

# Commentator



TEMPLE BETH AM

*Embracing Jewish Life*

Shevat – Adar I 5782

February 2022



## 2022 MITZVAH DAY

Sunday, February 27

[www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday)



See pages 22-25  
for details



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## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022

4 Adar I  
6:30 pm. Shabbat Services

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2022

9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
10:30 a.m. Morning Minyan  
10:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah of  
Ava and Jake Mendlestein  
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Emily Aboulhosn

Parashat Terumah  
Exodus 25:1 – 27:19  
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26 – 6:13

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

11 Adar I  
6:30 pm. Shabbat Services

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022

9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
10:30 a.m. Morning Minyan  
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Sofia Cohn

Parashat Tetzaveh  
Exodus 27:20 – 30:10  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 43:10 – 27

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2022

18 Adar I  
6:30 pm. Shabbat Services

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2022

9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
10:30 a.m. Morning Minyan  
10:30 a.m. B'not Mitzvah of  
Melanie and Reagan Stone

Parashat Ki Tisa  
Exodus 30:11 – 34:35  
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:22 – 36

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2022

25 Adar I  
6:30 pm. Shabbat Services

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

9:00 a.m. Torah Study  
10:30 a.m. Morning Minyan  
10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Olivia Pickens  
5:30 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Syvie Kandell

Parashat Vayakheil  
Exodus 35:1 – 38:20  
Haftarah: II Kings 12:5 – 16

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As we seek to protect our community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to monitor the infection rates as well as the most up to date guidance from the CDC. While we hope to be able to gather together in the near future, please note that all events listed in *Commentator* are subject to change. For the most up to date information on the status of all programming, including in-person and virtual events, please visit **[www.tbam.org](http://www.tbam.org)**.

We invite you to reach out to our clergy and staff with any questions or concerns you might have as we navigate our current situation. Please know that we are here for you, thinking about you, and looking forward to a return to the vibrant campus we have always been, and will be again. In the meantime, be well, take care of one another, and have faith that we will get through this together as a Kehilah Kedoshah, a sacred community.



## FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

**Rabbi Jeremy Barras**

[jbarras@tbam.org](mailto:jbarras@tbam.org)

### The Future of Jewish Leadership

On the third floor of the main academic building of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, there are framed pictures of every ordination class going back decades and decades. Walking down the hall, one can observe the evolution of the student body throughout the years. The classes were very small a hundred years ago. The first ordination class in 1883 had four graduating students. The peak classes came during the Vietnam War when applicants to the College increased. Walking by the photos from those years, it is quite evident that the class size increased significantly during the war. Over the last 100 years, other trends in society affected class size and how many young Jewish college graduates were interested in pursuing a career in either the rabbinate or the cantorate.

This past December I had the opportunity to spend a few days in New York at a meeting of the CCAR board. One of the most interesting sessions occurred when we were joined by Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the URJ, and Dr. Andrew Rehfeld, president of the Hebrew Union College. While they did share some of the interesting and exciting things going on in their respective organizations, they did lament with us that interest these days in the rabbinate and cantorate has dropped off noticeably. They reported that in the past, the reform summer camp system and the NFTY youth movement served as a formidable pipeline of candidates for HUC's class roster. However, today, as students are tempted by so many other summer opportunities, and organized religion's stature in the United States has been devalued by our younger generations, it has become harder and harder to attract qualified candidates to consider life as a rabbi or cantor. The results of this trend, if it continues, will have dramatic effects on Jewish life in our country. Too often we are encountering situations where there are more job openings for rabbis and cantors than there

are candidates seeking employment. Many congregations are seeing job positions unfilled, leaving either Temple clergy teams understaffed and overstressed, or even worse, leaving a synagogue without rabbinic or cantorial leadership at all.

The Pew Study detailed in many ways why organized religion does not speak to our young people as it used to in the past. We are aware that many are finding alternate paths to spirituality, such as yoga and meditation. I found President Rehfeld's report troubling, but I also heard from him a call to action and an opportunity to reengage and inspire our youth and young adults. I contend, as I always have, that what we have to offer is the world's greatest product. There is nothing more inspiring than Torah when it is harnessed correctly and marketed appropriately. At Temple Beth Am, we continuously strive to make the majesty and grandeur of our tradition relevant in the lives of our youth, and we will continue to do so. We cannot accept the cop out that "organized religion is not for me." Rather, we must respond by demonstrating how a reform Jewish life offers purpose, perspective, balance and inspiration. Unlike national trends, our youth engagement numbers are on the rise. We must continue this trend, and at the same time deepen the experiences we offer for every generation. If you would like to be part of that conversation, please let me know. Temple Beth Am is committed to creating and nurturing Jewish leaders of the future, and perhaps a few rabbis and cantors will emerge from our ranks.

*L'Shalom,*

**Rabbi Jeremy Barras**

***Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Barras***  
***Tuesday, February 1***  
***12:00 p.m. - Zoom***

***What is Religious Zionism?***

For information and to  
 RSVP: [www.tbam.org/lunchandlearn](http://www.tbam.org/lunchandlearn)



## CLERGY CORNER

**Rabbi Jaime Aklepi**

[jaklepi@tbam.org](mailto:jaklepi@tbam.org)

There are no Jewish holidays in the month of February this year 5782/2022. When I look at my Hebrew calendar app, the only day that is in red – noting a holiday – is Shabbat, every week. Tu B'Shvat was in January, Purim is in March and Pesach in April. This year we have two months of Adar: Adar I, and Adar II. It reminds us how fluid time can be. Due to the pandemic, 2020 and 2021 seem like they were postponed or suspended. Today, we may not mark time the same way we used to, anticipating large and joyous celebrations or events and looking ahead, months at a time. Instead, we focus on the day-to-day moments that make a difference in our lives from one week to the next. Like the old bumper sticker I'd see in New York and Jerusalem said: Hang on, Shabbat is coming. Shabbat organizes our time in a digestible seven days. It is our way to frame our work, our progress, the choices we make in our lives.

The famous Israeli poet, Yehuda Amichai answers Kohelet's (Ecclesiastes) claim that "There is a time for everything, a time for every experience under heaven," (Kohelet 3:1) with his poem, *A Man In His Life*. While Kohelet offers comfort during a time of mourning, and perspective at a time of reflection, Amichai urges the reader not to rely on time.

- *A man doesn't have time in his life to have time for everything.*
- *He doesn't have seasons enough to have a season for every purpose.*
- *Ecclesiastes was wrong about that.*
- *A man needs to love and to hate at the same moment,*
- *To laugh and cry with the same eyes,*
- *With the same hands to throw stones and to gather them,*
- *To make love in war and war in love.*
- *And to hate and forgive and remember and forget...*

Amichai is making us aware of our limited time, and within that time there is a full spectrum of life and possibilities. If Kohelet is saying there is a season for everything, Amichai says that season is now. One doesn't have the luxury to fight now and love later, to cry now and laugh later. As it says in Avot 2:4, *Ethics of the Sages*, "Don't say: When I shall have leisure time I shall study, you may never have leisure." This teaching reinforces that what is important to us should not be put aside for a later time. The aspects of life that bring us meaning, joy, love, and satisfaction should be a part of our daily lives. We must understand the 'luxury of time' as our conscientious choices. Our luxury is that we can decide how to spend our time. What we've learned during the nearly two years of pandemic, is that within time's uncertainty, we still have the power of choice.

Our community has made the most empowering choices. We continue to build our campus for the future, and in the present, we continue to create, gather for worship, learning, and celebrating (all safely). When we need to pivot, we pivot. When we need to re-create what we have done in the past, we re-create. Most importantly, we are committed to our members and our families, to be here for you, to encourage you, and to share with you the meaningful, and even divine moments, we can experience now.

**Rabbi Jaime Aklepi**

## NEW MEMBERS

**Yariv Mashav & Asuka Haraguchi Mashav,**

**Yitzhak, Musashi, and Natan**

**\*Yisrael Goldman**

**Alfred & Susan Goldberg**

**Jeffrey & Melissa Luse, Logan and Eric**

**Samara Vilca**

**Leigh Pollack**

**John & Jane Fisher**

**Alexander Chernyak & Alexandra Price Chernyak  
and Ryan**

**\*Returning member**



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

David Young  
dyoung@tbam.org

On December 3, we broke ground on the next phase of our new campus. You see how magnificent our new school building is. Wait until you see what's next! Our cultural and performing arts center (named "The Hub") will have a lasting effect on our Temple and it is crucial to growing our Jewish presence in South Dade.

We need to make sure that Judaism continues to thrive.

A recent Pew research study shows that people who were raised Jewish stay Jewish. This study found the "retention rate" is higher among people who say they were brought up in the Jewish religion than it is among those who were raised as atheist, agnostic or with no particular religion. Nine-out-of-ten of these "Jews by religion" are still Jewish today, compared with 76% of those who were raised as "Jews of no religion."

The HUB is yet another way Beth Am will ensure Jews stay connected with our community. According to the study, 71% of American Jews cook or eat traditional Jewish foods; 57% of American Jews visit synagogues when we travel; 52% of us share our culture with non-Jewish friends and family. However, only 39% attend Shabbat services, 37% listen to Jewish or Israeli music and 26% attend the Jewish Film Festival.

Last month I visited the 92nd Street Y and the Streicker Center in New York and the Skirball Center in Los Angeles. These are all premier Jewish cultural institutions, and each has strengths we hope to model in our new center. I met with program directors, talent bookers, facility managers, and financial planners – and toured each facility. I saw the impressive programs each place has to offer, took a lot of notes, and made important contacts for our future programming.

