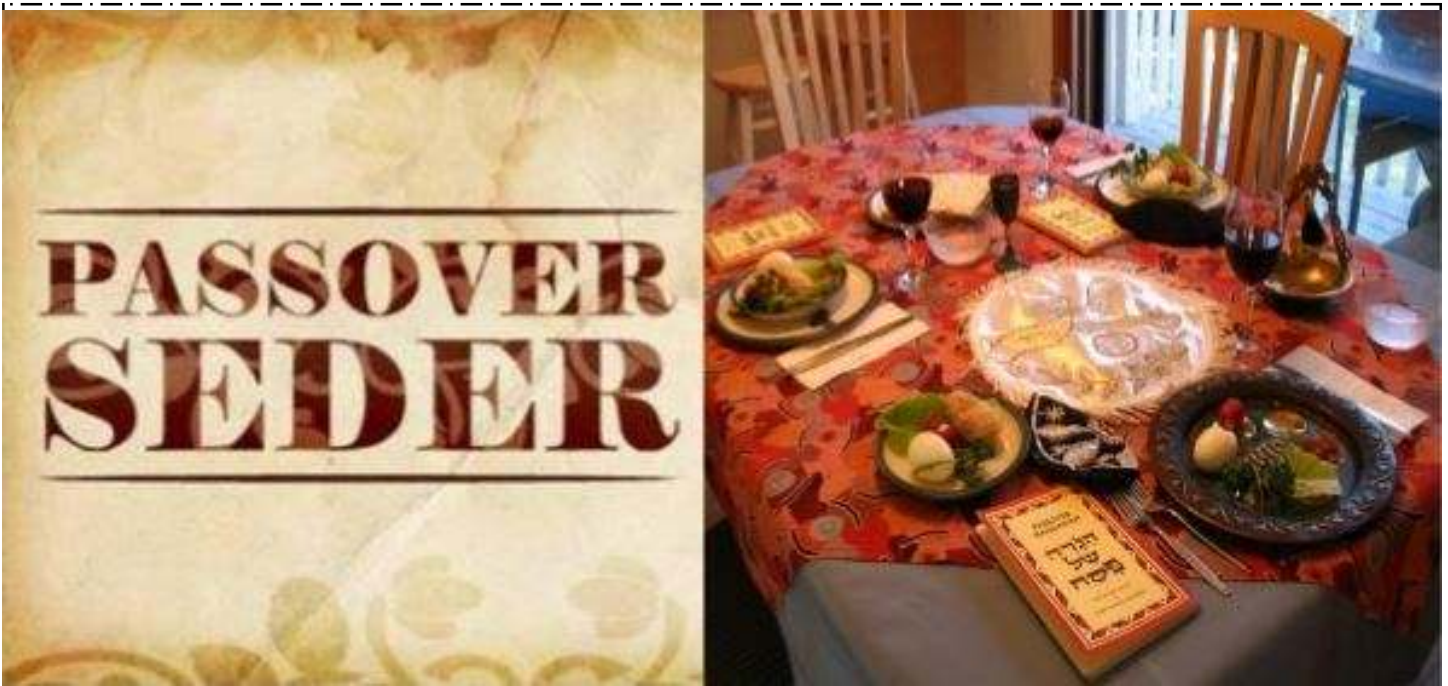


TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH

BETH REPORTER

ADAR II-NISAN 5776

APRIL 2016



Pesach Community Seder

Join the TBOBT family for the
First Seder

Friday, April 22 at 7:00 PM

Led by Cantor Steven Stern

Enjoy a full course catered, traditional dinner with appetizer, soup, entrée, side dishes, dessert and all of the special trimmings.

TBOBT members: \$40 adults, \$20 children 5-13, 4 and under free.

Non members: \$50 adults, \$26 children 5-13, 4 and under free.

Sponsorships welcomed: \$118 and includes 2 seats.

