

## SHOFAR

MARCH - APRIL 2014 | ADAR I &amp; II - NISAN 5774 5774

## L'takein Olam B'malchut Shaddai לתקן עולם במלכות שדי Perfecting the World through Your Sovereignty

Rabbi Carolyn Braun



The term, *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) has been synonymous with *tzedakah* (charity), only since the 1950s! I don't know what changed, or why this phrase was used, but it is now well known. TBE's Social Action committee is called the Tikkun Olam Committee. All USY'ers know about *Tikkun Olam* and their need to volunteer in the community. When we pick up litter, or make sure someone has a place to say Kaddish, or volunteer to work at a soup kitchen, we call these acts of *tikkun olam*. But truly, the term is much broader than just these kinds of acts of justice.

The concept of *tikkun olam* has ties to the theology of the *Aleinu* prayer, the prayer that always concludes a service. *Tikkun Olam* is also connected to the physical wholeness of the world found in *midrashim* (Rabbinic stories); it is related to our *halachic* or legal system, where it is used when the rabbis want to preserve the system and protect the vulnerable party in a dispute. Finally the term, *tikkun olam* is used in *Kabbalah* (mystical tradition) as the process by which God's sparks - scattered at creation when they burst the vessels in which they were contained - were released and then restored to their proper place when we do *mitzvot*, here not used in the sense of "good deeds," but by our conscious observance of the commandments. Performing a *mitzvah* properly will allow for *tikkun*, the restoration of God's holy light, and the ultimate repair of the world. Like everything else in our lives, even the concept of "repairing the world" is nuanced.

In the *Aleinu* prayer, we pray that God will rid the world of all idolatry and that Adonai will be acknowledged by all humanity as the One God, thereby "perfecting the world." In other words, while idolatry exists, the world needs to be repaired/perfected. And, therefore the prayer says, "...that You will perfect the world by your sovereignty so that all humanity will invoke Your name, and all the earth's wicked will return to You, repentant." The *Aleinu* suggests that the world will only be perfected or repaired when everyone acknowledges Adonai as God. In my life, I understand this to mean that when we believe that we are connected to the earth, to vegetation, to all of humanity, and to the animals; when we understand that even as individuals, we have an impact on creation, then the world will be perfected. Then we will understand that we must work together for the common good and think way beyond our own individual lives and then we will all experience a better place.

The sixth century Midrash Rabbah uses *tikkun olam* in a very different way. While discussing the creation story in Genesis, the author speaks of *tikkun olam* as a physical condition. He speaks of the division of the waters; making the upper waters into sky and the lower waters into ocean; as *tikkun shel olam*, making the world livable, or functioning. Unlike the use of the term *tikkun olam* in the *Aleinu*, where allegiance to God repairs the world, here it is something that God does to the world, in order to make it function properly. In the end, I sure hope God can override our ecological mistakes...

*Halachic* (legal) writings use the term *tikkun ha-olam* rather than *tikkun olam*, or *tikkun shel olam*. Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz translates it as "the improvement of the world" because it is invoked as the reason for Rabbinic ordinances that make a legal process (such as divorce, or making or paying loans) easier for the more vulnerable party. Thus, "improving the world" is to lessen needless stress in legal interactions.

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## TEMPLE BETH EL'S MISSION

Our vision is to be an embracing, supportive and vibrant community which observes Judaism in the Conservative tradition and which is devoted to the perpetuation of Jewish values and culture. Temple Beth El honors the diversity of its members and is committed to their spiritual growth.



TEMPLE BETH EL

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*All are welcome.*

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Monday through Friday                   | 6:50 am |
| Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service | 5:30 pm |
| Saturday (Shabbat) and Jewish holidays  | 9:30 am |
| Sunday                                  | 9:00 am |
| Secular holidays                        | 8:30 am |

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013-2014

President - Irwin Gratz

Leadership Team:

July-Sept. 2013 - Adam Arens

Oct.-Dec. 2013 - Jon Brier & Judy Gatchell

Jan.-March 2014 - Irwin Gratz & David Brenerman

April-June 2014 - Joan Levy

Vice Presidents - Adam Arens, Jon Brier & Joan Levy

Treasurer - Jon Brier

Karen Lerman

At Large: Barbara Dichter

Ex officio:

Rabbi Carolyn Braun

Jodi Veysey

## TEMPLE BETH EL 2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Adam Arens      | Irwin Gratz   |
| Dauna Binder    | Judy Gatchell |
| Jon Brier       | Karen Lerman  |
| Barbara Dichter | Joan Levy     |
| Becky DeLois    | Fae Silverman |
| David Brenerman | Katie Small   |
| Kate Foye       | Bob Zellan    |
| Jodi Freedman   |               |

Rabbi Carolyn Braun

Jodi Veysey, *Administrative Director*

Melanie Weiss, *Kadima Beth El Director*

Carol McKeen, *Bookkeeper*

Kelsie Camire & David Jacobs, *Administrative Assistants*

Deena Schoenfeld, *Communications Director & Special Events*

Bob Bradbury, *Custodian*

Rabbi Emeritus - Harry Z. Sky, D.D.