What made those places so good? At the 92nd Street Y, I saw a ceramics class, a dance class, and a mahjong game going on simultaneously. Later that afternoon, they had a class for new parents, and, at night, they had Hilary Clinton speak about her new book.

At the Streicker Center, they had a performance art piece and lecture by Manuel Lin Miranda about *Hamilton*, and the next day, they hosted a debate for all the candidates running for New York City Mayor.

The Skirball Center was setting up for three over-the-top weddings, and they had an exhibit about Star Trek and told the Jewish connection to Leonard Nimoy's "live long and prosper"

salute. I also toured their superb children's museum with its interactive Noah's Ark.

The creativity and implementation of these programs in New York and L.A. are great, but I think The HUB can be even more magnificent.

The HUB will be a place for fun, a place for connection, a place for celebration, a place for learning, and a place for deep meaning. We want you to make coming to campus part of your routine. The more events we participate in on campus, the more our children will be connected. So, think what The Hub will mean for our future!

This is a community project, so we want your input. What kind of programming would you like to see? Would you come to a cooking class? A lecture about history or current events? A briefing on Israeli politics? The Jewish Film Festival? A music or dance performance, secular or religious? Would you come just to hear Rabbi Barras sing? Well, maybe not that...but we can present so many types of events. Just tell us what you want.

Not all programs need be Jewish, but all will cement the bond to our community.

This is a defining moment for Temple Beth Am. Come be a part of The Hub.

*L'Shalom,*

**David**

## MAZEL TOV TO...

**Alex and Amanda Redlus** on the birth of their son, **Eli Dade Redlus** and to grandparents **Carole and Burt Redlus**



# YERS: L I V E

## Family Havdalah Under the Stars

CAMP COLEMAN STYLE

★ **NEW DATE** ★

**Saturday, May 14, 2022**

**YERS Havdalah Family Services 6:30pm**

**Immediately Followed by Bonfire & Activities**

Come join us in a fun-filled camping experience for **ALL ages!** Enjoy campfire songs, camp style games, activities, dinner and drinks.

In support of the **YERS** mission and programming, don't forget to purchase **RAFFLE** tickets for terrific prizes!

**A Variety of Sponsorship Opportunities Available**  
(details online)



**RSVP at [www.tbam.org/yersshabbat](http://www.tbam.org/yersshabbat)**

Adults (19 & up) – \$36 | Youths (18 & under) – \$18 | Kids (5 & under) – \$5





**Rita Diaz**  
Membership Director  
rdiaz@tbam.org

# MEMBERSHIP

*L'Chaim!*



## Temple Beth Am's Pioneer Member Shabbat

Join us for an evening of  
celebration as we honor our  
Pioneer Members, 37-67  
years and counting!

**New Date**  
**Friday evening,**  
**March 25, 2022**  
**6:00 p.m.**

It is with great pleasure that  
we welcome each of our Pioneer  
members and their families.

Celebrate together a special shabbat  
service where a blessing will  
be offered in their honor.

Immediately following service, there will be a  
dessert oneg on the Terrace.

Reconnect with old friends and take  
this opportunity to chat with your  
Clergy and Temple community.

**6:00 p.m. – Pre-neg on Terrace**  
**Chat with your friends and community**  
**6:30\* p.m. – Shabbat Service**  
**7:45 p.m. – Dessert Oneg on Terrace**

**Catering by Michael Meltzer**

RSVP is a must! [www.tbam.org/pioneers](http://www.tbam.org/pioneers)  
If you have any questions, please call  
Rita Diaz at 786.364.9434  
or email [rdiaz@tbam.org](mailto:rdiaz@tbam.org)

\*Pioneers, please check in by 6:15 p.m.



# How 'Bout Shabbat



*Temple Beth Am presents,*

***HOW 'BOUT SHABBAT – 101 Dalmatians***

***Friday, March 11***

***6:00 p.m.***

***Elementary School Playground outside of RAMBAM***

Join us for a special musical Shabbat Service  
featuring **Rabbi Rachel Greengrass**  
and Cantorial Soloist **Jackie Berney**.

Join us for a magical evening for children of all ages, with  
storytelling, catered boxed dinner for the children and wine bar for the par-  
ents and grandparents, Disney arts and crafts  
featuring the Dalmatian pups and Cruella de Vil.

\$15 per child – 1-year-old and up includes boxed dinner.

**RSVP a must, [www.tbam.org/dalmatians](http://www.tbam.org/dalmatians)**

Questions? Call Rita at  
786.364.9434 or  
email [rdiaz@tbam.org](mailto:rdiaz@tbam.org)





## Tamara Donnenfeld

Director of Lifelong Learning  
tdonnenfeld@tbam.org

## Why volunteer on the YERS Board?

We asked our lay leaders why they volunteer their time, energy, and expertise for Youth Engagement. Here are some of their answers.

### Tamara

#### Jeff Agron

Why would I want to be so involved in YERS when my kids are all in their 20s and out of the house? As a Jewish educator, I firmly believe that an engaging, serious, and creative Jewish education is not only crucial for the continuity of our people, but in turning out well-educated young adults. Learning Torah and of the great Jewish texts should be as important to us as learning about the great philosophers of Western Civilization that are studied in college. The only way to imbue our young people with that ideal is to start them with the Jewish experience that we offer through YERS. I have known and admired Tamara for many years, and when I first came to Beth Am six years ago, I knew that I could get involved and make a difference through YERS. Little did I know at that point that I would one day become the YERS Chair, but it is such a dedicated and loving group of people who are singularly focused on our children's Jewish development. It is inspiring and truly a joy to be working with Tamara, Sumiko and our Board. It is my passion.

My name is **Renee Rimland**, and I am a single parent who has participated on the YERS Board since my daughter and I joined TBAM. I felt it was important to join in her Jewish journey and to provide an example of volunteerism and service to an important community. It also helped me to find a group of like-minded friends that shared similar interests. I became involved during her early years of elementary school and have continued even as she is about to graduate middle school this year. It has been very fulfilling to watch YERS change and grow, and I look forward to all the new experiences and events yet to come for both of us.

*These are their words. This small army of parents, grandparents, alumni, and community leaders are our unsung heroes and sheroes. Their involvement has an incredible impact on the lives of our students and their families. They are role models to their own families and the community at large and, as our YERS ambassadors, they empower, and support families to enable them to effectively reinforce Jewish learning and living. Thank you, YERS Board!*

#### Pam Misrahi

I love YERS and stay involved because it has become a home away from home for our and many other families. The programs that have been so thoughtfully prepared give our youth the opportunities to thrive spiritually and become productive members of the community. It is a fabulous way to meet new families and grow together. I know how important it is to volunteer as our children realize that we, their parents, are also connected. I never forget that the youth of our temple are our future. It is so important to nurture that.

#### Danielle Stock

I grew up with a strong cultural connection to Judaism and Israel by participating in BBYO and attending youth leadership programs as a teenager in Maryland (with Rabbi Kempler!) When studying at the University of Miami, I had my first job as a Religious School teacher at Temple Beth Am. I also met my husband and now have two boys: Ryan, who is 9, and Jordan who is 5 years old who attend the Religious School. I have been an educator and a Religious School teacher now for over 10 years. I joined the YERS Board in order to share my voice as both an educator and parent. I love supporting all aspects of YERS, and I have found friendship and a higher purpose.

#### Susan Racher

I am a long-time temple member. My two children, Maggie Snyder, and Matthew Racher, have both attended Beth Am Religious School, BAFTY, Confirmation and Hebrew High School. This is my "second rodeo." I joined the YERS Board last spring and am the WhatsApp administrator for the first-grade class where my granddaughter Breelyn is a student. I had served on the Board of the Religious School (predecessor to YERS) when Maggie and Matthew were students, and strongly believe in the mission of YERS. I feel that the education, enrichment, leadership skills, life-long friendships, and community service that YERS fosters, inspired my children's growth, loving values and connection to Judaism. Maggie and Matt were involved in Religious School through high school, in BAFTY, and were madrichim. Maggie applied her Religious School education to a wonderful part-time job as a Sunday School teacher in a temple near her university in Atlanta. As a grandparent, I love serving on the YERS Board and enjoy collaborating with the "next generation" of Beth Am parents.

#### Dianne Schmidt

After attending Religious School, becoming a confirmand, and later marrying my wonderful husband, Ed, in the "old" TBAM sanctuary, I was excited that our 3 children, Nicole, Jason, and Jordan, could experience the wonderful youth engagement program our temple offers. From attending Religious School to B'nai Mitzvah preparation to Monday Night Chai, where they continued their Jewish education and nurtured friendships over dinner and BAFTY events, YERS has been a fun, impactful, and valuable part of their growth to become Jewish adults. When our youngest son graduated from the Day School, I recognized that there was a gap between students graduating from TBAM Day School in 5th grade and then enrolling in Religious School in 6th grade, so I was thrilled to join the YERS Board to serve on a committee to help strengthen this bridge between the Day School and Religious School. I am so proud of the partnership that has developed between the schools over the past 8 years thanks to the wonderful YERS Board, Tamara Donnenfeld, Jacki Altman, and Sumiko Zayon, the Day School administration, our amazing clergy team, and our fabulous TBAM families. Although our youngest child is now in college, I am excited to still contribute to the Board by participating in the College Connection program, which keeps our college students connected to the temple and Judaism during this next chapter in their lives.





**Sumiko Zayon**  
Youth Engagement Director  
szayon@tbam.org

## The Importance of Questions

Asking questions is a sure sign of wisdom. What if our children grow up accepting everything they hear without questioning? Judaism is not a religion of dogma, and frequently, the opposite is the case. Help your children to be better thinkers as you teach them to be better questioners. How can you teach your children to ask insightful questions? Follow these simple steps:

1. Pick a topic - something you want your children to learn, or something they are interested in. Starting with a topic they are passionate about is a great way to start.

