

Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah

BETH REPORTER

TEVET-SHEVAT-ADAR 5781

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

Join us as Marty Schneit presents:

Irving Berlin, an American Institution

Jerome Kern concluded that Irving Berlin has no place in American music. He is American music. During Irving Berlin's career he published an estimated 1,500 songs. Marty will discuss how the immigrant boy from Russia became the classic ragtime to riches story. Irving Berlin's first published song earned him 37 cents. Sit down and listen to the story of one of the greatest songwriters of popular songs like "Alexander's Ragtime Band", "God Bless America", "White Christmas", "A Pretty Girl is like a Melody", "Puttin' on The Ritz" and "There is No Business Like Show Business".



Sunday, January 31, 2021
3:30 PM

\$18 per screen

Sponsorship: \$100

Please RSVP to the Temple office by Monday, January 25, 2021

Prior to the event, Zoom information will be sent to you.

Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah ~ 111 Valley Road, Clark, NJ 07066

Phone: 732-381-8403 / Email: tbethor@gmail.com

From the Cantor



the best of times, it was the worst of times...”

Those are words that can be said to apply to probably any period of time. But given what has transpired this past year, and feeling in particular the impact of events of recent days, is it truly possible to characterize this as being in any way the “best of times?” Would we not have to look really hard and stretch quite a bit our sense of reality?

This has been a difficult, challenging, and yes, often a depressing time for all the reasons that need not be reviewed. But even in such times it is worthwhile, even essential, to be mindful of the positive. How grateful should we be to live during a time when a vaccine to counter a worldwide epidemic can be produced with such speed? This does not diminish our grief over our losses, but where would we be without the hope that our present-day scientific prowess brings?

It has been a while since I read Charles Dickens’ *A Tale of Two Cities*. I don’t recall all that much of the plot, but I certainly remember, as many of us do, how the novel begins: “It was

We have in many ways been isolated this past year, but let us also take note of the blessing of being able to communicate and connect with each other with technology that has only very recently become available. Our online Shabbat services and our gatherings each week have indeed been bright spots in an otherwise dark period.

Dickens’ epoch novel continues, “It was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.” How true of our current day!

But I would prefer to conclude with words from another of Dickens’ novels. “Suffering has been stronger than all other teaching... I have been bent and broken, but—I hope—into a better shape.”

We will emerge from all this -- better and stronger!

Cantor Steven Stern

Coming Soon...

Forever Young! Pictures From Our Early Days!

Send us a digital photo from your childhood days.

Along with photos of famous celebrities,
we will have a contest to see if you can guess who is who!

Prize for the winner!

From The Presidents Council

2020 is history! A new year and a new beginning for our congregation. Our number one concern has always been and remains so for the health and safety of our members. The Board of Trustees grappled with the question to reopen or not to reopen.

We needed to be in compliance with the safety protocols of State, Local and CDC requirements, and the temple remains opened virtually. Conducted by our Spiritual leader, Steven Stern; there were over 80 chances between services and programs to connect to the community. We are here for you.

Our temple President, Audrey Silverman, whose term should have ended at the end of June, kindly offered to continue for an additional 6 months ending on 12.31.2020. The entire board did a wonderful job dealing with unique and unprecedented issues never before seen by or dealt with by any organization.

The nominating committee reached far and wide to find a new president or co-president. As a result, The Board of Trustees decided to have a President's Council which consists of 4 talented individuals who collectively will lead this congregation for a trial period of six (6) months. This cohesive group has leadership roles both currently and in their past. The Presidents's Council members are :Fern Cammy, Karen Hivry, Jonathan Phillips and Evie Shulman. In addition to the serving the synagogue as members of this council, they will continue to serve as Vice Presidents within their respective committees.

If you recall Cantor Stern's message during the High Holy days and his reference to Fred Rodgers's mother, (that's right the guy with the cardigan sweater in the neighborhood), that during times of difficulty to look toward the helpers. There are always helpers. We need your help as volunteers to help on committees and as future leaders of our Temple. Even if you only have an hour, there are many ways for you to fulfill a Mitzvah.

May we all find the wisdom to make the right decisions during these challenging times and welcome 2021 with resolve for a brighter future.

Shabbat Shalom.

