabbi Arthur Green, the Zohar's concept of the divine feminine *Shekhinah* is adapted from Catholic devotion to Mary. In his article in *AJS Review* 26:1 (2002), "Shekhinah, the Virgin Mary, and the Song of Songs: Reflections on a Kabbalistic Symbol in its

Historical Context," Rabbi Green shows "that the unequivocal feminization of *shekhinah* in the Kabbalah of the thirteenth century is a Jewish response to and adaptation of the revival of devotion to Mary in the twelfth century Western Church".

So when I read about the fire at Notre Dame de Paris, I thought about Kabbalat Shabbat and the Sabbath Queen, and about *Shekhinah*, and about Rabbi Green's article. I also thought about my daughter, and what the concept of the divine feminine might mean to her as she grows up. I feel grateful to the Kabbalists for bringing the divine feminine into Jewish consciousness.

Every year at around this time we count the Omer, the fifty-day period that bridges Passover to Shavuot. During these fifty days, Jewish mysticism is often on display, especially in Omer counting systems. Most of these systems give each day a special Kabbalistic significance. The final week of the counting is the week of *Shekhinah*, the week of the Queen. Perhaps this year, we might experience the Omer as a celebration of the divine feminine. I want my daughter to know that femininity is no less divine than masculinity. Boys and girls can and should experience their gender as a reflection of God's being. After all, the Torah teaches us that we are all created in God's image, and that God created the human being male and female.

Happy Omer Counting!

Rabbi David

**Sign Up to Read Torah or Give
a D'var Torah**

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

Notice of Annual Membership Meeting, Nominations and Elections

The Temple Beth Israel Annual Meeting

will be held on

Sunday, June 2, at 10 am.

Breakfast will be served before the meeting, at
9:30 am.



Please note this change. With the recent bylaws amendment to start our fiscal year on July 1, the board chose to schedule the annual meeting to align more closely with our fiscal year. Holding the annual meeting in June, rather than in August, as in the past, also will allow any newly elected officers or board members to work together over the summer to plan for the High Holydays and the year ahead.

In accordance with the Temple Beth Israel bylaws, I have convened a nominating committee which is responsible for recommending a slate of officers and directors to serve the synagogue through the next election cycle (2019-2021). Linda Ungerleider has agreed to be the contact person for the Nominating Committee. Members of the Nominating Committee are Linda Ungerleider, Bob Macauley, Susan Holbert, Alan Levine, and Catherine Cantrell.

Offices eligible for re-election in 2019 are President and Treasurer, each for a two-year term, and up to three Directors-At-Large, each for two-year terms. Directors-at-large are voting members of the board who do not have the portfolio of an elected officer or appointed committee chair. Their presence and voice on the board give representation to the congregation's diversity of opinion and experience in the governance of Temple Beth Israel. Electing Directors at Large allows us to increase the number of potential candidates eligible for future leadership roles, and while not required, some current Directors at Large have assisted in special projects or ad hoc committees that fit their skills and interests. This announcement also serves as notice of milestones regarding the nominations and elections process, with dates determined by the Temple Beth Israel bylaws:

Last day for members not on the slate presented by the Nominating Committee to place themselves on the ballot by notifying the nominating committee	Friday, May 3, 2019
Annual General Membership and Election Meeting	Sunday, June 2, 2019

For more information, or if you would like to place your name on the ballot, or recommend the name of individual(s) with whom the nominating committee might speak about serving on the board, please contact with Linda Ungerleider, ulinda@gmail.com, 617-962-6347. Thank you for your interest in recommending, serving on, or voting for future members of the Temple Beth Israel Board of Directors.

Sincerely,
Mark Frydenberg,
President

May Yahrzeits

Richard Cutter	Nisan 26	1-May
Francis Chorney	Nisan 27	2-May
Max Eisenberg	Nisan 27	2-May
Edith Canter	Nisan 27	2-May
Jack Werlin	Nisan 28	3-May
Goldie Ramler	Nisan 30	5-May
Nathan Kauffman	Nisan 30	5-May
Shirley Hoffman	Iyyar 01	6-May
Gertrude Goldstein	Iyyar 01	6-May
Freda Kaufman	Iyyar 01	6-May
Bessie Sheer	Iyyar 02	7-May
Samuel Coppelman	Iyyar 02	7-May
Benjamin Benjaminson	Iyyar 03	8-May
Rubin Zelinetsky	Iyyar 03	8-May
Joseph Slatrow	Iyyar 03	8-May
Florence Woodin	Iyyar 03	8-May
Aaron Weiner	Iyyar 03	8-May
Anna Geller	Iyyar 04	9-May
Dora Koszerek	Iyyar 04	9-May
David Wigod	Iyyar 04	9-May
Howard Lewis	Iyyar 05	10-May
Morris Levison	Iyyar 05	10-May
Margaret Werlin	Iyyar 05	10-May
Anna Ida Burofsky	Iyyar 06	11-May
George Freeman	Iyyar 07	12-May
Goldie Stoerger	Iyyar 07	12-May
Goldie Kaswell	Iyyar 07	12-May
Judith Kaplan	Iyyar 09	14-May
Charles S. Slatrow	Iyyar 09	14-May
Samuel Louis Griff	Iyyar 10	15-May
Anne Itzkowitz	Iyyar 10	15-May
Herman Greene	Iyyar 11	16-May
Simon Hoffman	Iyyar 11	16-May
Gad Hakerem	Iyyar 11	16-May
Morris Canter	Iyyar 11	16-May
Edith Wolf Friedlander	Iyyar 11	16-May
Robert Liberman	Iyyar 12	17-May
Bessie Silver	Iyyar 13	18-May
Aaron Soltes	Iyyar 14	19-May
Samuel Schwartz	Iyyar 14	19-May
Eliot Tanner	Iyyar 15	20-May
Etta Liberman	Iyyar 15	20-May
Fannie Kennen	Iyyar 15	20-May
Sophie Messer	Iyyar 15	20-May
Anna Goldstein	Iyyar 15	20-May

