



# Temple Beth Israel

Community | Tradition | Inclusion

## Temple Talk



## Rabbi's Reflections—Prayer and Thinking About Prayer

### By: Rabbi David Finkelstein



Dear Community,

Since the COVID-19 outbreak hit our shores a few weeks ago, all of us have experienced changes, some of them painful, some good, some both. As your rabbi, I have been moved to increase my

content production during these weeks. I have posted numerous videos and teachings on Facebook. Most or all of them are now on the TBI website at <http://www.tbiwaltham.org/virtual-tbi/>. Scroll down the page and you will find them. In this time of many changes, I find comfort in the siddur, the Jewish

prayerbook. Below, please find two of my recent musings on short texts from our prayerbook, originally from Psalms.

#6 Bit of Prayer - to be recited before the starting the Shacharit (Morning) Service:

(טו) וְאֲנִי עָלֶיךָ בָּטַחְתִּי יְקֹוֹק אֱמַרְתִּי אֱלֹהֵי אֶתָּה

As for me, I put my trust in You, Hashem.  
I say, "You are my God."

What is Trust? In an attempt to teach their students about Trust, some nineteenth century rabbis instructed their students to purchase one-way train tickets to

(Continued on page 3)

## Mark's Remarks- Wash Your Hands!

By: Mark Frydenberg

The song that begins the seder describes the different rituals performed at the meal:

*Kadesh, Urchatz, Karpas Yachatz...*

Recite the Kiddush, Wash the hands, Eat a green vegetable, Break the Middle Matzah, Recite the Passover story, Wash the hands before the meal, Say the Hamotzi and the blessing for the Matzah, Eat a bitter herb, then eat a bitter herb and matzah

together, Serve a Festival meal, Eat the Afikoman, Say grace after meal. Sing songs of praise. And hope next year we can all be together again in person, at home, at the synagogue, or in Jerusalem.

This year, *Urchatz* – wash the hands – becomes even more important!

(Continued on page 2)



### Inside this issue:

Rabbi's Reflections	1, 3
Mark's Remarks	1, 2
Annual Meeting Announcement	2
Yom HaShoah	4
Social Justice	4
April Events Online	5
Upcoming Events	8
Yahrzeits	6
Donations	7
Prepare for Passover	7
Sell Your Hametz	8



## Temple Beth Israel

**Rabbi:** David Finkelstein  
**Phone:** 781-786-8679  
**Email:** rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays  
 1:00 –2:00 pm on ZOOM  
 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 z"l  
**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

This seder night will be different from many other seder nights. This seder night, we can't "let all who are hungry come in and eat." This seder night we pray that the current plague will pass over our homes as we quarantine inside of them. This seder night we stay within social distance of strangers as the Haggadah reminds us we were once strangers in a strange land. We will make it through, we will taste freedom again. We adapt, and we do the best we can.

This situation implores us not to be a stranger, and to reach out to our community. While we can't share prayer, study, meals, social activities, and meetings in our building due to the coronavirus situation, we have found ways to check in with each other and feel less isolated. We've moved some of our services online – please check the Virtual TBI page at tbiwaltham.org for the current schedule.

Gathering, praying, learning, and singing in our living rooms while looking at each other's faces in a "Brady Bunch" style grid on a computer screen, has been a new experience for many of us. Familiarity in this time of uncertainty provides a sense of connection that will carry us through until we can return to our regular schedule back in the building. Until then, remember to wash your hands!

The Temple Board of Directors joins me in wishing you a happy Passover!

## Notice of Temple Beth Israel Annual Meeting and Elections

The Temple Beth Israel Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, June 7, 2020, at 10 am**. Breakfast will be served before the meeting, at 9:30 am. **Offices eligible for re-election at this meeting are Board Secretary and Membership Secretary, each for a two-year term.** A nominating committee recommends individuals for these offices. Linda Ungerleider is the contact person for the Nominating Committee. According to the Temple Bylaws, these milestones apply:

- A slate of nominees from the nominating committee will be sent to the membership by April 23.
- Members not on the slate by the nominating committee have until May 8 to place themselves on the ballot
- The annual membership and election meeting will be held on Sunday, June 7.