2. Give your children the opportunity to explore the topic. Brainstorm, give access to age-appropriate materials and/or expose them to related social situations. For instance, if you are talking about the Torah, bring them to a Shabbat service.

3. Encourage your children to come up with their own questions. The best way to prompt your child to start asking questions, is to ask them questions yourself. They will eventually turn their answer into a question for you. Value your children's questions, and don't be afraid to admit that you don't have all the answers.

4. Make a plan to move forward together. Perhaps further investigation is required, maybe there are people to interview, or places to visit that can teach you both more about the topic. Let the questions take the lead and help your children to find the answers.

Our tradition tells us that we can be powerful role models. It is our responsibility to teach our children to ask questions. That is how they grow and keep learning throughout their lives.

**Sumiko**



*This past month, I brought BAFTY to the 5th grade classes of Religious School! Students participated in critical thinking challenges to sharpen their skills in problem solving, collaboration, design thinking, and perseverance. I loved seeing them so engaged, learning material with a hands-on approach.*







**Andrea LeVine Kay**  
Program Director  
akay@tbam.org

# PROGRAMMING



## Reading with the Rabbi

with Rabbi Greegrass

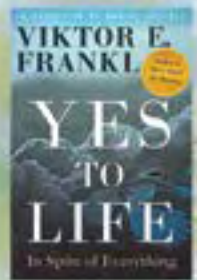
***Yes to Life: In Spite of Everything*** by Viktor E. Frankl  
Tuesdays, February 8, 15, and 22 at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join Rabbi Rachel Greengrass on Tuesdays at noon for Reading with the Rabbi's latest book:

*Yes to Life: In Spite of Everything* by Viktor E. Frankl.

This is the text of a series of three lectures given in 1946 by Viktor Frankl, the Auschwitz survivor famous for his book *Man's Search for Meaning* about his philosophy of finding a sense of purpose and meaning even in the direst of circumstances a human being can live through. These lectures further elaborate on his philosophy, raw and fresh barely a year after his liberation from the camps. Frankl learned from the strength of his fellow inmates that it is always possible to "say yes to life"—a profound and timeless lesson for us all. Find hope, even in dark times, with this rediscovered masterpiece.

RSVP: [www.tbam.org/readingrabbi](http://www.tbam.org/readingrabbi)



## RECOVERY Through a Jewish Lens

We are meeting in-person and via Zoom.

**Our Next Meeting:**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 7:00 p.m.**  
**in Meeting Room 1 and on Zoom**  
**Please RSVP.**

Confidentiality is observed.

Questions? Contact Rabbi Aklepi [jaklepi@tbam.org](mailto:jaklepi@tbam.org)

Addiction is a disease and it's in the Jewish community. We are here to support recovery from addiction. We are working to eliminate the shame often felt by those struggling with addiction and their families. Through our education and addiction awareness programs we strive to end the stigma, so all Jews can feel they belong.

Recovery is strengthened through our support group and the exploration of Jewish traditions, wisdom, and texts. Our Addiction Support Group for the Jewish Community welcomes everyone who struggles with addiction and their loved ones.

Help is available to you; see the following resources:

**Miami Recovery Project**, [www.miamirecoveryproject.org](http://www.miamirecoveryproject.org)  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**, Miami-Dade, [www.aamiamidade.org](http://www.aamiamidade.org)  
**Narcotics Anonymous**, [www.namiami.org](http://www.namiami.org)  
**Al-Anon (and Alateen)**, Miami-Dade, [www.alanonsofla.org](http://www.alanonsofla.org)  
**Families Anonymous**, [www.familiesanonymous.org](http://www.familiesanonymous.org)  
**JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Person and Significant Others)** 212-632-4600  
**SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)** National Helpline, 24 hrs.  
1-800-662-HELP (4357)



# TOT SHABBAT

WITH CANTOR COYOT!

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 9:00 AM**

– OUTDOOR TERRACE –

Share the joy of Shabbat with your little ones as we relaunch our Tot Shabbat program with Cantor Tifani Coyot! Join us for Shabbat songs, crafts, and fun, and connect with other families as we welcome Shabbat together.

*This program is geared toward children ages 4 and under, but big brothers and sisters are welcome!*

RSVP at [www.tbam.org/totshabbat](http://www.tbam.org/totshabbat).

SAVE-THE-DATE FOR OUR NEXT TOT SHABBATS!

**Saturday, March 12: Purim Edition & Saturday, May 13: Let's Celebrate Israel**

*As we continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic, we ask that you visit [tbam.org](http://tbam.org) for the most up to date information on the status of all programming.*

## Mussar Practice: Become a Better You

Facilitated by Jeff Agron

**Thursdays, starting February 3**

**7:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Would you like to learn more about yourself, to grow, feel closer to God,  
closer to your highest potential?

**Judaism's answer – daily Mussar practice.**

Mussar provides guidance to identify one's uniquely personal path  
to character development. Practices include text study, meditation,  
weekly exercises, group process and daily journaling.



Course fee: \$36 for 10 sessions

Register online at  
[www.tbam.org/mussar](http://www.tbam.org/mussar)





# SUNDAY SALON

10:30 AM via Zoom and [tbam.org/streaming](https://tbam.org/streaming)

**FEBRUARY 6, 2022**

**Allan J. Hall – *Hiding In Plain Sight: A Memoir Of Surviving The Holocaust***



Allan Hall was born in Cracow, Poland in 1935. He led a charmed life until September 1939, when Nazis marched into Poland. Seeking safety, the family walked over 200 miles to Lvov, where Allan was the first child picked up in the children's pogrom in the Lvov Ghetto. With false identity papers, the family fled to Warsaw, where Allan and his mother were arrested and taken to the train station to be sent to Treblinka. When the trains briefly stopped running, Allan was marched to an orphanage in the Warsaw Ghetto. Allan's father, passing as Aryan, rented an office in a high-rise building which housed German Air Force headquarters, where they hid for two years. When the war ended, Allan's father was arrested, and his mother sent Allan with his baby brother to make his way to Palestine. Hunted by the Soviets for months, eleven year-old Allan bravely made his way across Europe.

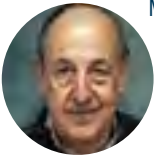
Join us to hear Allan's incredible story.



*This event is in observance of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day.*

**FEBRUARY 13, 2022**

**Dr. Abraham Benyunes – *Happy 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Louis Lewandowski!***



Many melodies that we sing at services, that are regarded as "traditional", were written by Louis Lewandowski. Along with Solomon Sulzer, and Samuel Naumbourg, they set the stage for the Ashkenazi musical liturgy that we know today, and that transcends all denominations. The story of a poor 12-year-old Polish boy from a Chasidic family who became a protégé of a member of the Mendelsohn family in Berlin is fascinating. His music solely dominated the synagogues in Germany, Austria, France, and even in Eastern Europe, and still does in the United States. Join us to hear this captivating story and to hear some of Lewandowski's compositions.



RSVP online at

[www.tbam.org/calendar](https://www.tbam.org/calendar)

Adult Reading Room Library

events are coordinated by

Etta Gold MLS RJE, Congregational Librarian.

Contact Etta at [egold@tbam.org](mailto:egold@tbam.org)

COME GROW WITH OUR GARDEN!

## Friends of the TEMPLE BETH AM GARDEN SANCTUARY

**THE TBAM GARDEN SANCTUARY GROWS TOGETHER**

**Sundays from 9-11 AM**

*Everyone is welcome! We need you!*

**FEBRUARY 27, 2022 – MITZVAH DAY!**

**MARCH 13, 2022**

**APRIL 24, 2022**

**Interested in hosting an event in the Garden Sanctuary?**

Let's see how we can work together to make it happen!

Please RSVP for these upcoming dates or send your inquiries

to [garden@tbam.org](mailto:garden@tbam.org).

Join our Facebook group @[FriendsOfTheTBAMGardenSanctuary!](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheTBAMGardenSanctuary/)







# DAY SCHOOL

**Nora Anderson, M.S., M.Ed.**  
**Head of School**  
[nanderson@tbam.org](mailto:nanderson@tbam.org)

Dear Friends,

As we enter the month of February, a month with anomalies such as the calendar's shortest month and the occasional leap year, our students will begin studying Presidents' Day. Rambam students will join the rest of our country in celebrating the two foundational presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Surprisingly, Presidents' Day is worthy of Jewish reflection, as we can see how Jewish values and American values come together. And spoiler alert: it isn't just because both groups have a forefather named Abraham.

In Judaism, we follow the concept of *Zechut Avot*, the merit of the forefathers. Rambam teaches us that "the deeds of our fathers are a signpost for the children." While ancient stories can be dismissed as meaningless, Rambam teaches that when "an event occurs to one of the prophets, who are our forefathers, he will understand that a form of these occurrences will occur as well to his descendants." In other words, when all else fails, the Jewish people can at times depend on the merits of our forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and of course, our foremothers, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, and Rachel.