RSVP to the Temple office no later than Monday, April 11, 2016

FROM THE CANTOR



So here is my question: Has it ever sunk this low? I am referring, of course, to the depressing level of discourse in the current presidential campaign -- the distasteful accusations,

the cheap ad hominem attacks. The answer, according to historians, is a definite yes! There have been, in the history of American presidential campaigns, several in particular where the mudslinging was quite brutal. There were the contests between Jefferson and Adams in 1800, Jackson and J.Q. Adams in 1828, Lincoln and Douglas in 1860, and Cleveland and Blaine in 1884. These were all quite nasty affairs with slogans and accusations that would surely, even today, make us blush.

But don't we like to think that the arc of decency and civility in all matters is trending upward? And so when candidates today talk about body parts or attack spouses, don't we want to declare that they have gone too far? Is there any hope?

Pesach is soon upon us, and it is instructive to recall what our Sages tell us regarding the retelling of the Pesach story: *Matchil b'gnut umesayem b'shevach* – we begin with degradation and end with praise. And so the Haggadah at the very outset reminds us that in the beginning our ancestors were idol worshippers, and then for several hundred years we were subjected to abject slavery. But then, it was our forefather Abraham who introduced monotheism into the world, and it was through G-d's outstretched hand that we emerged from Egypt as a free people ready to receive the Torah on our way to the Promised Land.

In the telling of our story in the Haggadah, at a time when we were at our lowest point, “we cried out to G-d, and G-d heard our voice, saw our affliction, our sorrow, and our oppression.”

It is when things are at their lowest that we look for that inflection point, the sudden reversal that begins an upward trend which offers reason for hope. In the Haggadah it is our cries to G-d that reverse our course. I don't know exactly what it will take in this political season, but maybe, just maybe, we can hope that we will soon approach such a point when we will begin to be able to discuss and debate the truly important issues of the day without the unnecessary nastiness and sordidness. Perhaps, somehow, we will figure out how to go from degradation to praise.

May the story of the Festival of Freedom inspire and elevate us, as individuals, as a people, and as a nation.

Chag Kasher v'Sameach,
Cantor Steven Stern

P.S. Let me take this opportunity to thank everyone who so graciously sent shalach manot for Purim. Your thoughtfulness and good wishes are so very much appreciated and helped to make this Purim, as always, a very special occasion. Todah rabba!!

Special Adults Model Seder
will take place on
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
at 5:00 PM.



Please contact Mike Miller or
Cantor Stern if you wish to assist.

FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



Shalom,

I hope you are all surviving the unusual weather we have had this winter. Also, with oil and gas prices below \$2.00 a

gallon, you can keep the heat in your home above 50 degrees and take long trips in your automobiles.

Spring has finally arrived with the blooming of the flowers and the birds chirping, and you know what that means. Pesach can't be too far away. Once again we will be having our Community Seder led by our wonderful Cantor Stern. Please call the Temple office to get your reservations in early as it is always a sellout.

Your Board of Directors continues to work hard with new programs and ideas to keep up your interest. As we have previously said, "support these programs and services." Without you, we cannot continue. On that thought our morning minyan is still having great difficulty. We are only having it on Sundays and Mondays at TBOBT, and Thursdays at Congregation Beth Israel in Scotch Plains. If you need a minyan for a yahrzeit, please contact Fern Cammy, Cantor Stern, or myself.

On behalf of the Mandelbaum and Silverman families, we want to wish you a Zissen Pesach.

Shalom,
Wendy and Howard

EDUCATION REPORT

On March 20th the K'ton class welcomed our new teacher, Chava Penzias. She comes to us with an excellent Hebrew background and has years of teaching experience. The children were so happy to get acquainted with their teacher and she with them!!!

All of our classes joyfully arrived at school that day knowing that Purim was fast approaching. They made and ate hamantaschen, made groggers and masks, and heard all about Queen Esther and Mordechai and how the Jewish people were saved.

Their enthusiasm continued onto the evening of our Purim Extravaganza, when they all escorted their parents to join the congregation at Pasta Dinner, Megillah reading, and Purim Shpiel, so many dressed in wonderful costumes, and topped off with an Ice Cream Social. It's wonderful to learn together, study together and have FUN together!!!!

Elaine, Genie Thelma and Cantor.