Anna Resh	Iyyar 16	21-May
Freda Griff	Iyyar 17	22-May
Chiam Crevoshay	Iyyar 17	22-May
Louis Berman	Iyyar 17	22-May
Simon Kniznik	Iyyar 17	22-May
Ilene Joyce Nathanson	Iyyar 17	22-May
Hyman Weinstein	Iyyar 18	23-May
Jacob Fine	Iyyar 18	23-May
Louis Dubin	Iyyar 18	23-May
Morris Fischer	Iyyar 18	23-May
Helen Keaney	Iyyar 19	24-May
Joseph Kurtzman	Iyyar 20	25-May
Frances Rose Kaplan	Iyyar 20	25-May
H. L. Berman	Iyyar 20	25-May
Harry Sheinhite	Iyyar 21	26-May
Zelda Pokat	Iyyar 21	26-May
Lori Ann Roe	Iyyar 21	26-May
Barbara Hoffman	Iyyar 21	26-May
Richard Rosenberg	Iyyar 22	27-May
Laura Kurtzman	Iyyar 22	27-May
Charles Leavy	Iyyar 22	27-May
Harry Dubin	Iyyar 23	28-May
Samuel Goodman	Iyyar 24	29-May
Fritz Benedick	Iyyar 24	29-May
Sara Bloomenthal	Iyyar 25	30-May
Avraham ben Yitzhak Itsik	Iyyar 27	1-Jun



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 2 days in advance.

- Phyllis Werlin, May 3, in memory of her father, Jack Werlin
- Edward Kaufman, May 6, in memory of his mother, Freda Kaufman
- Ellie Handel, May 7, in memory of her friend Samuel Coppelman
- Phyllis Werlin, May 10, in memory of her mother, Margaret Werlin
- Robert Kaitz, May 12, in memory of his grandmother, Goldie Stoeger
- Lillian Etkind, May 15, in memory of her mother, Anne Itzkowitz
- Patricia McCue, May 16, in memory of Morris Canter
- Steven Kennen, May 20, in memory of his grandmother, Fannie Kennen
- Esther Keaney, May 24, in memory of her mother, Helen Keaney
- Zachary Roe, May 26, in memory of his mother, Lori Ann Roe
- Carol Master, June 1, in memory of her father Avraham

Study Groups with Rabbi David

Torah Study Group: Midrash on The Garden of Eden

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

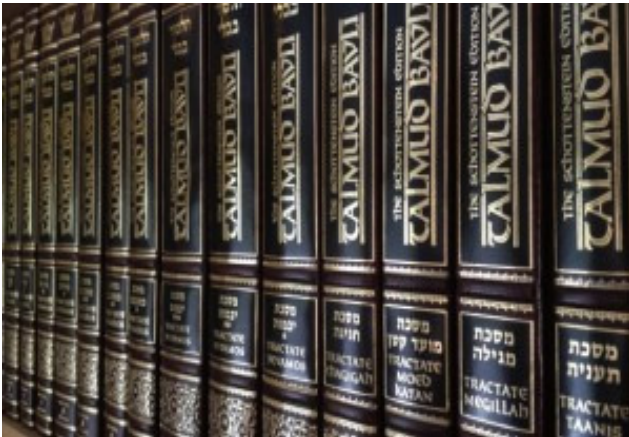
at Temple Beth Israel

May 8, June 12



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

May 15, June 5

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:

- In memory of Al Bloom from:
 - Bloom Family
 - Elinor Handel
 - Mark Frydenberg
 - Gerry Morgan
 - Merrill and Carol Griff
 - Diana Korzenik
 - Elizabeth Bedell
 - Sylvia Hobbs
 - Erika Cohen
- Merrill and Carol Griff, wish a refuah shlema to Judith Isaac.
- Anita Kennen, in memory of her father, Yukee Kennen.
- Thelma Kennen, in memory of her husband, Yukee Kennen.
- Mark Frydenberg, in memory of Annette Feinsand.
- Noel Eisenstat, to help maintain the food access projects around the Temple.

Condolences:

- To Catherine Cantrell on the loss of her brother Martin Cantrell

Shabbat Lunch

Sponsors:

- May 11 - Amy Rothman, in honor of her son Nathan's Bar Mitzvah
- May 18 - Hadasah Mutono, in honor of her birthday.

Yellow Candle Project:

- Paul Smith
- Marilyn Racette
- Lillian Etkind
- Eric and Jessica Benjamin
- Alan Levine
- Martin Koocher
- Merrill and Carol Griff
- David Freedman
- Ed Kaufman
- Catherine Cantrell
- Robert Braitman
- Alan Corman
- Phyllis Werlin
- Elinor Handel
- Ellen Band
- Rob and Catherine Solomon
- Albert Smith

- Susan Baron
- Robert Macauley
- Julie and Chad Gagnon
- Ed Brown
- Mark Fryenberg
- Natalya Gomelskaya
- Erika Cohen

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
- Cantor Ellen Band
- Catherine Cantrell
- Dina Baker
- Zachary Roe

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

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or read it online at www.tbiwaltham.org.

May Highlights—Mark Your Calendar

3	Friday Night Service 6:30pm
4	Musical Shabbat 9:00am
5	Yom HaShoah Program— Sunday May 5, 2019 at 6:30 PM
17	Friday Night Service and Dinner 6:30pm
JUNE 2	Annual Membership Meeting 9:30 am Breakfast, 10:00 am Meeting

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.

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