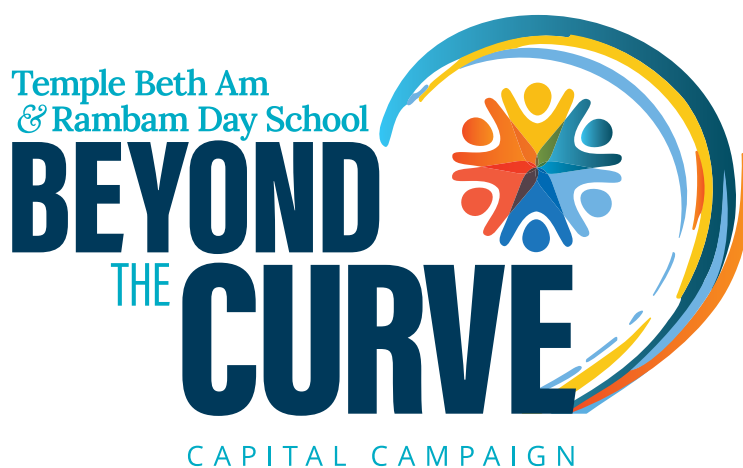
Fittingly, our *middah* of the month is *ometz lev*, which is the Hebrew term for courage. It literally translates to "heart-strength." This is a core Jewish *middah*; a spiritual and ethical trait with which each of us is endowed. When we are feeling fearful or anxious, we can access the quality of *ometz lev* within ourselves at any given moment.

As Jews, we honor and remember our forefathers and mothers through prayer. As Americans, we honor our country's founders by observing Presidents' Day. Neither Judaism nor the United States of America could have become what it is today without visionary leadership and without *ometz lev*. This month, we reflect on that leadership and heartfelt courage. As Americans and as Jews, we strive to emulate the exemplary models of our past and emulate their goodness and sacrifice.

**Nora**



**Rambam Day School**  
TEMPLE BETH AM



## BRING IT HOME BETH AM

### Shining a Light on Our Donors

**FROM FOUNDING MEMBERS TO NEW FAMILIES,  
WE ARE SO PROUD!**

Thank you to our incredible donors who have supported the *Beyond the Curve Capital Campaign* to date. We celebrate how far we have come. Our major donor walls have been installed in the Krys Family Atrium of the Rambam Day School Building. All names of major donors will also appear in the lobby of The Hub.





*West Donor Wall*

*We saved you a spot!*

We still have room to grow and would love to have everyone's participation.

Add your name, dedications are available at all levels.

To include your name, please contact Ilana Gilat at [igilat@tbam.org](mailto:igilat@tbam.org) or 786.364.9429 for a confidential conversation.

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**TBAM.ORG/BEYONDTHECURVE**



# MAZEL TOV B'NAI MITZVAH



**Ava Mendlestein**

**February 5, 2022**

**Ava** is a graduate of Temple Beth Am Day School and is currently a 6th grader in the International Baccalaureate Program at Gulliver Prep. Ava is a Dean's List student who loves English, drama, and social studies. Ava is passionate about her home away from home Camp Laurelwood, in Madison, CT, where she has spent every summer since she was 8 years old. Ava loves music and singing and cannot wait to share this day with her friends and family (and even her brother). Her parents, **Scott** and **Adi**, are extremely proud of Ava.



**Jake Mendlestein**

**February 5, 2022**

**Jake** is a graduate of Temple Beth Am Day School and is currently a 7th grader in the International Baccalaureate Program at Gulliver Prep. Jake is a Dean's List student who excels at engineering, robotics, and social studies. Jake is passionate about his home away from home, Camp Laurelwood, in Madison, CT, where he has spent every summer since he was 9 years old. Jake is also a veteran Beth Am Basketball player. His parents, **Scott** and **Adi**, are very proud of Jake's accomplishments and look forward to sharing this special day.



**Emily Aboulhosn**

**February 5, 2022**

**Emily** is a 7th grader Honors student at Palmetto Middle School. She loves playing golf, acting and spending time with family and friends. She is kind and compassionate and as sweet as they come. Her parents, **Kim** and **Joe**, and brother, **Jack**, are so impressed with all the hard work she has put in for her bat mitzvah, and we can't wait to celebrate her special day.



**Sofia Cohn**

**February 12, 2022**

**Sofia** is a 7th grade Honors student at Palmetto Middle School living up to her Hebrew name 'Simcha' by bringing her joy and laughter everywhere she goes. Sofia dances ballet at Armour Dance Theater most days of the week. Her weekends are spent baking challahs to sell to fundraise for her mitzvah project Mitzvah Chair, which provides power reclining chairs to mastectomy patients. Her summers are busy with camp friends at URJ's Camp Harlam. Her parents, **Andy** and **Ileana**, along with her brother, **David**, are excited for her upcoming Bat Mitzvah Simcha and all her future achievements.

# MAZEL TOV B'NAI MITZVAH

## **Melanie Stone**

**February 19, 2022**

**Melanie** is an 8th grade Honors student at Palmetto Middle School and an active member in her school and community. Melanie is involved in the National Junior Honor Society, a Friendship Circle volunteer, and plays basketball for the Miami Impact travel team. Melanie loves to explore national parks with her family and has developed a passion for photography. Her parents, **Cristi** and **Andrew**, and her sisters, **Reagan**, **Samantha**, and **Addison**, look forward to celebrating this special day with her.



## **Reagan Stone**

**February 19, 2022**

An 8th grade Honors student at Palmetto Middle School, Reagan is an active member of the National Junior Honor Society and the broadcasting team, where she has been writing, directing, and producing news segments for the last three years. Outside of school, **Reagan** volunteers at Friendship Circle, plays travel basketball for Miami Impact, and loves to travel to national parks. Her parents, **Cristi** and **Andrew**, and her sisters, **Melanie**, **Samantha**, and **Addison**, look forward to celebrating this special day with her.



## **Olivia Pickens**

**February 26, 2022**

**Olivia** is a 7th grade Honors student at Durham Academy and a recipient of the Palmer Trinity Leadership Award. Olivia's passions include dancing competitively at CC & Company, singing, musical theater, violin, the debate team and mentoring young students. Olivia enjoys learning about history and reading. Her favorite time of year is the 4th of July on Lake Chautauqua with her extended family. Olivia's parents **Matthew** and **Rebecca**, and brothers, **Liam** and **Gavin**, are very proud of her and excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah.



## **Syvie Kandell**

**February 26, 2022**

**Syvie** is in 7th grade at Palmetto Middle School. She has a soft spot in her heart for the Lotus House, which she has been visiting with her Girl Scout Troop for years. Additionally, she is participating in the Young Lions Program through Federation to be able to educate others on the importance of the Holocaust. Syvie loves her friends and family fiercely and after the uncertainty of the last couple years, is very eager and excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on her actual birthday. Her dad, **Brett**, her mom, **Jenny**, and her brothers, **Blake** and **Cory**, support her every step of the way.



New  
Adventures

Splash Zone

Wacky  
Waterland

STEAM

Get Creative

Sensory  
World

Dancing with  
the Campers

Camp  
Sababa  
has Talent

and much  
more!

# Summer camp is Back!

better than ever - and with a new name!



JUNE 13  
To JULY 29

For campers ages 2 years to second grade.  
Space is limited!

Register before January 15, 2022  
to take advantage of the Early Bird discounts.

Plus, check out our COOL CAMPS  
and PERFORMING ARTS CAMP!

[www.tbam.org/campsababa](http://www.tbam.org/campsababa)

For more information, please email us at [campsababa@tbam.org](mailto:campsababa@tbam.org)



*We're going to Israel!*

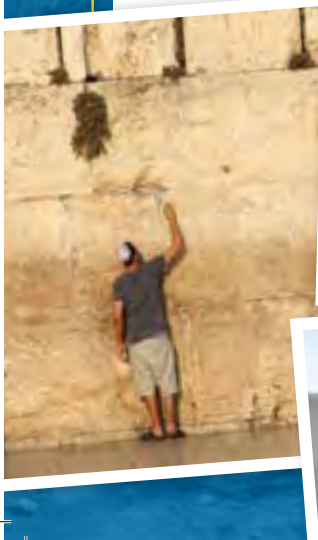
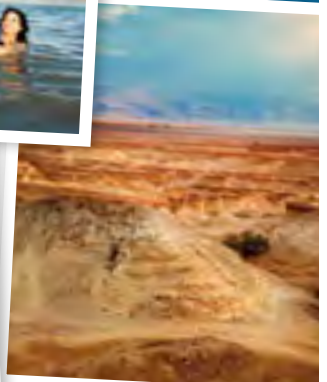
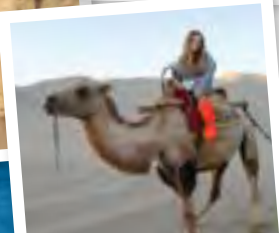
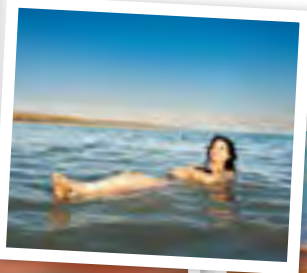
TEMPLE BETH AM  
**FAMILY TRIP TO ISRAEL**  
– *June 12-23, 2022* –

Join Rabbi Barras as he leads our exclusive  
TBAM Israel experience!

Experience the beauty, the history, and the spirituality of  
The Holy Land with members of the Temple Beth Am community.

Includes tour of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, The Negev,  
The Jordan Valley, and more!

For more information, including a full trip itinerary and pricing,  
visit [www.tbam.org/israel2022](http://www.tbam.org/israel2022).





## TIKKUN OLAM SHABBAT

Friday, February 25, 2022

6:30 PM Service

## MITZVAH DAY 2022

February 27, 2022

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Mitzvah Day 2022 is fast approaching! Have you registered yet? It's easy to sign up at [www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday)

Mitzvah Day is right around the corner and, as with most things in this time of COVID, it will look a little different.