Golden Books

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call:

Joan Oberman (732-381-4322)
Evie Shulman (908-276-6894)
Betty Needleman (908-389-0911)

Cards are sent for \$3.00 and you will receive \$1.50 donor credit, or pick up a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00 with \$15.00 donor credit and send them yourself. They can be picked up from the office.

Please send checks to

Esther Schlesinger :
(9 Pine Ridge Dr., Edison, NJ 08820) or
call (732) 548-7132 for the amount owed.

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On Sunday, April 10th from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah will be a very busy place! Our Sisterhood is hosting the annual spring program of the Garden State



Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. About 100 women representing Conservative Temple Sisterhoods from all over New Jersey will be attending. The brunch program titled "Step Up for Israel" will have three speakers representing different groups and viewpoints, all supporting Israel equally. This will be a most stimulating day!

Next, I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped assemble over 140 Shalach Mones baskets for Purim. Also, I want to extend a big thank you to everyone who purchased them. Your support helps us contribute financially to the Temple. At the same time, you have fulfilled a mitzvah!

Let me wish you & your family a happy and healthy Pesach.

Joleen Fridson

Special Fund

Donations to Special Fund can be made for any occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00. You will receive 100% donor credit.

To send a beautiful Special Fund card call: Gene Berry (732-388-3453).



**Remember to buy
ShopRite Gift Cards**

**Contact Bonni at the Temple
office 732-381-8403, ext. 11**



The TBOBT Sisterhood
And
Garden State Region Women's League
for Conservative Judaism
present:

**Step Up for Israel: What we hear...
What we say... What can we do?**

Sunday, April 10, 2016
9:30 AM—2:30 PM
at TBOBT.

Cost is \$18 in advance
or
\$25 at the door

Price includes Israeli brunch.

Contact the Temple office at
732-381-8403, ext. 11
for a flyer and more information.

Sisterhood Reminder

Donor is only \$36.00

Make your donor by purchasing ShopRite Gift Cards and Goldenbooks and by making a donation to Special Funds.

FROM THE TBOBT MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club Update

- The Club will participate in the NNJR Raffle— Drawing June 13th.
- TBOBT, CBI, & TBEMC Men's Clubs have agreed to expand the sharing of activities.
- The Yellow Candles have arrived. Bob Kolker will prepare the materials for distribution. Mike Miller will organize the distribution to occur before Passover. We need help! Call (908) 233-9624 or email: mwmillerchem_102@aol.com.
- Special Adults Model Seder is Wednesday April 13th 5:00PM.



Hearing Men's Voices meeting on March 13 with facilitation by Harvin Freedman.

TBO-BT Men's Club SHOMREI HA'ARETZ/ STEWARDS OF THE LAND

Protect vs Use: Jewish Footprints on the Land

As stewards of the land we must be proactive and assure that all levels of our government are engaged in protecting the purity and safety of our drinking water. **Lead in drinking water** has been in the news headlines for several weeks.

Lead in drinking water leaches from the lead solder used to connect copper pipes in homes and facilities built before 1986. Detectable levels of lead can occur when the water sits in the pipes overnight and/or the water is acidic. For delivered water the pH limits are 6.5 -8.5 (7 neutral, less than 7 acidic, greater 7 basic).

Information about NJ Public and Community water systems are available at the following website: https://www9.State.nj.us/DEP/WaterWatch_public/index.jsp

Passover Ideas

Sustainably. You don't have to douse your house in poisonous chemicals—noxious to both you and the people who work in the factories that produce them—to get rid of your chametz (bread products and crumbs which are literally, and ritually, cleared before Pesach). Try using natural, non-toxic cleaning products, and scrub away. Eco-cleaning products such as Seventh Generation and Ecover.

Plan ahead. You can get rid of chametz in the most sustainable and cost effective way by planning ahead in order to use up as much as you can of what you have before the start of Pesach. Be mindful of what you buy. Try to finish those “almost empty” containers in your fridge, and half empty bags of bread, rather than automatically resorting to buying new. Plan meals around the prepared food in your freezer.

