

#### TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH

# BETH REPORTER

NISAN-IYAR 5776

May 2016



The entire TBOBT family is invited to join us on

Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 12:30 to 4:30 pm

as we celebrate over 50 years of Bar/Bat Mitzvah memories!

Enjoy a catered brunch and reminisce with our "graduates".

Cost for brunch is only \$54 per adult, \$36 for ages 12-18, and \$18 for children under 12.

There will be a special commemorative journal with options as follows:

Full page - \$100

Half page - \$50

Quarter page - \$25 Business card - \$18

Listing - \$18

Please support our main fundraising event of the year and RSVP by May 8 to the Temple office.

#### FROM THE CANTOR



So now that we are past the Festival of Freedom, we can look ahead and anticipate the giving of the Law. It is during this seven week period between Passover and Shavuot that we are

instructed to literally count the days. Each evening, following prayers, we announce, "Today is day one," "Today is day two," and so on, until we complete the counting of forty-nine days.

The Kabbalists see this as a journey through the human psyche, and as an opportunity for the improvement of character with respect to seven attributes -- of chesed (lovingkindness), tiferet (compassion), gevurah (discipline), netzach (endurance), hod (humility), yesod (bonding) and malchut (leadership). There is much to be said for undertaking this journey of growth during this time, for one does not transition easily from the slavery of Egypt to the spiritual heights of receiving the Law at Sinai without some inner work and reflection.

Indeed, this is not an easy task, to remember to keep the count going, and then to maintain this intention of undergoing a process of self-refinement. But even then, one might rightly ask, "What about the rest of the year?" Should we not count during the other forty-five weeks as well?

One need only turn to the Psalmist for the answer. "Teach us to number our days, so that we may gain a heart of wisdom." This, from Psalm 90, from the words of Moses, who having ascended the mountain to receive the Law, knew that we are to count not only every day, but surely, to make each day count, in the fullest possible way.

So let us count the days to Shavuot in anticipation of receiving the Torah. And let this be a model for the entire year, for all our days, that they may be lived with the intention of a life lived fully and meaningfully.

Shalom u'vracha, Cantor Steven Stern

#### SHABBAT IN MAY



On Saturday, May 21 Clark Police Chief Pedro Matos will speak at Kiddush on "Security & Safety in these Times."

On Friday, May 27 we will welcome to TBOBT members of the Ebenezer AME Church of Rahway led by Rev. Erika Crawford. This special Kabbalat Shabbat service will begin at 7:00 pm and will be followed by an extended Oneq. Please join us!

#### FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



Shalom,

So, how was your Passover? Again, another phenomenal Community Seder at the Shul. Our wonderful Spiritual

Leader Cantor Steven Stern outdid himself as always. There were 90+ attendees and all enjoyed the festivities. Unfortunately, Audrey and I were not able to attend. As you may or may not know, she has had a rough time getting back to herself. But the phone calls, cards, e-mails and texts from YOU, our Warm Congregational Family, have made life just a little easier. I always say "our Shul is only a building; it's the people who make the Congregation." Thank you.

Keep up with the new programs and classes coming. I'm sure something will tweak your interest. Our Morning Minyan continues to have great difficulty getting ten, even though it is only on Mondays now. We don't want to discontinue it, but there may be no alternative. So, if you can give up one Monday a month, it would be greatly appreciated. We want there to be a Minyan for those who need to say Kaddish on a Yahrzeit for a loved one.

On behalf of the Mandelbaum and Silverman families, we look forward to seeing you in Shul.

Shalom, Wendy and Howard

#### **EDUCATION REPORT**

All the classes have continued with their curriculum enhanced by the addition of the Passover holiday. They have enjoyed all aspects of the holiday presented by their teachers. The Yaldeinu and Olim classes met together for a Chocolate Seder on Sunday, April 17th, the last class in April, and what a wonderful learning experience they had. Not only did they have a Seder together, but each time an item was eaten, it was replaced by a different type of chocolate: Chocolate covered matzo, chocolate milk (4 cups), bittersweet chocolate (maror), crumbled oreos (charoset), etc. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday together with their friends and one they will never forget!!

We also welcomed two new students to our older classes this month, Benjamin and Gabriella

Weintraub.

Genie, Elaine, Thelma and Cantor



**Hebrew School Chocolate Seder** 

## SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that you can breathe a sigh of relief that the stress of Pesach is behind us, Sisterhood has plenty of fun things for you to enjoy! First, on Monday, May 2, is our last regular meeting starting at 7:30pm. This is the popular



Close the Books Ice Cream Meeting. Also, that night the Gift Shop will be open with lots of new items and big sales. Maybe you have a wedding or graduation coming up, so why not come and check it out while there.

Then on June 2nd, Garden State Region of Women's League is having a Chai Tea to honor a woman from each Sisterhood. Our honoree is Judy Hurok, our longtime treasurer and member. Nobody deserves this more than Judy. You can always count on her. If you want to attend this event at Temple Beth Ahm/Israel in Springfield, the cost is \$36. You need to register as soon as possible. In fact, if you come to our final meeting on May 2, we can help you sign up.

Finally, we haven't forgotten Donor. This year with the holidays falling so late, Donor Dinner will be held on Thursday, June 16 at 6pm. You should have received your invitation already. So make your reservation with Sebley or call Bonni in the office. Remember, we lowered the amount to \$36, so more of you can attend.

Happy Mother's Day Ladies!