Cantor Emeritus - Kurt Messerschmidt

Shofar Design & Production - Deena Schoenfeld



THE RABBINICAL  
ASSEMBLY

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Irwin Gratz



Elsewhere in this edition of Shofar you're going to see something that may make you say "huh?" It's Temple Beth El's Weapons Policy. It was adopted by our board in general form last summer. What you see is the final wording. But why are you seeing it?

As a Jewish institution it has always been a priority to ensure the security of our congregants, students and visitors for religious services, our Kadima Beth El families, and the participants in the many educational programs and special events we host. In addition, the Temple building is also home to Levey Day School. As a result, the Temple Beth El Board adopted a Weapons Policy. This is a reflection of what state law requires of us as home to an educational institution.

This is one of a number of long overdue steps to enhance the comfort, safety and security of all those who worship, learn, play and work in our building. A large new window has been installed between our front office and the lobby entrance. This will let our office staff see and greet all who enter our building. Our front entrance doors will remain unlocked during normal business hours.

As we decided on these initiatives, we remain committed to another important priority: that our building will continue to be open and welcoming. We trust all of these steps will advance us toward that goal while enhancing the building's function as a school, a place of worship and a community gathering place.

We are also in the process of completing another major renovation project that will improve the comfort and utility of our building. This involves the space that was once the stage in the Lewis Social Hall, and later served as the Teen Lounge, library annex and a janitorial office. Thanks to a generous \$18,000 grant from the Samuel L. Cohen Foundation, we are transforming these rooms into an open multi-use space which will serve as our Youth Lounge, study and meeting space, and as a new home for the Temple's Library ( - yes, we have a very nice library!). We invite you to visit and use the space upon its completion over the next few weeks. As you enter the Social Hall, the door to the new Youth Lounge and Library is to the right of the wooden slat wall opposite you. We hope both teens and adults will make frequent use of this beautiful new space. And by moving the books out of the old library space (behind a door on the left as you walk toward the Social Hall), we will soon have another new classroom/meeting room.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at Temple Beth El. Best wishes for a wonderful spring, a happy Purim, and a joyous Passover. ■

### WEAPONS POLICY

To ensure that Temple Beth El maintains a building that is safe and free of violence for all, the Temple prohibits the possession or use of perilous weapons on Temple property. A license to carry a concealed weapon on the property does not supersede the Temple's policy. All Temple employees are subject to this provision, as well as contract and temporary employees, visitors and congregants. Any staff in violation of this policy will be subject to prompt disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

"Property" is defined as all Temple-owned or leased buildings and surrounding areas such as sidewalks, walkways, driveways and parking lots under the Temple's ownership or control. This policy also applies to all vehicles that come onto Temple property.

"Dangerous weapons" include, but are not limited to, firearms, explosives, knives and other weapons that might be considered dangerous or that could cause harm. ■

## MAZEL TOV מזל טוב

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Adam Johnson and Isabelle Cohen Johnson
- 8 Jack and Deena Weinstein
- 17 Steve Gleit and Dana Robbins
- 17 Steve and Peggy Shapiro
- 20 Tom and Marjorie Berman
- 23 Larry and Lisa Plotkin
- 25 Mark and Shelley Chorney
- 25 Morton and Esther Gold
- 27 Joe and Becky DeLois
- 27 Fred and Ruth Miller

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Jeffrey and Tamara Schwartz
- 4 Peter and Barbara Shaw
- 19 Jack and Carol Simensky
- 24 Scott and Alise Koocher
- 25 Elliot and Linda Levine
- 28 Joe and June Rubin

*Save the date!*

Please join us for a special

## PASSOVER SHABBAT DINNER

Friday night, April 18<sup>th</sup>

Following 5:30 pm Kabbalat  
Shabbat & Holiday services,  
at 6:15 pm



Menu & details TBA.

## KBE is Kef M'od (Lots of Fun!)

Melanie Weiss

Director, Kadima Beth El Religious School Program



We had a wonderful first semester at KBE and we've kicked it up a notch for 2014! With some changes to our curriculum and more opportunities for Kadima Beth El students to show their stuff outside of the classroom, we're raising the bar for our students – and loving watching them stretch and grow to reach it.

For our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders, we've added a component to their Sunday schedules. In addition to *tfilah* (prayer) and *Ivrit* (Hebrew), students are now also working on *TaNakh* – the Hebrew bible. Through text study, discussions, and skits based on the weekly parasha, students are gaining not only exposure to our most ancient text, but developing the capacity to analyze and engage with that text.

We've also shifted the focus of our Hebrew program to work more intensively on vocabulary and grammar. If you know (or even just see) a KBE kid, feel free to ask them to tell you their favorite color, or how many siblings they have – all in Hebrew! Plus, students are working hard on learning the Hebrew roots and vocabulary that will help them understand the prayers they are practicing. And as ever, our younger KBE kids are growing beautifully in their reading skills and knowledge of holidays, rituals, and *tfilot*!