Invest in Passover Dishware

Pesach is a time when many families break out the fine china and heirloom silverware. It is a good investment, cost effective, and a sustainable method to invest in a set of Pesach dishware, that way you do not need to buy disposables every year. However, if you're using disposable plates this year, use post-consumer waste paper or plant-based ones. For some great compostable disposable dishware products, check out Leafware, Go Green in Stages, Let's Go Green, and World Centric.

Enjoy your flowers on Pesach—and all spring. Fresh bouquets make beautiful centerpieces, but only last a few days, and are often grown with pesticides. Try a sustainable alternative like potted tulips or other native spring flowers. Potted herbs also make a beautiful, inexpensive centerpiece, and make your table smell great! You can buy potted thyme, rosemary, and lavender etc., at garden nursery or farmer's market. At the end of the Seder, give your centerpieces as gifts to your guests. If you definitely want cut-flower centerpieces, go organic!

Buy vegetables at your farmer's market. Go a few weeks early and chat with the sellers to see what they'll have available the first week of April. In many parts of the country, green options will be slim, but you may find salad greens, cabbage, fiddleheads, spinach, as well as root vegetables in cold storage (carrots, potatoes, onions, squash, beets) and apples and pears. Consider making at least one dish all local and feature it at your seder.

Every Charoset Tells a Story – Learn More about Charoset!

Charoset's mixture of apples and nuts is already healthy and delicious and, when made with local apples, sustainable. Charoset also offers you the chance to explore other cultures within the Jewish Diaspora. Check out the Jew & the Carrot to find recipes from Russia, Spain, Holland, Yemen, Turkey, Surinam... – or ask your guests to bring their own favorite charoset recipe and have a taste-test.

Sprout Your Own Karpas

If you can't find locally grown greens to dip for karpas, sprout your own! Although many sprouts come from corn, soybeans, and other chametz or kitnyot, in just 2-3 days, you can have fresh, delicious quinoa sprouts that you “grew” yourself!

Buy Fresh or Make Your Own Horseradish

Buy and grate fresh horseradish root for maror on your seder plate. When it comes time for the Hillel sandwich, hold up an ungrated root so your guests know where that bitter stuff comes from. Or learn how to grow your own horseradish.

Use Free Range Eggs

Buy organic, free-range eggs, and be willing to pay slightly more for them. They taste better, didn't cause suffering to the animals who laid them, and support farmers who make it possible for you to eat good food.

Have a happy and healthy Passover,
Mike Miller & Michael Goldstein

Happenings

Purim Extravaganza March 23, 2016

Purim 2016 at TBOT brought out a very large crowd for pasta dinner, Megillah reading, a costume parade and a surprise debate between Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. It was all topped off with our famous Ice Cream Social -- a most joyous celebration for all!



All the winners in the costume parade



at TBOBT



Alina Antonucci, Aaron Bloom, Rachel Burkhard and Louis Pandolfo assist Cantor Stern with retelling the Purim story



K'ton class helping out in the kitchen



Hebrew school students bake hamantaschen before Purim



Tamara Ruben is teaching our Hebrew Conversation Class



Jayne Heidelberger with our refurbished gift shop

THIS PASSOVER INVEST IN ISRAEL BONDS



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Livingston, NJ 07039
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This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before investing to fully evaluate the risks associated with investing in Israel bonds. Member FINRA. Photo: maglara/Adobe Stock

Learn Hebrew



Learn to Speak Hebrew

A second series of six sessions is starting soon, with guest teacher Tamara Ruben.

To register or for more information, contact Nancy Kelner or Cantor Stern.

Lost and Found

DID YOU LOSE SOMETHING?

Contact the Temple Office at 732-381-8403, ext 11 to see if it was turned into our **Lost and Found!**

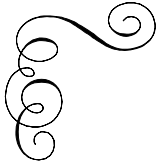
Morning Minyan Services

Sundays at 9:00 AM:
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

Mondays at 6:50 AM:
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

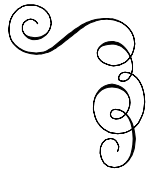
Thursdays at 7:00 AM:
Congregation Beth Israel
in Scotch Plains

If you have any questions, please call Howard Silverman, Fern Cammy, or Cantor Stern.