There are lots of opportunities for outdoor, socially distanced projects as well as those that you can do ahead of time or at home and "drop off" on Mitzvah Day at the synagogue. We will also be hosting a blood drive in a safe and sterile way for those of you who would like to "give back" in this way.

Some details are still being finalized, but here are some of the projects to choose from.

More information and online sign-up will be on our website [www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday)

Please keep in mind that there will be no bus transportation provided this year – you must provide your own transportation.

### — IN-PERSON PROJECTS AT TBAM AND OUT IN COMMUNITY —

#### BLOOD DRIVE

On campus, 8am-1pm. One Blood has been involved in many drives during COVID, so they are quite familiar with the protocols necessary to do this in a safe and sterile environment. You must sign up ahead of time so we can safely allow each participant to do this mitzvah. For more information, please contact Susan Rosenthal at [educatorsusan@aol.com](mailto:educatorsusan@aol.com). *Ages 16+*

#### BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

We will, once again, work with their Kendall location on several projects. This will be primarily outdoors but may involve some indoor cleaning of the facility. *Limit of 35 volunteers. Ages 8+*

#### CAMILLUS HOUSE HOMELESS SHELTER

Depending on Covid protocols we will go to Camillus for food service, cleaning and organizing. Donation opportunities and off-site lunch bag prep will also be available for all who wish to participate.

#### FOOD RESCUE US

Help avoid waste by picking up excess food from Trader Joe's and Whole Foods in South Dade and delivering to various pantries and refrigerators in Dade County, as well as a neighborhood center in Overtown, which would require setting up the food on tables through Food Rescue US-South Florida. There are a few spots for Mitzvah Day and opportunities for ongoing help with this year-round project. Everything is outdoors, but masks and gloves are required. You do need to have a lot of room in your car for this project.

### **GARDEN AT BETH AM**

Spend a fun-filled morning outdoors gardening together with **Health In the Hood**. Together we will build a peace pole, plant and harvest as needed. *Limited to 20 participants. All ages welcome, but 10+ years of age recommended.*

### **JCS KOSHER FOOD SCAVENGER HUNT AT MILAM'S**

Have fun at this scavenger hunt as you learn about, gather and purchase items for Purim Mishloach Manot (gifts of food given during the holiday of Purim) boxes, which will be donated to families in need in South Dade through JCS. *All ages.*

### **LEAP FOR LADIES**

LEAP (Ladies Empowerment and Action Program) empowers women who have experienced incarceration through transformational opportunities, programs, service and advocacy. We will help them garden at one of the homes secured for their clients. *Limited to 15 participants. Ages 10+*

### **LOTUS HOUSE**

We will, once again, work on several projects with Lotus House - the largest homeless shelter for women and children in the country. Depending on COVID protocols we could allow for up to 30 people to participate in this on-site event. *Ages 8+*

### **MANGROVE CLEANUP AT DEERING ESTATES**

A location that is close to home and dear to our hearts - collecting marine debris that has washed up into the mangroves and the shore at Deering is the mission of this effort. Participants will get an educational and positive environmental experience on this day. *Limited to two groups of 10 participants each. Ages 4+*

### **MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND**

Through education, training, research and vision enhancement Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides hope, confidence and independence to people of all ages. The Lighthouse has a group of 150 seniors who meet at the facility Monday through Friday for art projects and other physical activities. On Mitzvah Day, we will collect requested items which would make their lives a little easier, and those who wish to, can join a group and take the items to the Lighthouse facility to present to the group and stay and interact with them and help to service lunch. They serve about 35-50 per day. Please check our website [www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday) for a complete list of requested donation items. *Limited to 10 participants on site. Ages 10+*

### **MIAMI WATERKEEPERS**

Temple Beth Am has been working with this group for years to help keep our beaches and waters free of debris. Their mission is to ensure swimmable, drinkable and fishable water in South Florida. We are happy to be working with them, once again, on this most important endeavor. Location TBD. *Limited to 35 participants. All ages.*

### **PATCHES**

Bring your creative skills and help to brighten their view by painting a mural on the outside wall surrounding the Patches facility. *Limited to 20 participants. Ages 8+*

### **SISTERHOOD GOES TO CASA VALENTINA: THE POWER OF WORDS**

Sisterhood members are invited to participate in an art project titled The Power of Words. You will be working with Casa Valentina residents and staff, St. Peters Missionary Baptist Church Sisters and renowned mosaic artist, Robyn Abrams, who will be teaching how to make inspiring garden stones. This installation will be worked on with other community groups after Mitzvah Day, so it will become a true visual experience in the garden. Participants of this outdoor project will convene on their premises (3153 Mundy Street in Coconut Grove) from 1-3 PM on Mitzvah Day. *This project is limited to 10 adult members of Sisterhood.*

### **WHISPERING MANES**

Garden, paint fences and enjoy the beautiful space that is Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center, which benefits children and adults with special needs or disabilities by offering them the opportunity to interact with dedicated horses in a manner that promotes physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing. No limit to the number of people in this totally outdoor setting. They do have ongoing needs for volunteers including horse leaders to help with classes, grooming, barn chores, etc... they will train. *Ages 14+*

Turn the page to read on about  
our "At Home and Drop Off"  
Mitzvah Day Opportunities



## — PROJECTS YOU CAN DO AT HOME AND DROP OFF AT TBAM —

### AFGHAN REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

Temple Beth Am is proud to work in partnership with Jewish Community Services of South Florida and the Refugee Assistance Alliance to “Welcome the stranger” into our community. As the United States withdrew in 2021 from Afghanistan, many families who worked by our side during our tenure there also departed to come to our shores. These families are now establishing homes and new lives in Miami, as well as in other communities around the country.

Guided by the Jewish principle of Tikkun Olam or “to repair the world,” your Temple Beth Am community has sponsored two Afghan families, and we need a myriad of volunteers to assist each family in their effort to become acclimated to their new environment. We will help them navigate schools for their children, learn the language, establish credit and understand basic information that will help them integrate into our community.

We need your help — your time, talent and any financial or in-kind assistance you feel comfortable providing. The families will receive some government aid, but we all know the cost of living is very high.

Monetary donations are always needed and appreciated. For more information, or to make a donation online, go to [www.tbam.org/afghan](http://www.tbam.org/afghan).

### CHAPMAN PARTNERSHIP

While there is no on-site option for this homeless shelter at this time, they are definitely in need of any of the following items:

- Suitcases and duffle bags or large totes to give to residents moving out into their own homes
- Hand sanitizing items
- Diapers and wipes
- Flip flops for men, women and children
- Full-sized, new toiletries
- Board games and yoga mats
- Kids’ overhead headphones for school
- Undergarments and books for men, women and children
- Feminine products
- Chapman creates move out kits for residents who are leaving the facility, which include new pillows, sheets (twin and full), new towels, cookware (new or gently used), flatware/utensils (new or gently used), kitchen cooking utensils (new or gently used), new shower curtains, dinnerware (new or gently used)
- Or a donation of \$200, which supplies a family of four with a complete move out kit, which Chapman will provide.

Participants may also work on a craft project to be delivered to Chapman along with the donations. *All ages.*

### CHILDREN’S BOOK DRIVE

Drop off new or gently used children’s books (baby books, first readers and picture books only – no Jewish content, please) for the Read to Learn Books for Free literacy initiative of The Children’s Trust in partnership with Miami Book Fair at Miami-Dade College. Together we can change the statistic that only 1 in 300 children own a book at home! Donation collection bins will be at TBAM covered driveway.

We can donate books for older readers to Chapman – please keep separate.

### LEAP FOR LADIES

LEAP (Ladies Empowerment and Action Program) empowers women who have experienced incarceration through transformational opportunities, programs, service and advocacy as they re-enter into the community. LEAP requires donated items (clothes, household goods, bedding and small furniture items) for their thrift store, which provides funds to further their mission, as well as items to help these women begin the path to achieving their full potential.

## MIAMI RESCUE MISSION

Miami Rescue Mission has been helping men, women, and children with meals, safe shelter, life-changing residential programs, employment, and housing resulting in transformed lives since 1922. They have expressed an urgent need for new toys for children of all ages, so we will be collecting toys for them on Mitzvah Day.

**For all remote activities, we have the unique opportunity to have an unlimited number of participants and allow for all ages to be a part of the effort. We are so excited about the possibilities this year presents for Temple Beth Am, our community and our environment.**

We will also be asking for donations as part of the offerings above. You can just donate, even if you are not officially part of any group.

### SOME OF THE ITEMS WE WOULD SO APPRECIATE:

- Monetary donations (*Afghan Refugee families*)
- Suitcases and duffle bags or large totes to give to residents moving out into their own homes (*Chapman*)
- Hand sanitizing items (*Chapman*)
- Diapers and wipes (*Chapman*)
- Flip flops for men, women and children (*Chapman*)
- Full-sized, new toiletries (*Chapman*)
- Board games and yoga mats (*Chapman*)
- Kids' overhead headphones for school (*Chapman*)
- Undergarments for men, women and children (*Chapman*)
- Books for men, women and chapter books for children (*Chapman*)
- Feminine products (*Chapman*)
- New pillows, sheets (twin and full), towels (*Chapman*)
- New or gently used cookware, flatware/utensils, kitchen cooking utensils (*Chapman*)
- New shower curtains (*Chapman*)
- New or gently used dinnerware (*Chapman*)
- Donation of \$200 (funds Chapman complete move out kit for family of four)
- Women's clothes (*LEAP*)
- Household goods/bedding (*LEAP*)
- Small furniture (*LEAP*)
- New toys for children of all ages (*Miami Rescue Mission*)
- New or gently used children's books – baby books, first readers and picture books only (Read to Learn Books for Free literacy initiative)
- Donate blood! We know you have it in you.