Plus, we've taken our KBE show on the road! Under the guidance of our wonderful music teacher, Charlie Miller, our students prepared a set of songs that they performed not once, but twice! First, students provided a chorale presentation at *Shabbat Shira* during a Friday night *Shabbat HaLaila* dinner. They were great! (And having tried myself to learn the complicated cups choreography that accompanied the 7<sup>th</sup> graders' rendition of *D'ror Yikra*, I can promise you they worked very hard.)

Then, on January 26, Kadima Beth El students took the last hour of class to go to Cedars, where they provided the lunch entertainment for residents! Students and seniors alike had a wonderful time, and it was a great way to illustrate how much happiness doing a *mitzvah* can bring – to all involved.

We've got lots more fun planned for the rest of this year – and we can always use your involvement! Whether you're a KBE parent or not, there are lots of ways to get involved and see what our youngest congregants are doing, learning, and achieving. You can help with a school-wide *B'Yachad* event, prepare a meal for *Shabbat HaLaila* or a 7<sup>th</sup> grade class, volunteer to tutor a student who needs more one-on-one help with Hebrew, or even just attend one of our Wednesday afternoon project presentations. Just be in touch for more information!

We had a wonderful first half of 5774 together – but even more exciting is everything we're looking forward to in the months to come! ■



Kadima Beth El students, accompanied by Charlie Miller, perform a concert for residents at the Cedars Assisted Living facility.

# Grow a mo' this Purim!!

It's Moustache Madness at  
TBE's Purim Celebration.

- Come in costume •
- Wear a 'stache •
- Hamen-stach-en •
- Mo'-gillah reading •
- Prizes! •

Saturday, March 15, 2014  
7:30pm-9:30pm

## Celebrate Pesach with KOL YELADIM

TBE's Early Childhood group  
for families with children  
ages 0 - 4 yrs



Please join us for fun  
Passover activities

Sunday, April 6, 2014  
9:15 - 10:00 am

Temple Beth El  
400 Deering Avenue Portland  
Room 1B - school wing

Stories \* Crafts \* Music

FREE!  
All are welcome.

## PERFECTING THE WORLD

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And finally, we come to *tikkun olam* as expressed by the 16<sup>th</sup> century Kabbalists. Developed from a kabbalistic telling of the Creation story, *tikkun olam* means bringing the world back to its original state: In order to make room for creation (according to Kabbalah), God needed to become smaller. So God placed the Divine Self into the ten *sefirot* (10 spheres or aspects of God) which were then placed in vessels. But they could not contain the Divine Light, and they burst. So Creation included not only waters, vegetation, moon, sun and stars, etc., but it also included pieces of the vessels and sparks of God's holy light! But the effects of this explosion then became our problem after the Garden of Eden incident. Had Adam not disobeyed God's commands, (again, according to Kabbalah) he could have restored the light and repaired (*tikkun*) the world. Because after disobeying God, he could not do it; *tikkun olam* fell to humanity and became our responsibility. So each time we perform a *mitzvah*, we release a spark, which goes back to its origin and thus "repairs the world."

So what does this all mean to us? I see *tikkun olam* as a combination of meanings. From the *Aleinu*, I understand *tikkun olam* as an appeal to bring spiritual repair to the world. When we can rid ourselves of the obstacles (idols) preventing us from seeing the Divine in all aspects of life, we will truly appreciate, respect and honor one another and our environment. Only when we recognize holiness in all humanity will we be able to change a too often fearful, angry, and exploitative world. When we fully understand the holiness of the world, we will 'even the playing field' for those who too often find themselves at the lower end, struggling to survive, and trying not to be exploited. When we see the Divine in the World, we will stop abusing the earth for our own, individual purposes, we will see the bigger picture and we will consider future generations who will inhabit this space after us. And the only way that we are going to be able to make all this happen is by our own hand and in partnership with the Divine. Many of us need religion – study and observance – to help us get to the place where we can transcend the 'idolatry' of money, ego and power. Religion should help us to rise above the pettiness of our existence and provide meaning to our lives. When we support organizations that help us delve into deeper meanings; when we perform acts that give voice to the vulnerable, or an act that that is life-sustaining, we are participating in *tikkun olam* and its many nuances. I understand how easy it is to look at religion as an expression of the "institution." But I want to challenge you to participate in act of *tikkun*, whether it is meditating on the meanings of God, whether it is performing acts of justice or random acts of kindness, whether it is celebrating Shabbat, or Purim or Pesach or supporting an institution. Let us walk together – you and me and God – as we continue to repair our world. ■

## THE MEANING OF GIVING

### A Message from TBE Director Jodi Veysey

Think about all the things that you have ever given to yourself and then ask: "What real meaning do those items have to me today?" Then reflect a moment on those things you gave to others at a cost to yourself. If you examine these two, you may discover that the true meaning of giving is found in what you are willing to take from yourself to make sure that others have what they need.

Whether giving has its roots in religion or ritual, we all love to give and receive, to help and to give to just causes. Many of us have people on our gift-giving list who truly need or want something and there is nothing quite as gratifying as supplying that. But the truth is we all have those on our list who simply have no need or desire for more possessions. We scramble frantically to think of what new item this hard-to-buy-for person might possibly enjoy. But maybe we should think for a minute on what gifts we can give that will convey real meaning to our loved ones. Something that says we honor and appreciate them and that they make a difference in our lives. Many people say they would rather have a donation made in their honor than to receive a gift that, although beautiful or thoughtful, has little use to them. For them, helping someone less fortunate is a gesture that has the most meaning, knowing that by recognizing their birthday, an anniversary or a special holiday, or simply a gift sent in their name, that it will have a positive impact on someone less fortunate.