Respectfully,
Fern Cammy, Karen Hivry,
Jonathan Phillips and Evie Shulman

Education Report

Classes resume after our winter break. Our Hebrew school students are continuing to make progress in their religious education. Our older Olim students have been meeting virtually twice a week, while our Yaldeinu class has had in-person classes. In addition, Cantor Stern has been working individually with each of our Olim students to concentrate on advancing Hebrew reading skills and understanding important concepts.

Mazel tov to the Riveles Hebrew School family for winning our Hanukkah contest!

Yasher koach to Jonathan Eckert who has led a number of prayers during our Shabbat services!

TBOBT Board of Education

Sisterhood Message



Even though these are not “normal times,” Sisterhood is trying to bring some normalcy to our members’ lives by providing fun activities and meetings. So far, we have had an outdoor paid-up membership luncheon in the temple parking lot for 42 ladies; a virtual cooking demo by four of our members presenting a Thanksgiving side dish to 30 women and finally we co-sponsored with the temple, the Chanukah Candle Lighting by providing special goody bags & jelly donuts to the 32 people present.

Well, we still have plenty of activities planned for you to enjoy in the next two months. A variety of events are ready for you! First, on January. 15, Sisterhood will run the Friday night Shabbat service in honor of Women’s League Shabbat. Then on Thursday, January 21st, at 8:00 pm we will have a virtual Comedy Night. Two women comedians will entertain us. We can all use some laughs! Remember, we just celebrated the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote. On Thursday, February 4th at 8:00 pm, we are co-sponsoring with the Cranford Temple’s Sisterhood a very exciting program. The Illinois Holocaust Museum in Chicago currently has a special limited-time exhibit on the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We will be treated to a virtual tour of the entire exhibit by a museum docent. Only 50 women from each Sisterhood can sign up for the tour. More information will follow.

Finally, Purim comes early this year on Feb. 25. Since we will be celebrating virtually, we cannot offer Shalach Mones baskets to purchase. Instead we will be offering only Certificates for purchase at a reduced price of \$5 each. They will be mailed for you from the temple to whomever you select. Remember this is still a mitzvah. You will be getting the order form by regular mail within the next few weeks. Please make your generous purchases so we can help support TBOBT financially. We greatly appreciate your assistance! So stay safe and let’s hope 2021 brings us more comfort and actual time we can spend physically with our loved ones!!

Joleen

Golden Books

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call:

Joan Oberman (908-967-6666) or Evie Shulman (908-276-6894)

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.



Don't forget to buy ShopRite Gift Cards

5% of the amount of ShopRite gift cards purchased is tax deductible.
Contact Judy at 908-654-4448 .

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, contact Esther Schlesinger at 732-548-7132.

Golden Books

To Theo Moreines:

In memory of his father Eli Moreines

From: Adeline Gesten

Sebley Hausler and family

In memory of Jan Small

From: Adeline Gesten

In memory of Freddy Koblentz

From: Adeline Gesten

In memory of Rosalyn Shifrin

From: Adeline Gesten

Joleen and Bob Fridson

To Barbara & Mitch James:

Mazel Tov on Halli's marriage

From: Adeline Gesten



A Message from the Men's Club

FUTURE activities:

As soon as the meeting ban is lifted Men's Club will be meeting to plan for the future. Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic continues to limit our activities. We have had a couple of Game Night gatherings courtesy of the Cranford VFW. We greatly appreciate their hospitality. Our initial membership mailing yielded 34 men signing up. This keeps us on par with last year's membership. Thank you for continuing to be part of our Club and keeping it viable. The final tally on last year's Yom Hashoah fund raiser showed about the same level of contributions were made to the Men's Club. Thank you to all who contributed to make this a success.

In December, The Northern NJ Region FJMC held the annual Man of the Year/Youth of the Year ceremonies via Zoom. In addition, on December 12-13, there was a virtual meeting regarding the Quad Region retreat and how this might be run in the late spring. I will keep you informed.

Upcoming for us are World Wide Wrap on Sunday, February 7, 2021 before and during morning minyan. As we will still be Zooming services, I am hoping to start at 10:00 am with a training class and history lesson on putting on Tefillin. There will be more information following by e-mail, text messages and phone chain. Please join us for this marvelous program. If you need to purchase Tefillin, let me know as the FJMC has 3 sizes and prices to choose from.