## BE A PART OF MITZVAH DAY IN ANY WAY YOU CHOOSE:

**remotely, on site, out in the community, driving through to drop off or staying to donate blood.**

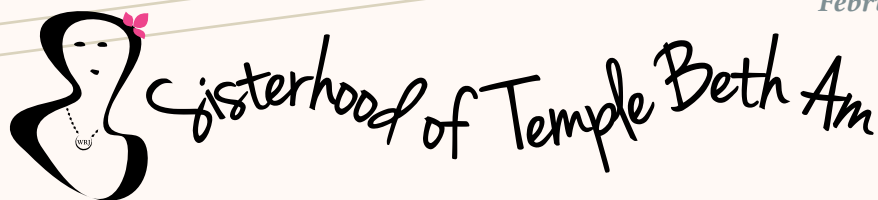
We need you to make our community and our world a better place.  
Here is where you can start. Register online at [www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday).

QUESTIONS? Contact Shelley Jacoby at [shelley@allinonemailshop.com](mailto:shelley@allinonemailshop.com)

*All projects are subject to change depending on COVID protocols at the time Mitzvah Day takes place.*

*Please check website for most up-to-date information.*

**[www.tbam.org/mitzvahday](http://www.tbam.org/mitzvahday)**



### Dear Sisters,

It's incredible to me that February is here and we are already starting to plan for the upcoming year. Please note that we still have plenty of programming coming up. We have an exciting art project with renowned Philadelphia-based mosaic artist, Robyn Abrams. Robyn, a new Sisterhood member, is offering two sessions made up of two parts, one in February and one in March. Under her direction, we will be creating a Miriam's Cup to be used as part of our table setting for the Sisterhood Seder on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to save the date!

Robyn will also be helping us with our Mitzvah Day project for Casa Valentina on February 27<sup>th</sup>. This is a shelter where at risk youth who age out of the foster care system are taught life skills to survive as productive adults in our society.

I'm asking you to think about what other programming you'd like to see Sisterhood offer. Your opinions matter to me and to the board. We'd love to continue to offer exciting programming to keep you engaged and active with us. If you'd like to sit in on a board meeting to see what we are about, please contact Susan Lampen, our Executive VP. The board meetings are open to everyone. Our next one is on Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

We are looking forward to seeing you at some of these events.

Warmly,

**DILIA GROSSMAN**

Sisterhood President

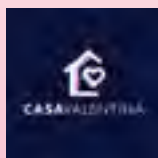
**As we continue to monitor COVID-19, please note that all programs are subject to change or cancellation. For the most up to date information on these and all Temple Beth Am programs, visit [tbam.org](http://tbam.org).**

JOIN US FOR...

# Mitzvah Day!

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022 – 1:00-3:00 PM

Sisterhood is proud to continue its partnership with Casa Valentina as we collaborate on an art project titled *The Power of Words*. In partnership with Casa Valentina residents as well as our sisters from St. Peters Missionary Baptist Church, Sisterhood member and renowned mosaic artist Robyn Abrams will teach us how to make inspiring garden stones that are waterproof and portable as different parts of Casa Valentina are renovated. This installation is step one of an ongoing project that will ultimately become a true visual experience in the gardens at Casa Valentina!



See pages 22-25 for more information about how you can be a part of Mitzvah Day!



# MAKE YOUR OWN MIRIAM'S CUP

## AN INTERACTIVE MOSAIC WORKSHOP

Personalize your Passover seder with your very own Miriam's Cup! Renowned mosaic artist and Sisterhood member Robyn Abrams will lead us in this art form, which is open to all levels!

*"Mosaic Art allows you to explore the artist within by working with color, pattern, balance and design to create a timeless heirloom that is uniquely yours."*

Learn more about Robyn's work at [robynabramsmosaics.com](http://robynabramsmosaics.com).

**– EACH WORKSHOP CONSISTS OF TWO SESSIONS –**

**WORKSHOP 1: February 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm**

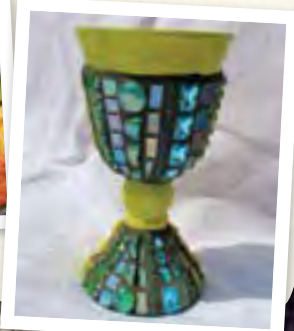
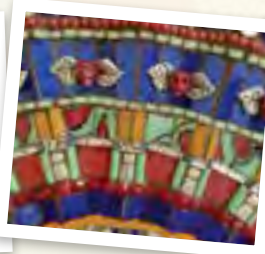
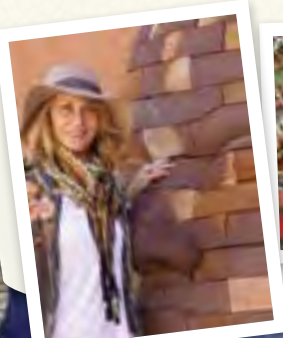
**WORKSHOP 2: March 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

*Limit 20 women per workshop. One-time fee of \$36 includes all materials.*

We encourage you to bring your Miriam's Cup to our Intergenerational Women's Seder!

**SAVE-THE-DATE: SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022.**

This contemporary ritual object is placed on the seder table beside the cup of Elijah. It is filled with water to symbolize Miriam's Well, and honors the important contribution of women to our formative Jewish stories.



[www.tbam.org/miriamscup](http://www.tbam.org/miriamscup)

SAVE-THE-DATE

## Voices of Freedom

INTERGENERATIONAL PRE-SEDER

**SUNDAY,  
APRIL 3, 2022  
2:00–4:30 PM**

.....

An interactive program- singing, dancing, crafts, and more with focus on the freedom we have to put ourselves in a place where we feel comfortable and secure enough to be present for others and to step up and make a difference on behalf of our community and our world.

*Plus... a new Sisterhood Haggadah featuring the voices of our own women.*

For more information on all programs, please e-mail us at [sisterhood@tbam.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbam.org).

Please include your phone number so we can call you back.

[www.tbam.org/sisterhood](http://www.tbam.org/sisterhood)



# OUR JEWISH HERITAGE

By Dr. Lenore C. Kipper, RJE, Judaic Studies Director, Emerita

## *Time for Tanach, After the Torah*

### **The Literary Prophets**

During the time of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, a new group of prophets arose who spoke God's word directly to the people and to the kings. These prophets served as God's spokesmen. Their prophetic messages remain an important part of Judaism because their themes emphasized God's insistence on moral and social justice. There are some common characteristics to these prophets. They felt the urgency of their messages. They felt deeply about ethical behavior. They criticized offering sacrifices as empty ritual. Many of the prophets wrote about the vision of the ideal world. The prophetic visions and writings became the source of Jewish messianic times. Early Reform Judaism made the books of the prophets an important text source for promoting social justice.

### **Major and Minor Prophets**

There is no real difference between the categories. It refers to those prophets whose writings were shorter or longer in length. The major prophets are Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. The minor prophets, the book of twelve, include the writings of Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nachum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Haggai and Malachi. You can find all of these in translation in the Jewish Publication Society Tanach, the Holy Scriptures. In order of historical time, Amos was the first prophet.

### **Amos**

Amos was born in the village of Tekoa, south of Jerusalem. He was a breeder of flocks of cattle and sheep, and an owner of orchards. He was a man of wealth, but he cared about the poor and powerless and tried to arouse the people. For Amos this was more than a sense of fairness. He was motivated by a call for divine justice and morality. He attacked evil-doing and falsehood, oppression and deceitful religion. He observed the wickedness of the northern kingdom, Israel, and went to the city of Bethel. In spite of prosperity and religious observance, Amos saw that the masses of people lived in poverty. The rich enjoyed great influence, and they controlled the appointments to public office. The judges took bribes that corrupted justice. Amos believed that God would punish Israel. He believed that God would use Assyria as the agent to punish the wickedness of Israel. This was during the time of King Jeroboam 11, who ruled from 785BCE - 745BCE

### **Amos Predicts Disaster**

At the beginning of the book of Amos, there are a series of powerful prophecies against the nations. He did not only condemn the Edomites, the Philistines, the Ammonites and the other pagan nations, he went on to include Israel and Judah. Amos told them if they did not live up to Adonai's expectations, they were no better than the surrounding nations.

Amos had a simple message for the people: "Seek good and not evil, so that you may live, and if so, Adonai will be with you. Hate evil and love good, in the city gate display justice; perhaps then Adonai will have pity on the remnant of the house of Joseph." (Amos 5:14-15)

### **Prophet of Doom**

Amos went to the public squares and spoke his prophecies. "Let justice well up as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream...seek good and not evil that you may live...establish justice in your gates... (if you do not change and turn away from your ways) your sons and daughters will fall by the sword...your land shall be divided up...and you shall die in a foreign land...for Israel is to be led off into exile far from their own country." In fact, Assyria destroyed the kingdom of Israel in 722BCE and dispersed the people to other lands.

### **Prophet of Hope**

In spite of most of the book of Amos chastising the king, the leaders and the wealthy, predicting the coming destruction, he continued to dream of a future age of justice and peace. At the conclusion of his book, we find the message of hope.