So please consider this means of giving by honoring or memorializing those who are meaningful in your life with a gift of remembrance. A donation to a synagogue fund helps in many ways. It can underwrite the food for Kiddush refreshments following services, books for the library, equipment and supplies for the Kadima Beth El students, help with maintaining the cemetery, *shiva* meals for those in mourning, *yahrzeit* announcements commemorating the loss of loved ones, and so much more. Contact the TBE office for more opportunities to give to a Temple fund. ■

### TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

#### Carolyn Turcio-Gilman, Chair

As the cold temperatures linger, TBE's Tikkun Olam Committee is continuing to encourage the congregation to donate winter jackets, hats and mittens to the needy. These items, as well as non-perishable food and toiletries, may be left in the wicker baskets in the TBE foyer. They will be taken by Committee members to the Preble Street Resource Center on a regular basis. Thank you! ■

### KESHET COMMITTEE

The TBE Keshet Committee is seeking members to help research and produce content for a booklet and the TBE website explaining the Conservative Movement's take on LGBTQ topics and specifically what TBE is doing in regards to welcoming and inclusivity. If you're interested in helping, please contact Fae Silverman, faejoliege@yahoo.com. ■

## ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

Judy Gatchell, Chair

*The pursuit of knowledge for its own sake, an almost fanatical love of justice and the desire for personal independence -- these are the features of the Jewish tradition which make me thank my stars that I belong to it.*

~ Albert Einstein, *The World As I See It*

Typically, when we think of study and learning, we think of our children, and all the things we want them to know. Learning as an adult is so different than it was when we were kids. We have so many more experiences to draw upon and such a larger view of the world. We can also rejoice that there are no tests!

This spring, the Adult Jewish Learning Committee is offering three wonderful opportunities for learning, socializing with others, broadening and deepening our understanding of Judaism. The topics are varied and exciting: Spinoza, Israel, and the Jews of Spain.

Our committee members, Norm Wilson, Stuart Piltch, Dauna Binder, and Chair, Judy Gatchell, look forward to bringing you these exciting and unique opportunities. We are confident that each will be informative, challenging and relevant.

### PERSPECTIVES ON ISRAEL

Sundays, March 2 – May 4 | 10:00 – 11:00 am

Led by Rabbi David Freidenreich, Pulver Family Associate Professor of Jewish Studies, Colby College.

This discussion-oriented course will examine diverse perspectives on the State of Israel, past and present. In the process, participants will gain a deeper understanding of Israel in its complexity.

*This class is jointly supported by Temple Beth El, Colby College, and the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine.*

### BARUCH SPINOZA AND THE CONTEMPORARY NOVEL

Sundays, March 2, 16, 30, April 13 | 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Led by Professor Sanford Freedman

Storytelling, a deeply seated instrument, offers us an opportunity to ponder in fiction the life and thought of a great philosopher who happens also to be Jewish, Baruch Spinoza. This four-week course presents participants the chance to read four novels, one novel a week, in order to peer inside our authors imagined understandings of how intelligent people in the seventeenth century talked about God and understood their relationship to God. Spinoza today is considered the greatest ethicist of his day, the man whose thinking ushered in the Enlightenment. In this context we read *The Courtier and the Heretic: Leibnitz, Spinoza, and the Fate of God in the Modern World* and *Betraying Spinoza: The Renegade Jew Who Gave Us Modernity*.

The last two novels in our meetings will be *The Spinoza Problem* and *Mendelssohn Is on the Roof*, two opportunities to contextualize imaginatively Spinoza in the Nazism of World War II.

*continued next column >>*

## JEWES OF SPAIN – WAS IT GOLDEN OR FOOLS GOLD?

Wednesday evenings, April 30, May 7, May 14 | 7:00-8:00 pm

Led by Rabbi Larry Rubenstein

“Spanish Jews once constituted one of the largest and most prosperous Jewish communities under Muslim and Christian rule, before they, together with resident Muslims, were forced to convert to Catholicism, be expelled, or be killed when Spain became united under the Catholic Monarchs King Ferdinand and Isabella in 1492.” - Wikipedia

*Rabbi Rubenstein is the president of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine, a Friend of the Kotzchmar Organ, Trustee of the Portland Museum of Art, board member of the Bowdoin International Music Festival, retired pulpit rabbi, fundraiser, and a dynamic teacher. ■*

## HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Dan Gatchell, Chair

- Johnson and Jordan (J & J) removed an old heating register from the “New Teen Lounge.”
- The Maintenance Closet in the Social Hall was completely revamped and organized by H/C member Terry Veysey and Zach Hindall (hired contractor).
- The emergency lighting in the Social Hall has been completely updated and working according to code.
- The ceiling holes in the I.T. room and gift shop are being repaired by Ed Page (contractor).
- It has been noted that the new boiler Outside Temperature Reset Control installed this fall has greatly improved the level of temperature control in the Main Sanctuary. This device will result in fuel savings too.
- Geoff Hindall evaluated the necessary work to shore up the storage platform in the social hall maintenance closet. He determined that it was beyond the scope of work for the H/C and it has been contracted out to Ed Page.
- A section of HVAC supply has been added to the I.T. room for temperature control for the computer and electronics located there.
- Two minor roof holes in the area of the small Sanctuary have been patched. SMR (roofing company) is to repair a third ASAP. Thank you Terry Veseey and Tom Berman for shoveling off these areas during a rain storm in order to locate them and provide a water pathway to a roof drain to stop leaks during a Shabbat Service.
- J & J is submitting a proposal to reseal the main Sanctuary HVAC ducting. The duct sealing material has deteriorated to a point where the H/C believes that this is the cause of the two leaks currently in Main Sanctuary.
- Jodi has contacted and received the new TBE building architectural drawings (digital) for Phase One from the architect.
- A mop bucket station was fabricated and installed in the dairy kitchen in order to meet city and state sanitary codes.
- Although not a H/C project, the remodel of the youth lounge and library are underway and looking great. Also the window between the office and entrance foyer is being installed to enhance the entrance to the building. The H/C would like to thank all those who have donated time and funding for these special projects that are beyond the scope of work of the H/C.
- Geoff Hindall and Tom Berman completed a comprehensive Preventative Maintenance Schedule for the entire TBE building inside and out. ■

## CONDOLENCES

**Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Evelyn Litman**, who passed away in St. Petersburg, Florida, Friday evening, January 4, at the age of 83. Evelyn is survived by her husband Robert, sons Michael Litman and his wife Sally, Peter Litman and his wife Heidi, Dana Litman and his wife Paula, daughter Marcy Litman, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Our sincere condolences to Mark Crasnick**, his children Caryn, Jon and Alison and their extended families, on the passing of Mark's uncle, Carl S. Lerman. Carl passed away on Saturday, January 4, 2014 in Silver Springs, Maryland and is survived by his wife, June and their four children.

**Our sincere condolences to Stephen, Sharon, Ellis and Noah Craig**, on the passing of Stephen's mother, Mary M. "Peggy" Craig, who passed away on Saturday, January 11 in Taunton, MA following a lengthy illness.

**Our sincere condolences to the family of Pearl Estelle (Cohen) Gerber**, who passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2014 at The Cedars after a brief illness. Pearl was predeceased by her husband Saul and her daughter Phyllis Gerber Farmelant. She is survived by her loving children - Stephanie and Stuart Stern of Estero, FL; Jill and Michael Thaler of Cranston, RI; John and Sandy Gerber of Portland, ME; and Dr. Melvin Farmelant of Naples, FL. Pearl also leaves 20 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

**Our sincere condolences to Bonnie and James Klein** on the passing of Bonnie's mother, Inez Gray, who passed away on Monday, February 17 in Philadelphia, PA. Inez will be sadly missed by her daughter Bonnie and son-in-law James, as well as her grandsons, daughter-in-laws and great grandchildren; Joshua and Karen Klein and their sons Jake and Joseph; Jesse and Susannah Klein and their son Jonas; and Jordan and Kendra Klein and their daughter Madelyn.

## TODAH RABAH - Thank you!

Todah Rabah to those who participated in Shabbat services: **Norm Wilson, Tom Berman, Naomi Freidenreich, Rabbi David Freidenreich, Riley Johnson, Joy Krinsky, Morton Gold, Eden Johnson, Isabelle Cohen Johnson, Ellie Miller, Barbara Dichter, Gil Dichter, Samuel Kemmerer, Sandra Kornblum, Debbie Kanter, Emily Freedman, Carol Nemeroff, Sam Nemeroff, Kaspar Wilder, Stephanie Cummings, and Paul Muscat.**

Todah Rabah to **Terry Veysey** for assisting with cleaning out the Teen Lounge area.

Todah Rabah to **Isabelle Cohen Johnson** for sponsoring a special Kiddush on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, in gratitude to Rabbi David Freidenreich from his Torah Leyner students for his great devotion and patience and for the precious gift of Torah reading.

Todah Rabah to **Zach Hindall, Terry Veysey, Bob Bradbury, Kelsie Camire and Jodi Veysey** for their work to clear and organize the storage spaces in preparation for the remodel of our Youth Lounge and Library.

Todah Rabah to **TBE's Adult Jewish Learning Committee members** for hosting the Annual Winter Film Series.

Todah Rabah to **Mel Weiss**, Director of the Kadima Beth El, and to **Tara Gingerich** of the Tikkun Olam Committee for arranging the Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> children's concert at Cedars. And to the KBE students for their beautiful singing.

Todah Rabah to our fabulous volunteers who helped make our Shabbat Dinner on Friday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> a delicious success: **Joan Levy, Isabelle Cohen Johnson, Tracey Hall Burge, Nadine Weinberg and Talia Timmins.**

Todah Rabah to **Isabelle Cohen Johnson and Joan Levy** for baking delicious treats for the Oy Vey Café fundraising event.