To express your interest in being considered for nomination to the board in an elected position, or to recommend individual(s) with whom the nominating committee might speak about serving on the board, please speak with Linda Ungerleider, contact person for the nominating committee, ulinda@gmail.com, 617-962-6347. **In the event that we cannot meet in the synagogue, this meeting will be held virtually on Zoom.**



## Rabbi's Reflections

### By: Rabbi David Finkelstein

(Continued from page 1)

faraway places, each of them to a different place, where they knew no one, to bring no money or valuables, and to go. For those rabbis, Trust was about how we face the inevitable uncertainties in our lives. They wanted to train their students to find their spiritual foundation under their feet in times of uncertainty.

We are all facing uncertainties right now. We don't know how long physical distancing, isolation, quarantine and/or lockdown will last for COVID-19. Many of us don't know how we will make a living during the coming months. We don't know how we will pay our bills. We are worried about our loved ones, and about ourselves. In the face of these painful uncertainties, the question about Trust is still a question of inner stability. What keeps us focused on the tasks at hand rather than on unanswerable questions, especially when we did not sign up for the tasks at hand? We seek a foundation that cannot be shaken or removed.

Some of us pray - even if it's not natural for us - because we are seeking such a foundation. Still others put their trust in community. As for me, I am feeling around for my own inner stability by studying the siddur, and I am trying to lean into the community, offering help and accepting help where and when I can.

If you need a community, [Temple Beth Israel, Waltham, MA](http://www.tbiwaltham.org) is here for you. Continue to follow our posts and even consider becoming a member at <http://www.tbiwaltham.org/engage/become-a-member/>. As a member, you will be wrapped into the community now via email and phone calls. Being a member will give you new avenues to help others, new ways to connect, new people to connect to. Please use your discretion about how much you pay for membership. We know that now is a difficult time to think about additional expenses.

Shavua tov, everyone. Here's to a week of learning, of helping others, and of taking good care of ourselves physically and spiritually.

### ואני ברב חסדך אבוא ביתך אשתחוה אל היכל קדשך ביראתך

And I, in the greatness of Your love,  
I will enter Your house.  
I will bow to the temple of Your holiness  
in reverence of You.

These first words of the Ashkenazi Jewish prayerbook envision a Jew standing outside of a synagogue, preparing and fully expecting to go in to pray with the community.

Today we stand outside our synagogues, literally and metaphorically. We refrain from congregating there. But, every morning we can still say what we have always said: "I will enter Your house." I will return to the synagogue. I will return to my friends' houses. You will host me, I will host you, and we will hold hands. This strange time - when we save lives by staying home, by not having contact - this time will end, and when it does we will enter Your house. For now, out of reverence for You and out of respect for the lives You have made, we will not enter the synagogue. For now we stand in the courtyard, out of love, reverence, and respect.

Praying for healing, comfort, strength, righteous action, wisdom, and *shalom* for every one of us,

Rabbi David  
[rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org)

#### Rabbi David's Open Zoom Hours

Tuesday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 pm  
April 7, 21, 28

Join online at <https://zoom.us/j/722211045>

Join by phone:  
Dial +1 301 715 8592  
Enter the Meeting ID: 722 211 045

## Yom HaShoah

By now you should have received your Yellow Candle. We urge you to light it on April 21<sup>st</sup>, Yom HaShoah, or on a memorial date that has personal meaning to you.

These candles remind us of an important time in Jewish history, your history, our history, and as such they will forever be a symbol of The Holocaust. Please remember to return the stub at the bottom of the letter when sending in your remittance.....For this act of goodness you have our heartfelt gratitude, our love for you as a fellow member, and our recognition of you as a Tzadik....

Here are two ways in which you can participate in Yom Hashoah at home:

On **Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10 pm** PBS will televise a new video documentary, "**The Windermere Children**" that tells the story of child survivors brought to the UK after liberation. Their lifelong friendships became a lifeline to their future. The program will broadcast locally on WGBH

and also will stream online at <https://www.pbs.org/show/windermere-children/>.

On **Sunday April 19th at 2pm. the Jewish Community Relations Council of Boston** is hosting a communitywide Yom HaShoah Reflection. Join for a virtual gathering to recognize Holocaust Remembrance Day. This will be a moment to come together as a community to honor our local survivors and pay tribute to those who perished. Even during this challenging time, we will convene our community to transmit memory, honor our survivors and ensure an enduring commitment to preserving this critical legacy. For more information or to join online, see the events at <https://www.facebook.com/BostonJCRC/>.