**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS
MADE TO TBOBT DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH**

(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion,
call or email the temple office)



YAHARZEIT FUND

Michael Saks	Charlotte Saks
Laurie Saks	Mildred Sansolo
Dr. Gloria Schragar	Edith Ogur
Dr. Dennis Turner	Edythe Turner
Louise Cangelosi	Max Glass
Eugene Tendler	Rose Tendler
Anonymous	
Adeline Gesten	Louis Geldzahler
Paula Hymanson	Louis Diamond
Roberta Makow	Fay Schwartz

GENERAL FUND

Ira and Libby Lulinski: In memory of Joseph Green
Steven and Jane Eisenstat: In memory of Sheldon Halper
Stephen and Carol Welk: In memory of Sheldon Halper

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ruth and Bernard Burkhoff: In appreciation for Purim
Shalach Mones baskets received from friends
Art and Thelma Purdy: In appreciation
Robert and Elaine Kolker: In appreciation

**Israel: Are We Getting All The
News That's Fit to Print?**



An interactive discussion on media bias,
its effects and how to combat it.

**Sunday, April 17th at 2:00 PM at
Temple Emanu-El
756 E. Broad St., Westfield, NJ**

Open to the public! No Charge!
Light refreshments will be served.

Presented by The Israel Support Committee of Central
New Jersey and Committee for Accuracy in Middle East
Reporting in America.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Robert and Elaine Kolker: In memory of Eva Kolker
Suzanne & Mike Miller: In Memory of Greta Bauer
Elaine Kolker: In memory of Bertha Unger

The Leder/Seltzer families would like to
thank our friends at Temple Beth O'r/
Beth Torah for their warmest
condolences on the passing of our
husband, father and grandpa, Norman
Leder. We appreciate all
your kindness.

Thank you Cantor Stern for your infinite
warm heartedness, caring and
thoughtfulness during this difficult time.

**TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH
BOARD OF OFFICERS & TRUSTEES
MEETING SCHEDULE 2015-2016
MONDAYS, AT 8:00 PM**

April 11	Congregation Board
May 09	Congregation Board
June 20	Congregation Board



**The Temple Office Hours are:
Monday through Friday
9:00 AM—2:00 PM**

Support Our Advertisers



Dick Lavroff
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Fax: 732-574-3447

DELI-KING CLARK

KOSHER DELICATESSEN
RESTAURANT
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30 Clarkton Drive, Clark, N.J. 07066



TBO/BT still has cemetery plots at Beth Israel Cemetery in Woodbridge available.

If you are interested, please call the temple office at 732-381-8403 ext. 11.

Advertise Your Business!

Call us for monthly and yearly advertising rates.

Various ad sizes are available.

Contact Bonni at the Temple Office
732-381-8403, ext .11

LIST OF TBOBT FUNDS FOR DONATIONS

Cantor's Discretionary Fund – is a vehicle by which the Cantor assists individuals and organizations that come to his personal attention in need of additional funds for emergencies, on-going activities or special projects in the US, Israel or anywhere in the world.

Jewish National Fund Trees – certificates can be purchased for all occasions in denominations of \$18. Please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Oneg Shabbat/Kiddush Fund – used for a nosh after Shabbat services. To sponsor an entire Oneg, Kiddush, or Seuda, please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Minyan Breakfast Fund – provides breakfast for the Morning Minyan.

Ritual Fund – is used to purchase religious supplies.

Yahrzeit Fund - It is a tradition to make a donation in memory of deceased loved ones. This fund is used to support all aspects of the synagogue.

Sol Sern Memorial Lecture Fund - is used to provide speakers and refreshments for our annual lecture in memory of Sol Sern.

General Fund – supports all aspects of Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah.

Prayer Books – Please contact the temple office to obtain up-to-date information.

Bikur Cholim and Chesed Fund - is used on behalf of those who are ill or in need of mitzvot of loving kindness.

Harold & Doris Presser Memorial Fund - has been established to assist in the maintenance of the temple facilities and the repair of ritual items.