Todah Rabah to **Lynn Goldfarb** for dropping off treats to the TBE staff.

Todah Rabah to **Joan Levy, Isabelle Cohen Johnson, Joan Barkin and Sandra Kornblum** for their help preparing the beautiful reception for the Kahn-Troster/Freidenreich *brit milah* ceremony.

Todah Rabah to **Dick and Adele Aronson and Century Tire** for the donation of office supplies.

## MAZEL TOV

**Mazel Tov to Diane and Ernie Sturman** on the birth of their twelfth great grandchild, named Brooklyn, born January 8<sup>th</sup> in Seattle, WA. Brooklyn is the daughter of Daniel and Sara Romanow.

**Mazel Tov to Becky and Joe DeLois** on the birth of their grandson Asher Hugh DeLois on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in New York. Asher's parents are Becky and Joe's son Tony and his wife Elizabeth.

**Mazel Tov to Sara Kahn Troster and Rabbi David Freidenreich** on the birth of their son Jacob Meir on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, in Portland. Big sister Naomi Freidenreich is thrilled at the arrival of her baby brother.

## FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE & COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER



Please join us on  
Friday evening, March 28<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm -  
Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
6:30 pm (approx.) -  
Community Shabbat Dinner

TBE's religious school program, Kadima Beth El, invites the entire congregation to our monthly special Shabbat Family Service and Shabbat Dinner. Please join us for this wonderful opportunity to celebrate Shabbat together with old friends and new over a joyous Shabbat meal! This month's menu features special handmade gnocchi prepared by Chef Tommy Darhower and our volunteers\*. \*See below

Cost for Shabbat Dinner:  
Adults - \$10, Children (age 4 - 12) - \$6,  
Children (3 and under) - no charge;  
Family maximum - \$25;  
Kadima Beth El Families - no charge  
(included in tuition).

RSVP by Weds. March 26 to the TBE  
office at [office@tbemaine.org](mailto:office@tbemaine.org),  
tel. 774-2649.

SPECIAL GNOCCHI-MAKING  
WORKSHOP WITH CHEF  
TOMMY DARHOWER  
Friday, March 28, 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
Temple Beth El Kitchen

Join TBE member and chef Tommy Darhower (of 555) for a fun-filled session of making hand crafted Gnocchi on Friday afternoon March 28<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for our Community Shabbat Dinner that evening.

Limited to 10 participants. To sign up for this fun, free workshop, please contact the TBE office at [office@tbemaine.org](mailto:office@tbemaine.org), tel. 774-2649.

# DONATIONS & TRIBUTES

DECEMBER 2013 - JANUARY 2014

## ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Charlie and Ellie Miller  
Speedy recovery Dan Gatchell

## BUILDING FUND

Ernie and Toby Wallach  
In memory of Lea Wallach Stern  
Ernie and Toby Wallach  
In memory of Herman Wallach  
Ernie and Toby Wallach  
In memory of Stella and David Schreiber  
Kathy Stairs  
Leo & Rhea Fay Fruhman Foundation  
Steve and Chichi Levine  
In memory of Maurice Levine  
Steve and Chichi Levine  
In memory of Esther Weiner  
Jim and Bonnie Klein  
In memory of Phyllis Klein

## BROTHERHOOD

Phil and Elizabeth Levinsky  
In memory of Arnold Shapiro  
Phil and Elizabeth Levinsky  
In memory of Anna Chozick Weinstein  
Phil and Elizabeth Levinsky  
In memory of Sandra Hersh-Sime  
Phil and Elizabeth Levinsky  
In memory of Irving Zaitlin  
Phil and Elizabeth Levinsky  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Mark Crasnick  
In honor of Carl S. Lerman

## EDWARD WEISBERG FUND

Eddie Richman  
In memory of Dianne Schwey Richman  
Jeff Richman & Bill Bennett  
In memory of Dianne Schwey Richman  
Joan and Arthur Cope  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Joan and Arthur Cope  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Mark Richman  
In memory of Dianne Schwey Richman  
Rita Weisberg  
In memory of Evelyn Litman

## EDUCATION FUND

Jon and Amy Brier  
In honor of Carol Ingall's wedding

## GENERAL FUND

Abe and Tama Fineberg  
In memory of Norma Gottschalk Elowitz  
Abe and Tama Fineberg  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Adam and Lisa Arens  
Barbara Cowan  
In thanks for welcome during holiday visit  
Dan Skwire  
In memory of Ida Skwire  
Dauna Binder  
In memory of Ardyth Webb  
David and Barbara Turitz  
In memory of Bella Turitz