As we have not had our usual Sunday programs, perhaps we could have a parking lot meeting with a meal and a program. Please call my cell (908-265-4570) to text me a suggestion or e-mail me at bsgnjtax@aol.com and leave a message. I hope to hear from you.

Not far away is Yom Hashoah and in that vein, we have placed our Yellow Candle order. Continue good health and vitality and we will see you all soon. Hopefully the vaccines that are being distributed will bring us back to normal socializing very soon.

Shalom,
Michael Goldstein, President

Morning Minyan Services

**Sundays at 10:30 AM:
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah**

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



**Wishing our TBOBT Family
a happy and healthy 2021**



Tu B'Shevat Celebration

Friday, January 29

Service at 6:30 pm

Seder at 7:00 pm

Purim Celebration

Thursday, February 25

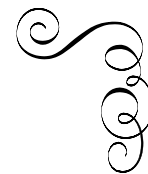
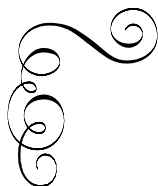
Costumes,
Megillah Reading
& More!



Coming Soon...

Nefesh Mountain

Details to follow.



The TBOBT Family expresses condolences to:

The Bobbins Family on the loss of Rhoda and Morton Klibonoff

The Moreines Family on the loss of Eli Moreines

The Price Family on the loss of Barbara Cohen Price

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations made to TBOBT:

(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

Donated By

Sharon Katz

Paula Hymanson

Janice Hymanson

Blanche Singer

Meryl Rubin

Muriel Tannenbaum

Muriel Tannenbaum

Marlene Plymack

Mindy Leibowitz

Lynn Vogel

Iris Weiner

Lillian Makow

Lillian Makow

Jane Halper

Mindy Leibowitz & Laurie Rubin

Karen Bess

Bill Bess

Sylvia Wolkin

Ed Leibowitz

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Betty Needleman

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Jane Halper

Allan Warner

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Florence Bernstein

Sheryl Traum

Mark Traum

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Leonora Goldfarb

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Joyce Goldberg

Stephen Kornstein

In Memory Of:

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Paul Hymanson

Samuel Rothstein

Murray Singer

Hannah Monheit

Rose Tannenbaum

Irving Tannenbaum

Jerome Berlin

Judy Rubin

Seymour Vogel

Miriam Serchuk

Irving Tannenbaum

Rose Tannenbaum

Albert Kaufmann

Sylvia Appel

Rae Rosenbloom

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Rhoda Leibowitz

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Julius Schisler

Nathan Unger

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Samuel Strobing

Hannah Amster

Raymond Porter

Morton Traum

Rose Richman

Jacob Rector

Naomi Axelrad

Joseph Axelrad

Frances Warner

Beverly Kornstein

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Joan & Leon Oberman: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

Betty & Mark Needleman: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

Howard & Joan Young: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

Rosann Daluesio: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

Judy & Steve Hurok: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

The Sisterhood of TBOBT: In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

The Mah Jongg Ladies (Jane Halper, Doris Kalish, Evelyn Schisler & Claire Warech): In memory of Barbara Cohen Price

Herb & Janice Hymanson: In memory of Sol Karpman and Barbara Cohen Price

General Fund

Frances-Jean Burns

Melvin Feller

Gitta Harel: In honor of Gregg Philipson's program

Janice Handler: In appreciation of Cantor Stern

Gregg Philipson

Religious School Fund

Elaine Kolker: In memory of Bob Kolker

Lillian Makow: In memory of Renee Wittlin

Alice Katz: In memory of Naomi Silbert

Bikur Cholim and Chesed Fund

Ruth Dengrove & Ann Wanetik: In memory of Naomi Silbert



**Our weekly
Congregational Email
contains a great deal of
valuable information.**

**If you are not currently receiving it,
please call the temple office at
732-381-8403 or email us at
tbethor@gmail.com.**

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.

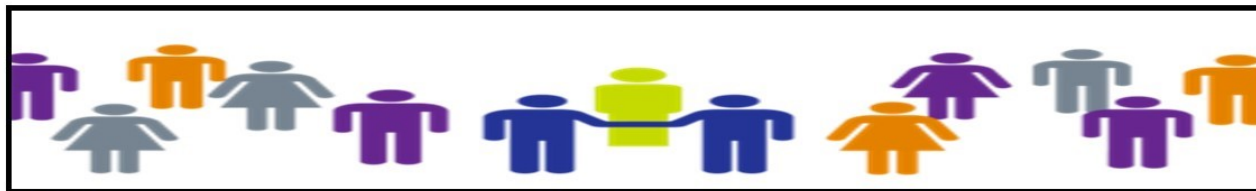
Simcha Tree – Honor your family by dedicating a Leaf (\$180), Rock, or Trunk Letter, on our "Simcha" Tree of Life, for any and all occasions – Births, Weddings, Special Anniversaries or Birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, or other special honors or events. Call Temple Office for more info.