Yahrzeit Plaques – Honor your departed loved ones with a permanent Yahrzeit memorial plaque in our sanctuary. A light will be lit next to the plaque every year during the week of the Yahrzeit. Cost is \$350.

Information needed: English & Hebrew names, including the father's and/or mother's Hebrew name, and secular & Hebrew dates of passing.

Sanctuary Seat & Pew Dedication – This project honors or memorializes a dear one with a special plaque mounted on the back of a sanctuary seat. Each plaque costs \$180. Dedication of an entire pew (row) includes a larger plaque inscribed with the family name mounted at the end of the row and two individual seat plaques in that row. The cost of an entire pew dedication is \$1800.

Religious School Fund – supports our Hebrew School & K'Ton program.

Simcha Tree – Honor your family by dedicating a Leaf (\$180), Rock, or Trunk Letter, on our "Simcha" Tree of Life, for any and all occasions – Births, Weddings, Special Anniversaries or Birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, or other special honors or events. Call Temple Office for more info.

April 2016

April 2016

May 2016

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mar 27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2
					22nd of Adar II, 5776 7:04pm Candle lighting (Clark)	23rd of Adar II, 5776
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
24th of Adar II, 5776	25th of Adar II, 5776	26th of Adar II, 5776	27th of Adar II, 5776	28th of Adar II, 5776	29th of Adar II, 5776 7:12pm Candle lighting (Clark)	1st of Nisan, 5776 Rosh Chodesh Nisan 8:21pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2nd of Nisan, 5776 9:30am 2:30pm Sisterhood Annual Spring Event	3rd of Nisan, 5776	4th of Nisan, 5776	5th of Nisan, 5776 5:00pm Special Adults Model Seder	6th of Nisan, 5776	7th of Nisan, 5776 7:19pm Candle lighting (Clark)	8th of Nisan, 5776 8:28pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9th of Nisan, 5776	10th of Nisan, 5776	11th of Nisan, 5776	12th of Nisan, 5776	13th of Nisan, 5776	14th of Nisan, 5776 Erev Pesach 7:00pm Pesach Community Seder 7:26pm Candle lighting (Clark)	Pesach I 15th of Nisan, 5776 8:35pm Candle lighting (Clark)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pesach II 16th of Nisan, 5776 8:36pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)	17th of Nisan, 5776 Pesach III (CH"TM)	18th of Nisan, 5776 Pesach IV (CH"TM)	19th of Nisan, 5776 Pesach V (CH"TM)	20th of Nisan, 5776 Pesach VI (CH"TM) 7:33pm Candle lighting (Clark)	Pesach VII 21st of Nisan, 5776 7:34pm Candle lighting (Clark)	Pesach VIII 22nd of Nisan, 5776 8:43pm Havdalah (50 min) (Clark)

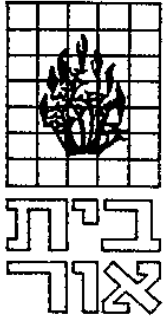
Mar 27 - Apr 2

Apr 3 - 9

Apr 10 - 16

Apr 17 - 23

Apr 24 - 30



TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH
111 VALLEY ROAD, CLARK NJ 07066
732-381-8403
TBETHOR@GMAIL.COM
WWW.BETHORBETHTORAH.ORG

Steven Stern, Spiritual Leader
Wendy Mandelbaum & Howard Silverman, Co-Presidents
Jonathan Phillips, Executive Vice-President

Got a Simcha?

**Birthday? Anniversary?
Graduation? New grandchild?
Host a Kiddush at TBOBT**

**Sponsor a simple Kiddush for \$136
or make a donation of \$18 or more
to the Kiddush Fund.**

**Contact Bonni at the Temple office
732-381-8403 ext. 11
or
tbethor@gmail.com.**



ISRAELI DANCE

Wednesday Nights

\$10.00 per class/ \$45 prepaid for 5
Proceeds go to TBOBT.
Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

Any new dancers should contact:

Elyse via email prior to first class at dancesfrom-theheart@gmail.com