Our Thanks to You!  
Paul Smith / TBI Brotherhood

### Thanks for Donating to the Yellow Candle Fund:

Alan Levine  
Erika Cohen  
David Freedman  
Lillian Etkind  
Martin Koocher  
Marilyn Racette



## News from the Social Justice Committee

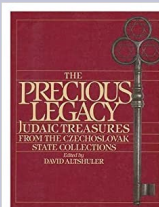
At this time, our partner organizations are closed as mandated by Governor Baker. The Community Day Center continues to provide staff services remotely and bagged lunch on weekdays. Monetary donations would be appreciated at this time. We will restart collecting clothing donations for CDC and Africano, as well as books for More Than Words when TBI reopens for services and events. Please save your donations until then. The Social Justice Committee has offered support to our Chesed Committee in helping our own TBI community during these stressful times.

Thank you to all who make telephone calls to check-in or grocery shop or volunteer for other needs to support one another each day. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Stay well. We hope to see you soon at TBI.

Linda Ungerleider

## TBI Bookshelf by Marilyn Racette

In the midst of the current pandemic the library is not accessible, but when it has passed you will be able to delve into the temple's past by reading through our collection of past newsletters, dating back two decades and more, and enjoy new additions to our collection, donated by Diana Korzenik.



They include *The Precious Legacy: Judaic Treasures from the Czechoslovak State* edited by David Altshuler; *A Historical Atlas of the Jewish People from the Time of the Patriarchs to the Present*, edited by Eli Barnavi; and *Rebbe Nachman's Torah: Breslov insights into the weekly Torah reading—Exodus—Leviticus*, compiled by Chaim Kramer, and edited by Y. Hall. Thank you, Diana!





We are now meeting by computer and by phone, instead of in person.

**To join by phone--no computer needed:** Dial (301)-715-8592. You will hear a prompt to enter a meeting ID. Enter the meeting ID, followed by #. In the listing of events below, we show the meeting ID for each event.

**To join by computer or mobile device,** visit [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) in a web browser, click *Join a Meeting*, and enter the meeting ID for the event (or click the direct link to the event posted on our website or in our weekly email update).  
**The current list of events appears below.**

	April Shabbat Services Online	Meeting ID
Fridays, April 3, 10, 17, and 24	<b>5:30 pm Shabbat Shalom</b> A little singing, a little Torah, a little checking in before Shabbat.	297-238-245
Saturdays. April 4, 11, 18, and 25	<b>10:30 am Shabbat Morning Together</b> An abbreviated morning service, D'var Torah and discussion, and Mourner's Kaddish. Kiddush, Motzi, and stay on for conversation over lunch. Texts will be provided on screen, or stop by TBI to pick up a Siddur Sim Shalom from a bin on the front porch during the week.	281-995-509
	<b>Passover Events</b>	
Wednesday. April 8	<b>8:00 am Siyyum with Rabbi David</b> A short teaching that exempts the first born in attendance from fasting on the day before Pesach, <b>Last chance to sell your hametz!</b> Visit <a href="http://bit.ly/tbi-hametz-2020">http://bit.ly/tbi-hametz-2020</a> or return the form on page 8..	558-166-615
Thursday, April 9	<b>11:00 am to 12:00 pm Passover Morning</b> Sing selections from Hallel and other songs as we check in with each other on the first day of Passover.	925-084-911
Sunday, April 12	<b>3:00 pm to 4:30 pm Virtual TBI Talent Show!</b> Sing a song! Tell a Joke! Read a poem! Contact Rabbi David at <a href="mailto:rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org">rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org</a> to reserve your spot in the line up.	680-907-842
Thursday April, 16	<b>8:00 am 8th Day Passover: Hallel and Yizkor</b> Selections from Hallel followed by the Yizkor Memorial Prayers.	611-920-712
	<b>Rabbi David's Discussion Groups</b>	
Wednesdays, April 1, 22, 29	<b>2:00 pm—3:00 pm Torah Discussion</b> A bit of Torah to start, then see where the conversation goes.	791-046-798
April 1, 22, 29	<b>7:00 pm –8:00 pm Discussion and Check In</b>	117-868-015