"I will raise up David's house that has fallen...I will rebuild it as in days of old...I will bring back the exiles of my people, Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and dwell in them, and they shall plant vineyards, and drink their wine, they shall make gardens, and eat their fruit, and I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be uprooted from the land which I have given them, Says the Lord, your God." (Amos 9,11, 14-15)

### **Reflection for Our Time**

Amos prophesied during one of the most prosperous periods in the history of the northern kingdom of Israel. The kingdom was rich, and the same king had reigned for about forty years. Amos looked at the society of his time and saw that the country was divided into two groups: those who had power, wealth, and a good life, and those who were poor, powerless, and lived in poverty. Although Amos himself was a person of wealth, he spoke on behalf of those who did not share in the prosperity of the times. As I reread the book of Amos, I saw so many enduring parallel situations today that still need to heed Amos' message. Amos especially attacked dishonest business practices, pleasure seeking rich, corrupt judges and leaders. Where is Amos today? Who will be like Amos today? Amos reminds us that we are all responsible for the injustice and poverty in our midst, and we must stand up and speak out for righteousness not only in the United States, but wherever there is moral injustice.

The Hebrew word for justice or righteousness is *tzedek*. This word appears many times in the Torah, in the Tanach, in the Talmud, in the prayer book and in Jewish literature of the past and the present. We are reminded every time we recite the blessings for reading Haftarah portions, your prophets of truth and righteousness.

**"Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof, Justice, Justice, shall you pursue."**  
(Devarim, 16:20)

*L'Shalom,*

**Lenore**





# WE'RE LOOKING FOR CANDIDATES!

## Temple Beth Am Board of Directors Nomination Recommendation

*We are looking for congregants who want to make a difference in our Temple Community. If you are interested in the opportunity to do meaningful work alongside talented and dedicated temple staff and lay leaders, or know someone who would like to, please consider submitting an application to Stuart Ratzan at [stuart@ratzanlawgroup.com](mailto:stuart@ratzanlawgroup.com). We are looking for people who want to share their passion, talents and contribute to the meaningful work that is done by the Temple Beth Am Board of Directors.*

The Nominating Committee meets during the first quarter of the secular year to identify congregants who have demonstrated the qualities necessary for becoming a member of the Temple Beth Am Board of Directors. If you or someone you have worked with deserves this honor and have the willingness to take on the responsibility, we invite you to complete this form and return it for consideration by the Nominating Committee.

- A Director should be committed to serving Temple Beth Am, attend monthly Board meetings, be active on at least one committee, have good follow through, act as a positive ambassador for the congregation, and make at least one B'nai Mitzvah presentation each year.
- To enhance the Board of Director's experience, we are working to align the personal interests of each nominee with the needs of Temple Beth Am. Each nominee will be invited to discuss their preferences as part of the nomination process.
- Placing a name in nomination does not guarantee a seat on the Board of Directors. The committee often receives more nominations than there are openings.

Please complete this form, providing as much information as possible. You are welcome to add additional sheets as necessary or copy this form if you have more than one recommendation, OR email your letter of recommendation to [mrobbin@tbam.org](mailto:mrobbin@tbam.org).

1. Name of nominee \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Nominee's phone number and email \_\_\_\_\_
  3. In what capacity have you worked with the nominee? \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Positive contributions you feel the nominee would make to the Board \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Nominee's involvement in Temple Beth Am \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  6. Nominee's involvement in the greater Jewish Community \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Your name \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please scan/photograph and email to [stuart@ratzanlawgroup.com](mailto:stuart@ratzanlawgroup.com) and copy Mindy Robbin at [mrobbin@tbam.org](mailto:mrobbin@tbam.org) by February 8, 2022.



*It's time to celebrate!*

THE

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Stephen Sirkin  
Kay Sitrin\*  
Norman Stamler\*  
Judith Tenzer\*  
Ruth Uklist  
Cathy Warman\*  
Edith Weisman  
Doreen Wiesel

**Week Ending  
February 25, 2022**

Milton Bauling  
Morris Benveniste  
Sidney Adrian Berkowitz\*  
Isadore Berman\*  
Estelle Bernstein  
Sarah Bohm  
Marjean McLaughlin Buckner  
Marilyn Budner  
Harold A. Busch\*  
Charlotte Chester\*  
Bernard J. Cohen\*  
Nathalie Egert\*  
Barry Fein  
Elaine Fiedel\*  
Regina Fisher  
Lorraine Fishman\*  
David Frank\*  
Samuel Fried  
Esther Globus\*  
Louis D. Goldberg\*  
Rose Goldstein  
Albert Goodman  
Robert Harper  
Sidney M. Harris  
June Heffner  
Lawrence Hyman\*

Rosalind Johnson\*  
Dora Schubert Kallen  
Shoshana Katz  
Louis M. Katz\*  
Melvin Kaufman  
Richard Kilmer  
Beverly Kislak  
Joseph Konigsberg  
Leon Kroungold\*  
Lee Leshaw\*  
Larry Levi  
Albert Levick\*  
Frances Levinson  
Heinz Lewin  
Hyman Herbert Lieblein\*  
Sara Litt\*  
Bella Mann  
David J. Markenson\*  
Sadie Massel  
Rose Mittelberg\*  
Bernard Panter  
Beatrice Rabinovitz\*  
Ethel Rappaport  
Hector Retchkiman  
Bernard Rosenblum  
Sarah Marcia Ross\*  
Pearl Roth  
Nathan Roth  
Seymour Schneider

Joseph A. Schur\*  
Dr. Joseph Schwartzberg  
Jill Selevan  
Benjamin Spar\*  
Ruth Stamler\*  
Nathan Stern  
Lilyan Wagner\*  
Jean Walter\*  
Milton Wechsler\*  
Daisy Weill  
Rosalind Rackow Weinberg\*  
David Welt\*  
Robert Arthur Wiener\*  
Alfred Wohl  
Samuel Wolfe\*  
Esther G. Leppel Young\*

*\* Denotes individuals with a plaque in our sanctuary.*



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## WE GIVE THANKS

**RABBI AKLEPI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Nancy Billings in memory of Steve Herman. May his memory be for a blessing.

Deborah and Ken Gomberg in memory of Len Morrison

Gayle Kiel in appreciation of the beautiful wedding ceremony for Alexa Kiel and Josh David's wedding

Elvira and Aaron Khutorsky in memory of Stasya Rozman in appreciation for reading her name during Kaddish

Sandra Koross

Marc and Judith Lederhandler in memory of Milton Weiss

Frances Salbarrey

Stacy Sarna and Darin Zenov with appreciation for our wedding

**THE STEPHEN ARKY FAMILY CARING FUND**

Marlin, Lisa and Todd, in loving memory of Steve Arky who is, and always will be, deeply in our hearts, with love and respect

**LESLEE ARONOVITZ****YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Adrian and Ken Dubow in loving memory of Nina Franklin

Adrian and Ken Dubow in loving memory of Len Morrison

Cindy and Steven Rudin in loving memory of

Elinore Richman Aronovitz

Sherry Solowey in loving memory of Steven Nadel, brother of Maddy Biondo

**DR. MORTON M. AXLER****SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND**

Bonnie Webman in loving memory of Naomi Webman

**RABBI BARRAS' DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Joshua Barras and Toni Risdon for the wonderful services

Robert and Lynn Bernstein

Barry Brand, MD in memory of Lorraine Levy

Elaine and Ted Feldman in appreciation of the beautiful prayers and blessings in honor of Jade Lubie's and David Feldman's wedding

Barbara Havenick in appreciation for all your help and staying home for Len's funeral

Pamela Hemstreet in memory of Dr. Keith Kashuk. My deepest condolences to his family on this terrible loss.

May his memory be a blessing always.

Michael Katz in memory of Leonard Morrison

Jacqueline Schimel in honor of Mala, Noah, Adi and Caleb Gold.

Love, Andrew, Jacqueline, Cameron, Dylan and Reese Schimel.

Andrea and Dan Shosfy in appreciation for Jolie and Dan's wedding

Staci and Steven Solomon with much gratitude for all of your time and mentoring of our children.

Sherry Solowey in memory of Barry Solowey

**CARING COMMUNITY FUND**

Paul and Lois Lester in memory of Louis Gross

**CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY FUND**

Edith and Norman Einspruch in loving memory of Lillian and Frank Melnick

Etta and Don Gold in memory of Mimi Weinfeld

David and Carla Werner in loving memory of Catherine Werner

**CORNERS OF OUR FIELDS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Barry Brand and Adele Hertz in memory of Dr. Keith Kashuk

Richard Yulman in memory of Len Morrison

**CANTOR COYOT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Rita Diaz in loving memory of Len Morrison

Joan Johnson in loving memory of Herman Berkley

Susan Kashuk in loving memory of Dr. Keith Kashuk

Anna and Noah Sherry with thanks for guiding Julia and Kyla in prayer and for making their B'not Mitzvah so memorable

**THE JOAN KRAMER GALLANT AND MARTIN GALLANT CHILDREN'S FUND**

In memory of our papa, Martin Gallant with love from Jane, Mack and Sunny

Brian Gallant in loving memory of his parents

Tracy Gallant Brody in loving memory of her parents

**GENERAL FUND**

Brett Amron and Jeffrey Bast in memory of Dr. Rosalie "Lee" Binder

Day School Sunshine Fund in honor of Ethan Moskovitz's Bar Mitzvah

Nadine and Jonathan Fialkow in memory of Len Morrison, partner of Barbara Havenick

Susan Hofmann in loving memory of Steven Herman

Wendy and Howard Perlman in memory of Jacqueline Blumenthal. May Jackie's memory be a blessing to her family and friends.

Alan Rosenthal in honor of Hon. David Young and Hon. Scott Bernstein. I am grateful to David and Scott for officiating at my marriage to Natalie J. Carlos.

Linda Sands

Schneiderman Family in memory of Eugene Schneiderman

Donna and Warren Sharmat in memory of Steven Herman

**RABBI GREENGRASS' DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Maddy Biondo and family in appreciation of

Rabbi Greengrass officiating the funeral of Steven Nadel

Jolie Cummings and family in memory of Dr. Lee Binder.