David and Barbara Turitz  
In memory of Dora Turitz  
David and Elaine Lewis  
In memory of Louis Weisberg  
David and Elaine Lewis  
In memory of Rachel Palais  
Debbie and Larry Fineberg  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Deborah Migdol  
In memory of Dr. Benjamin Zolov  
Deborah Skinner  
In thanks  
Dick and Adele Aronson  
In memory of Norma Gottschalk Elowitz  
Ed and Harriet Schultz  
In memory of Sarah Simonds  
Erwin and Audrey Muscat  
Gerald and Selma Cope  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Gil and Marilyn Prawer  
In memory of Sam & Iona Prawer  
Helen Isenman and Susan Isenman  
In memory of Sarah Leah Isenman  
Honey Goldman  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Irwin Gratz and Bonny Rodden  
In memory of Arthur Gratz  
James and Martha Burns  
In memory of Gail Burns Pelletier  
James and Martha Burns  
In memory of Mitchell E Burns  
James and Martha Burns  
In memory of Rose Burns  
Jean Martens  
Jerry Gillis  
In memory of Barbara Gillis  
Jerry Gillis  
In memory of Harry Gillis  
Jim and Bonnie Klein  
In memory of Rose Stone Klein  
Kathy Stairs  
Mark and Carol Willis  
In memory of Rita & Lester Willis  
Mark and Elaine Bramson  
In memory of Thelma Bramson  
Michael Clenott  
In memory of Martin H. Clenott  
Nora Ciffer  
In memory of Avram Coman  
Paul and Susan Trusiani  
In memory of Minette Seldin  
Paul and Susan Trusiani  
In memory of Norma Elowitz  
Peter and Barbara Shaw  
In memory of David Shaw  
Peter and Barbara Shaw  
In memory of Edward Ginsburg  
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In memory of Doris Shaw  
Ray and JoAnn Oransky  
In memory of Jean Uhler  
Ray and JoAnn Oransky  
In memory of Dora Rothenberg  
Richard and Adele Mack  
In memory Annie Mack and Alice Cohen  
Richard and Adele Mack  
Speedy recovery Ronald Jacobson  
Shirley Levine  
In memory of Mark Levine

Shirley Rosen  
In honor of Diana & Ernie Sturman's 12<sup>th</sup> great grandchild  
Shirley Rosen  
In honor of Rabbi's 19<sup>th</sup> year  
Shirley Rosen  
In memory of Harry Binder  
Shirley Rosen  
In honor of Rick & Anita Romanow's 1<sup>st</sup> grandchild

## GIFT SHOP DONATIONS

Alan and Karen Lerman  
Speedy recovery Bette Novick  
Alan and Karen Lerman  
Speedy recovery Ronald Jacobson  
Alan and Karen Lerman  
Speedy recovery Gary Shapiro  
Shirley Rosen  
In honor of Karen Lerman's birthday

## KADIMA BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine  
Campaign Allocation  
Debbie Kanter  
In memory of Zavil Levine

## KIDDUSH FUND

Arthur and Donna Silverman  
In memory of Benjamin Zolov MD  
Mark and Norma Filler  
In memory of Seymour J Filler  
Temple Beth El Brotherhood

## PHYLLIS AND JONAS B KLEIN FUND

David Weil  
In memory of Jonas & Phyllis Klein

## KOOCHER/ROBINOV FUND

Bill and Betsy Webber  
Speedy Recover Stanley Schatz  
Ethel Koocher  
In memory of Evelyn Litman  
Jackie Robinov  
In memory of Esther Wald Bookbinder  
Jackie Robinov  
In memory of Marilyn Bookbinder  
Jackie Robinov  
In memory of Marilyn Bookbinder  
Stan and Sherrie Schatz  
In memory of Beatrice Schatz

## TBE MEMORIAL PARK

Pearl Levine  
In memory of Samuel Kaufman  
Pearl Levine  
In memory of Maurice Levine  
Alvin Jolovitz  
In memory of Lester Jolovitz  
Geoffrey and Harriet Rice  
In memory of William Troubh  
Geoffrey and Harriet Rice  
In memory of Murray Rosen  
Geoffrey and Harriet Rice  
In memory of Norma Gottschalk Elowitz  
Pearl Levine  
In memory of Morris Kaufman  
Sherri Quint  
In memory of Bernie Maher

## MUSIC FUND

Dick and Adele Aronson  
In memory of Bertha Silverman



# DONATIONS & TRIBUTES

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Frances Cahn *In memory of Norma Elowitch*  
 Jerry and Phyllis Rosen  
*In memory of Evelyn Litman*  
 Paul and Susan Sugarman  
*In memory of Ben & Lillian Brilliant*  
 Steve and Peggy Shapiro  
*In memory of Pauline M Forman*  
 Steve and Peggy Shapiro  
*In memory of Philip Forman*

## SPECIAL DONATIONS & TBE WISH LIST

Arthur and Fran Jacobson *Carpet cleaning*  
 Irwin Gratz and Bonny Rodden *Table linens*  
 Temple Beth El Sisterhood *Table linens*  
 Ben and Judy Bertram and Elaine Rosen  
 Ernie and Toby Wallach  
 Gil and Barbara Dichter  
 Matt and Lynn Goldfarb