Happenings



at TBOBT





Welcome to Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah Legacy Circle!

It is with great pleasure and much gratitude that we announce the following members of our Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah family are the founding partners in Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah's Legacy Circle. Yasher Koach to:

****Anonymous**

****DR. ARTHUR & DR. DI MILLMAN**

****RUTH & BERNARD BURKHOFF**

****Joan & Leon Oberman**

****ARLENE FINEMAN**

****JANIE PHILLIPS**

****DR. SANFORD FINEMAN**

****JONATHAN PHILLIPS**

****JUDY HUOK**

****MICHAEL SHULMAN**

****STEVE HUOK**

****AUDREY SILVERMAN**

****JANICE HYMANSON**

****HOWARD SILVERMAN**

****HERBERT HYMANSON**

****CANTOR STEVEN STERN**

****KAREN LANGER**

****MURIEL TANNENBAUM**

****DR. IAN LANGER**

****DR. EUGENE & CAROL TENDLER**

****LILLIAN MAKOW**

A legacy gift to our beloved shul helps to ensure that the values, culture and heritage of our 4000 year old Jewish tradition will continue for generations.

Please consider leaving a legacy gift to TBOBT. Call Bonni @ 732-381-8403.

YOU CAN HELP ENSURE OUR TEMPLE'S LEGACY.



OUR **FUTURE** DEPENDS ON WHAT WE DO IN
THE **PRESENT.**

Mahatma Gandhi



Create a Jewish Legacy



*"As my ancestors planted for me
before I was born...
So do I plant for those who
come after me."*

To sustain our beloved
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah
Please join our Legacy Circle

אם אין קמח אין תורה, אם אין תורה אין קמח

*If there is no sustenance, there is no Torah;
if there is no Torah, there is no sustenance.*

Rabbi Elazar ben Azaryah Ethics of the Fathers 3:21



111 Valley Road,
Clark, New Jersey 07066
732-381-8403
fax: 732-381-1389
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www.bethorbethtorah.org



If you are celebrating a special simcha, please let the office know the details so we can include it in the Beth RepORter.

Support the Temple While You Shop!



Sign in on AmazonSmile.com and select "Clark Jewish Center" and Amazon will give 0.5% of your purchases to TBOBT.



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



Change of
Address

If you change your address or phone number, please be sure to let the office know!



TBOBT Virtual Book Club

We would like to bring back our book club!

If you are interested in joining, and have ideas, please call Audrey Silverman at 732-221-6942.

Learn how to lead a Friday or Saturday Shabbat service.

If you've ever wanted to lead Kabbalat Shabbat, give a Dvar Torah, chant Torah or Haftarah, have an Aliyah, or participate in any way, contact Cantor Stern and we will arrange lessons or a class.

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732-381-8403, ext. 101



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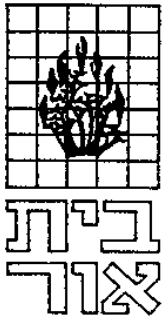


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Registration not required
and there is no fee.

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more information.



Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

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tbethor@gmail.com

www.bethorbethtorah.org

Steven Stern, Spiritual Leader

Fern Cammy, Karen Hivry

Jonathan Phillips, Evelyn Shulman, Presidents Council

Michael Shulman, Executive Vice-President

Got a Simcha?

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

**Sponsor a simple Kiddush for \$154
or make a donation of \$18 or more
to the Kiddush Fund.**

**Contact Bonni at the Temple office
732-381-8403 ext. 101
or
tbethor@gmail.com.**



ISRAELI DANCE

Wednesday Nights

\$10.00 per class/ \$45 prepaid for 5
A portion of the proceeds go to TBOBT
Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

Any new dancers should contact:

Elyse via email prior to first class at [dances-
fromtheheart@gmail.com](mailto:dances-fromtheheart@gmail.com)