Joleen Fridson



## Remember to buy ShopRite Gift Cards

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

#### **GOLDEN BOOKS**

To Rayna Warner: Happy Birthday From: Janice & Herb Hymanson

#### **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.

#### **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).

#### 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

On Wednesday April 14, the Special Adults Model Seder was held. The Seder was organized and led by Cantor Stern. Mike Miller encouraged the Special Adults to attend with repeated phone calls. They enjoyed and participated in the Seder with their aides. Thank you to Evelyn Schisler, Roberta Makow, Evie Shulman, Rayna Warner and Mariela for helping serve the food and visiting with the guests.

The Club has mailed the NNJR Raffle tickets. The Club receives 50% from the proceeds of the tickets. Thank you for supporting the Club. Drawing is June 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Shoah Yellow Candles are being delivered. Bob Kolker prepared the materials for distribution. Mike Miller organized the distribution. Thank you to Mike Roth, Dennis Berry, Dick Lavroff, Jay & Esther Schlesinger, Howard Silverman, Alan Coen, Rayna Warner and Lenny & Iris Weiner.

#### **Upcoming Programs**

May 7<sup>th</sup> Special Adults at Saturday morning Shabbat services

May 12<sup>th</sup> Thursday 8:00PM - Men's Club Meeting, with nominations for officers and board members

May 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday 7:30 PM - Game night social, all TBOBT men are welcome

Mike Miller & Michael Goldstein Men's Club Co-Presidents

A special thank you to

Deli-King of Clark

for their generosity in catering
our Special Adults Model Seder.

Todah!

## Tikun Leil Shavuot Cheesecake & Study @ The Bayit



Join Cantor Stern for an evening of delightful desserts and an immersion into Torah texts.

Saturday, June 11 at 8 pm 117 John Street, Clark

## Happenings



Cantor Stern prepares the contract for the sale of chametz...



...and burns the remnants on Erev Pesach.



The table is set for our Community Seder



Our Siyum Bechorim breakfast brought out a nice crowd





And four generations!



Our volunteers serve our Special Adults at the Model Seder

#### **Our K-ton class prepares Seder plates for Passover**













#### **Graduation Shabbat**

Join us on Saturday, June 11, as we honor our members who are currently graduating from high school, college, or grad school.

Any graduates who wish to participate should contact Fern Cammy.

"Who is wise? One who learns from every man... Who is strong? One who overpowers his inclinations... Who is rich? One who is satisfied with his lot... Who is honorable? One who honors his fellows."

- Ben Zoma, Ethics of the Fathers, 4:1



#### **Learn to Speak Hebrew**

A second series of six sessions starts May 4th with guest teacher Tamara Ruben.

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



#### 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 APRIL

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



#### YAHRZEIT FUND

Lenard & Iris Weiner Rachel Weiner

Alice Katz Cantor Solomon Sternberg

Yuli and Anna Vaidman Leah Shkolnik Ida Breitbart Minnie Melnick **Ida Breitbart** Sidney Melnick **Ida Breitbart** Abraham Melnick Stewart Sherman **Aaron Sherman Bertold Dreifus** Bonnie Altman Dennis Turner **Henry Turner** Adele Cohen Barbara Cohen Price

#### GENERAL FUND

Beverly Silverman: In appreciation to Cantor Stern

Thank you to everyone for their warm welcome of Gregory Thomas (Gedaliah)into the TBOBT family!



Love, Lauren, Jon-Henry, Ainsley, Leah and Elizabeth



#### **Children's Books Wanted!**



Rachel Burkhard, who will become a Bat Mitzvah this June, is collecting books to donate to a children's hospital.

You can drop them off in the bin in the temple lobby, or call 732-259-1916.



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

#### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Harriet Rothschild: In memory of:

Leon Vineberg,

Amalchin Zimmerman William Rothschild Meyer Vineberg

Gitta Harel: In appreciation to Cantor Stern

for a beautiful wedding ceremony

Howard and Audrey Silverman: In appreciation to Lenny and Iris Weiner for their kindness

Ed and Mindy Leibowitz: In appreciation for

the Siyum Bechorim

#### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Michael and Suzanne Miller: In memory of Marion Robin Elaine Kolker: In memory of Albert Unger



## What Israel Means to Me

Pastor Kevin Brennan will share the reasons behind his passion for Israel and his loves for speaking about and leading tours of Israel.

Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> 4 PM at Temple Sholom in Scotch Plains.

Open to the public. Free of charge. Light refreshments will be served.

Presented by The Israel Support committee of Central New Jersey

TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH BOARD OF OFFICERS & TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE 2015-2016 Mondays, at 8:00 pm

May 09 Congregation Board June 20 Congregation Board

## Support Our Advertisers





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

<u>Cantor's Discretionary Fund</u> – 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.

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

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

<u>Minyan Breakfast Fund</u> – provides breakfast for the Morning Minyan.

**<u>Ritual Fund</u>** – is used to purchase religious supplies.

<u>Yahrzeit Fund</u> - 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.

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

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

<u>Prayer Books</u> – Please contact the temple office to obtain up-to-date information.

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

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

<u>Yahrzeit Plaques</u> – 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.

<u>Sanctuary Seat & Pew Dedication</u> – 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.

<u>Religious School Fund</u> – supports our Hebrew School & K'Ton program.

<u>Simcha Tree</u> – 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.

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Monday   Tuesday   Wednesday
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Monday  24th of Nisan, 5776  Rosh Chodesh Jiyar, 5776  8th of Jiyar, 5776  15th of Liyar, 5776

#### 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





#### 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 <u>dancesfrom-theheart@gmail.com</u>