## April Yahrzeits

Ina Moses	Nisan 07	1-Apr
Louis Levine	Nisan 07	1-Apr
Gedalia Chosed	Nisan 08	2-Apr
William Cohen	Nisan 08	2-Apr
Maurice Milesky	Nisan 08	2-Apr
Dr. Max Tauber	Nisan 08	2-Apr
Morris Trachtenberg	Nisan 08	2-Apr
Rose Israel	Nisan 09	3-Apr
Sara Cohn	Nisan 10	4-Apr
Madeline Sidell	Nisan 11	5-Apr
Sophia Rosenfield	Nisan 12	6-Apr
Morris Goldman	Nisan 13	7-Apr
Shana Chosed	Nisan 13	7-Apr
Ida Koocher	Nisan 13	7-Apr
Ida Greenberg	Nisan 14	8-Apr
Mary Kaplan	Nisan 14	8-Apr
Gittle Edelman	Nisan 16	10-Apr
Alfred "Al" Simon	Nisan 16	10-Apr
Charles Cumenes	Nisan 17	11-Apr
Myron Stroum	Nisan 17	11-Apr
Abraham Slatrow	Nisan 18	12-Apr
Frances Hoffman	Nisan 18	12-Apr
Lena Sheer	Nisan 19	13-Apr
Sonia Weiner	Nisan 19	13-Apr
Gertrude Wolk	Nisan 20	14-Apr
Samuel Goodman	Nisan 21	15-Apr
Eli Weiner	Nisan 21	15-Apr
Belle Freedman	Nisan 22	16-Apr
Samuel Seidman	Nisan 23	17-Apr
Nathan Sheer	Nisan 23	17-Apr
Ruth Seigler	Nisan 23	17-Apr
Goldie Gammerman	Nisan 24	18-Apr
Jeanne Bloom	Nisan 24	18-Apr
Morris Ullman	Nisan 24	18-Apr
Ethel Stroum	Nisan 24	18-Apr
Anna Macklin	Nisan 25	19-Apr
Moshe Ben Aaron	Nisan 25	19-Apr
Anna Wolf	Nisan 25	19-Apr
Richard Cutter	Nisan 26	20-Apr
Francis Chorney	Nisan 27	21-Apr

Max Eisenberg	Nisan 27	21-Apr
Edith Canter	Nisan 27	21-Apr
Jacob Werlin	Nisan 28	22-Apr
Goldie Ramler	Nisan 30	24-Apr
Nathan Kauffman	Nisan 30	24-Apr
Samuel Trager	Nisan 30	24-Apr
Shirley Hoffman	Iyyar 01	25-Apr
Gertrude Goldstein	Iyyar 01	25-Apr
Freda Kaufman	Iyyar 01	25-Apr
Bessie Sheer	Iyyar 02	26-Apr
Samuel D. Coppelman	Iyyar 02	26-Apr
Benjamin Benjaminson	Iyyar 03	27-Apr
Rubin Zelinetsky	Iyyar 03	27-Apr
Joseph Slatrow	Iyyar 03	27-Apr
Florence Woodin	Iyyar 03	27-Apr
Aaron Weiner	Iyyar 03	27-Apr
Anna Geller	Iyyar 04	28-Apr

Dora Koszerek	Iyyar 04	28-Apr
David Wigod	Iyyar 04	28-Apr
Margaret Werlin	Iyyar 05	29-Apr
Howard Lewis	Iyyar 05	29-Apr
Rebecca Zall	Iyyar 05	29-Apr
Morris Levison	Iyyar 05	29-Apr
Anna Ida Burofsky	Iyyar 06	30-Apr
George Freeman	Iyyar 07	1-May
Goldie Stoerger	Iyyar 07	1-May
Goldie Kaswell	Iyyar 07	1-May
Judith Kaplan	Iyyar 09	3-May
Charles S. Slatrow	Iyyar 09	3-May
Samuel Louis Griff	Iyyar 10	4-May
Anne Itzkowitz	Iyyar 10	4-May



**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 *virtual minyan* so that you may say kaddish for your loved ones, please contact the Temple office at least one week in advance.**