Please know that our heavy hearts are with your family at this difficult time. Dr. Binder was a true woman of valor and a force of nature.

The Drucker, Riestra and Binder Families in memory of Dr. Lee Binder, with gratitude

Diane Greenfield and children in memory of Sam Seitlin, with love

Karen, Janet and Jeffrey Israel in appreciation of Rabbi

Greengrass officiating Mona Israel's funeral service

Sarah Rapoport and Eduardo Rosenstein Silva in appreciation of Rabbi Greengrass officiating our wedding ceremony

Jane Salzman in loving memory of my husband,

Dr. Robert Salzman

Edward S. Schwartz in loving memory of Kessel Schwartz

Scott, Julie, Hannah and Carrie Zimmatt in loving memory of Barbara Zimmatt

**MATTHEW KASS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Karen and Mortimer Kass in memory of Myrna Myers  
Barbara Myers to the Matthew Kass Scholarship Fund  
Debra Schottenstein to remember Matthew Kass

**KEREN YALDI CHILDREN'S FUND**

The Fidanque Family in memory of Dr. Lee Binder  
Marlene and Joel Kaplan in loving memory of Lee Binder  
Marlene and Joel Kaplan offer our most sincere and heartfelt  
condolences to Susan Kashuk and your family on the loss of  
your beloved husband, Keith Kashuk.  
Marlene and Joel Kaplan in loving memory of Steven Nadel.  
Our most sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family.

**THE SHEPARD KING SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Bernita King, Russell King and Tamara King Stark in memory  
of our beloved Shep, who continues to inspire us in everything  
we do  
Abe and Helene Benyunes in memory of Lee Binder

**THE LENORE KIPPER ENDOWMENT FUND**

Boris Gabay in loving memory of Jaime Gabay

**CANTOR NELSON'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Natalie and John Breslin in loving memory of Steven Nadel,  
brother of Maddy Biondo  
Donna Cohen in loving memory of Edythe Berman  
Susan, Michael, David Linder and Ron and Larry Shane in loving  
memory of grandma Sadie Shane  
Scott, Julie, Hannah and Carrie Zimmet in loving memory of  
Barbara Zimmet

**DR. IRWIN PERLMUTTER ACADEMIC  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Keeping the Legacy of Temple Beth Am Founding Member,  
Dr. Irwin Perlmutter, alive through Jewish Education  
Sherie Kanziger in memory of Jaqueline "Jackie" Ruth  
Blumenthal. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this  
very difficult time.  
Lawrence Pauker and family in memory of Dr. Lee Binder. The  
Paukers send their sincerest condolences. She was truly special,  
caring and loving.

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**

Fusfield Family in memory of grandfather, Barnett Goldner  
July Gilbert-Gould in loving memory of my parents, Martha  
and Stanley C. Myers  
Klein Family in loving memory of Shirley Klein  
Lynne and Alan Stein in memory of Charles Kaplan  
Elaine and Norman Stokes and family in memory of  
Morris Stokes, beloved father and grandfather

**SISTERHOOD FUND**

Dilia Grossman in honor of Robyn Abrams, for your kindness  
and generosity  
Susan and Dick Lampen in loving memory of Len Morrison

**THE HOWARD & SHARON GURMAN SOCOL FAMILY  
FOUNDATION SPEAKERS SERIES FUND**

Sharon Socol in memory of my mother, Rose Gurman, of  
blessed memory

**TIKKUN OLAM FUND**

Karen and David Baron in memory of Mila and Colin Baron  
Mark and Margie Buchbinder in loving memory of Shirley  
Sapirstein  
Paul and Susan Fletcher in memory of Jacqueline Blumenthal,  
loving wife of Ed Blumenthal  
John Frank in memory of Keith Kashuk  
Bruce and Evelyn Greer in memory of Len Morrison. Our  
condolences to Barbara Havenick and the Morrison family on  
the sad passing of Len Morrison. He was a good man.  
Shelley Jacoby in memory of Stuart Goldberger, David Kessler,  
Florence Spiro and Howie Warren  
Melissa Peerless in honor of Rabbi Greengrass. Thank you for  
your wonderful presentation to the University of Miami  
Division of Development and Alumni Relations! We are inspired!  
Tom and Robin Ringel in memory of Dr. Steven Herman  
Sherry and Harley Tropin in loving memory of Leonard Tropin  
Bonnie Webman in memory of Len Morrison

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Iris Cutler and family in memory of Samuel Cutler  
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Richard and Eric  
Marlene and Joel Kaplan in loving memory of our father,  
Dr. Joseph Gorodetzer  
Brenda Kilmer in memory of Arthur Teitelbaum  
Ruth Krieger in memory of Meyer Cohen  
Ruth Krieger in memory of Seymour Krieger  
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Rita Swichkow in loving memory of Edith Swichkow  
Myra Lenhoff Wolf in loving memory of my father,  
Dr. Charles D. Lenhoff

## THE CURRENT OF LIFE

*We mourn the passing of*

Jacqueline "Jackie" Ruth Blumenthal, wife of **Ed Blumenthal**, sister of Joe (Susan) Goldblatt; mother of Rick Weinstein and Joel (Patty) Weinstein, Linda Joy Weinstein; stepmother of Brian (Susie) Seligman, Ivan Seligman and Guy (Naomi) Seligman, **Bob (Ellen) Blumenthal**, Bonnie (Gary) Zeigler, Scott (Sonia) Blumenthal and Marnie (Lance) Tracey, grandmother 19 grandchildren, great grandmother of seven and great-great grandmother of 6.

Nina Franklin, wife of Roland, mother of **Martin (Julie) Franklin**, grandmother of **Robert, Samuel, Michael** and **Annabel Franklin**

Selig Golen, husband of Shirley, father of **Sharon (Joseph) Glick**, Ken (Marion) Golen and Harold (Dr. Juraj Kojs) Golen; grandfather of **Heidi (Dan) Rutland**, Tiffany (Mark) Pinkert, Jasmine (Matthew) Kichaven, Michael (Vicky) Golen and Jennifer (Ryan) Woods; great grandfather of **Tommy** and **Jackson Rutland**, Eli and Ethan Pinkert, Laila and Novalee Golen and Sienna Woods; and brother of Ray Berman

Dr. Keith Kashuk, husband of **Susan**, father of Alyson (Michael) Nolan; grandfather of Madelyn (Kyle) Chamberlain, Samantha (Michael) Conner and Jacob Denker and great grandfather of four

Steven Herman, PhD, husband of **Susan Herman**, father of **Debbie Casey** and Jill Herman; grandfather of **Emma** and **Sam Casey** and brother of Howard Herman and Larry (Marsy) Herman

Mona Israel, sister of **Tema Burk**, mother of Karen Israel Janet (Tommy) Pappas, Jeffrey Israel; aunt of **Susan (Larry) Golinsky** and grandmother of Marika Alois (Paul), Kayla Lohman (Nathaniel), Kyle Pappas, Jessie Pappas and great grandmother of Jack, Leo and Jules

Leonard "Len" Morrison, partner of **Barbara Havenick** and father of Kay (Joshua) Kornik and grandchildren Robert and Gabriella Kornik

Steven Nadel, husband of Kathy; father of Donna Nadel, Kenny Nadel, Michelle (Rick) Staab and Gary Nadel, grandfather of eight and brother of **Maddy (Jerry) Biondo**

Stasya Rozman, aunt of **Elaine (Alan) Brown**, great uncle of **Nathan** and **Sydney Brown**

Harold Schoffel, husband of Alma, father of Carol (Robin) Faber, Robert (Debbie) Schoffel, grandfather of **Sarah Faber** (fiancé Paul Brzyski), David Faber, Heather Schoffel, Alexis Schoffel and great grandfather of Lyle

Miriam Weinfeld, wife of Albert, mother of **Laura Weinfeld**, Carol Weinfeld, Jill (Geoff) Fisher, Roy Weinfeld and Michael Weinfeld (Chuck Brouillette); grandmother of Stuart and Alec Fisher and **Julia, Maya, Noah** and **Ilana Damski**

## PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS NETWORKING GROUP



**MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 28  
6:30 PM  
VIA ZOOM**

Professional Connections is a networking group that is open to members of Temple Beth Am, as well as the community at large.  
Professional Connections Goals

- \* To connect congregants and community members for networking, business growth and development.
- \* To share best practices and success stories amongst our participants.

RSVP is a must! please register at [www.tbam.org/connections](http://www.tbam.org/connections) for the zoom link.

Questions?

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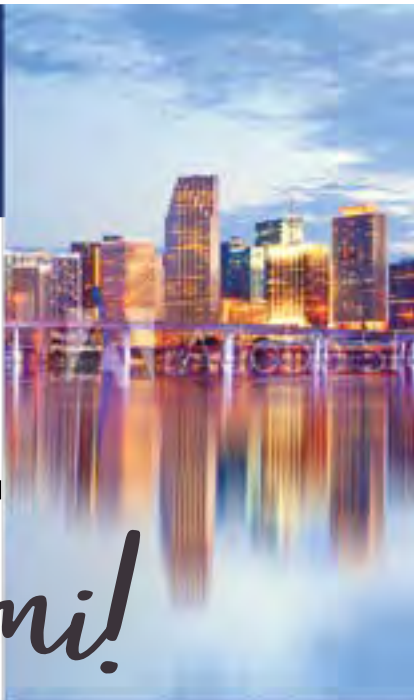
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**Rabbi:** Jaime Aklepi, D.D.  
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**Cantorial Soloist:** Jessica Bass  
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