- ◆ April 1 - Janet Moses, in memory of her mother, Ina Moses
- ◆ April 7 - Martin Koocher - in memory of his mother, Ida Koocher
- ◆ April 16 - David Freedman - in memory of his mother, Belle Freedman
- ◆ April 18 - Larry Bloom - in memory of his mother, Jeanne Bloom
- ◆ April 19 - Lester Macklin - in memory of his mother, Anna Macklin
- ◆ April 19 - Ed Brown - in memory of his father-in-law, Moshe Ben Aaron
- ◆ April 20 - Judith Isaac - in memory of her brother, Richard Cutter
- ◆ April 21 - The Lesnicks - in memory of Fancis Charney
- ◆ April 22 - Phyllis Werlin - in memory of her father, Jacob Werlin
- ◆ April 24 - Bruce Trager - in memory of his grandfather, Samuel Trager
- ◆ April 25 - Ed Kaufman - in memory of his mother, Freda Kaufman
- ◆ April 26 - Ellie Handel - in memory of Samuel David Coppelman
- ◆ April 29 - Phyllis Werlin - in memory of her mother, Margaret Werlin
- ◆ April 29 - Amy Rothman - in memory of her grandmother, Rebecca Zall
- ◆ May 1 - Robert Kaitz - in memory of his grandmother, Goldie Stoeger
- ◆ May 4 - Lillian Etkind - in memory of her mother, Anne Itzkowitz



# Thank You

## Donations

### In memory of Edith Hollender

- Catherine Cantrell
- Irving and Sheila Lesnick
- Mark Frydenberg
- George and Judith Isaac
- Jim, Andrea and Michaela Baron
- Ed Kaufman
- Martin and Joan Taubman
- Jessica Schwartz
- Diana Korzenik
- Karin Kriegsmann
- Ellie Handel

**Thelma Kennen, in memory of Maurice Katz**

**Martin Koocher, in memory of his loved ones**

### In memory of Al Simon

- Virginia Simon
- Marc Simon
- Douglas Simon
- Jeffrey Simon

## Membership Booklet Update

We will be printing a new edition of our membership directory this spring. If you would like to place an ad in the membership book, please contact Mila Maystrovsky

(membership@tbiwaltham.org)

Prices are \$100/full page, \$50/half page/ \$25 quarter-page/business card.

## Security Update

Due to the current coronavirus situation, we have temporarily disabled all key code access for everyone except synagogue officers, staff, and contractors.

If you need access to the building while it is not open, please contact the Temple office.

Codes will be enabled again once the stay-at-home order has been lifted and the synagogue officers recommend to reopen the Temple building.

## 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    ☐ Event Participation Fund    ☐ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund  
☐ Goldstein Prayerbook Fund    ☐ Morris Hollender Torah Fund    ☐ Children's Services  
☐ Education Fund

This donation is being made \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_.

**This donation is made by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send acknowledgment to:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Get Ready for Passover!

- Visit <http://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide> to view the Rabbinical Assembly's Guide for preparing your home for Passover
- Visit <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/story/kashrut-subcommittee-recommendations-passover-5780-light-covid-19> for Recommendations in light of COVID-19.
- **New For 2020: Sell your hametz to Rabbi David online. Visit <http://bit.ly/tbi-hametz-2020> or return the form on page 8 to Temple Beth Israel before end of day, Tuesday, April 7.**



## 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](http://www.tbiwaltham.org).

### Connect with Us



[office@tbiwaltham.org](mailto:office@tbiwaltham.org)



[www.tbiwaltham.org](http://www.tbiwaltham.org)



[facebook.com/tbiwaltham](https://facebook.com/tbiwaltham)



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

## POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR MECHIRAT CHAMETZ / SELLING CHAMETZ

*Note: If possible, all hametz should be eaten or removed before the holiday begins. Should this be financially difficult, the hametz may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to a non-Jew until the holiday ends. Please complete this form, which must be received in the mail no later than Tuesday, April 7th, to make sure it gets to the Rabbi in time.*

**New For 2020: Sell your hametz to Rabbi David online. Visit <http://bit.ly/tbi-hametz-2020> and complete the form before end of day, Tuesday, April 7.**

I, the undersigned, fully empower and permit Rabbi David Finkelstein to act in my behalf to sell all *hametz* possessed by me – knowingly or unknowingly – as defined by Torah and rabbinic law, and to lease all places wherein *hametz* owned may be found. Rabbi David Finkelstein has the full power and authority to assign or appoint a substitute to act in my behalf with all the same powers and authority that I have invested in the rabbi. This transaction will be in effect for the duration of Pesach, which this year begins with sundown of Wednesday April 8th and runs through nightfall of Thursday, April 16, 2020.

And to this I hereby affix my signature on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year 2020.

Signed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Online Services and Study Opportunities

See page 5 for the many online services and study opportunities scheduled during the month of April.  
Visit <http://tbiwaltham.org/virtual-tbi> for the most up-to-date information.