## TECHNOLOGY FUND

Shirley Rosen *In thanks to Tom Berman*

## YAD L'YAD

Stephen and Lisa Schiffman  
*In memory of Gerald Schiffman*

## Yahrzeit Fund

Adam Johnson and Isabelle Cohen Johnson  
*In memory of Samuel Israel Sasson*  
 Andre and Daniela Skalina  
*In memory of Julia Skalina*  
 Barbara Berkovich  
*In memory of Sumner Berkovich*  
 Bill and Vera Clenott  
*In memory of Anne Rosen*  
 Burt and Tama Louden  
*In memory of Thelma Silverstein*  
 Deborah Sabarra *In memory of Charles Kalish*  
 Eddie Richman *In memory of Freda Richman*  
 Eleanor Ostrovitz  
*In memory of mother Ethel H Kaplan*  
 Elliot and Linda Levine  
*In memory of Maurice Levine*  
 Eric Mack *In memory of Louis Weisberg*  
 Ernie and Toby Wallach  
*In memory of mother Stella Schreiber*  
 Ernie and Toby Wallach  
*In memory of Lea Wallach Stern*  
 Ernie and Toby Wallach  
*In memory of Herman Wallach*  
 Esther Goldberg *In memory of Abe Morrison*  
 Esther Goldberg *In memory of Ann Morrison*  
 Harlan Baker *In memory of Milton H Baker*  
 Henni Polak  
*In memory of my husband Bernard Polak*  
 Honey Goldman *In memory of Rose Hechtkop*  
 Honey Goldman *In memory of Bernie Hecht*  
 Ivan and Sue Most  
*In memory of Alfred Sheinwald*  
 Joel and Diana Gold  
*In memory of Beatrice Gold*

Larry and Janet Koch  
*In memory of Sharon Koch*  
 Larry and Janet Koch *In memory of Sol Koch*  
 Larry and Janet Koch  
*In memory of Arthur Adler*  
 Larry and Wendy Kane  
*In memory of Gertrude Kane*  
 Len and Lillian Slosberg  
*In memory of Alice & Gerald Slosberg*  
 Lenny and Merle Nelson  
*In memory of Lillian Royte*  
 Lenny and Patti Drapeau  
*In memory of Samuel I Burokoff*  
 Michael and Rena Becker  
*In memory of Aaron Levy*  
 Mildred Drees *In memory of Milton Kaplan*  
 Morty and Dorothy Shulman  
*In memory of sister Esther Charnes*  
 Myer Marcus *In memory of Saul Marcus*  
 Myer Marcus *In memory of Bertha Marcus*  
 Natalie Brenner  
*In memory of Miriam Goldstein*  
 Natalie Brenner  
*In memory of Howard Brenner*  
 Nora Ciffer *In memory of Ana Coman*  
 Nora Ciffer *In memory of Mihai Ciffer*  
 Robert and Ruth Finegold  
*In memory of Henry Lucas*  
 Rodger and Eydie Pryzant  
*In memory of Julius Pryzant*  
 Ron and Gaye Blumenthal  
*In memory of Donald Cohen*  
 Rubin and Sally Laskoff  
*In memory of Israel Rothblatt*  
 Sam and Bette Novick  
*In memory of David Novick*  
 Steve Gleit and Dana Robbins  
*In memory of Seymour Robbins*



# SUPPORTING TEMPLE BETH EL

Contributing to the following TBE funds is a wonderful way to honor a loved one, commemorate a yahrzeit or celebrate a special event. To make a donation, please complete the form below and send it along with your payment to Temple Beth El. Every gift makes a difference - we appreciate your support!

- Adult Education Fund
- Annual Appeal
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- Building Fund
- David & Ethel Wilson Family Fund
- Education Director's Discretionary Fund
- Edward Weisberg Fund
- Endowment Fund
- General Fund
- Kadima Beth El (Hebrew School)
- Phyllis & Jonas B. Klein Fund
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- Koocher/Robinov Hebrew School Scholarship Fund
- Temple Beth El Memorial Park Fund
- Molly Finkelman Choir / Music Fund
- Norman Finberg USY Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Sisterhood
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- Yad L'Yad (Caring Committee) Fund
- Yahrzeit Fund
- Youth Activity Fund

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MARCH

**SATURDAY, MAR. 1**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
6:12 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, MAR. 2**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel  
1:00 pm Baruch Spinoza & Contemporary Novel

**FRIDAY, MAR. 7**

5:21 pm Shabbat candle lighting time  
5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services

**SATURDAY, MAR. 8**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
6:21 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, MAR. 9 – Daylight Savings Time**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
9:30 am Brotherhood Breakfast  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel

**TUESDAY, MAR. 11**

5:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting

**FRIDAY, MAR. 14**

5:30 pm Shabbat Services  
6:30 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, MAR. 15**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
7:30 pm Havdalah time  
7:30 pm Megilla Reading & Purim Celebration

**SUNDAY, MAR. 16 – Purim**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Member Brunch & Purim Celebration  
1:00 pm Baruch Spinoza & Contemporary Novel

**TUESDAY, MAR. 18**

5:30 pm TBE Board Meeting

**FRIDAY, MAR. 21**

5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
6:38 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, MAR. 22**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
7:38 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, MAR. 23**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel

**FRIDAY, MAR. 28**

5:30 pm Family Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
6:30 pm Community Shabbat Dinner  
6:47 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, MAR. 29**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
7:47 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, MAR. 30**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel  
1:00 pm Baruch Spinoza & The Contemporary Novel

KADIMA BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PROGRAM  
Sundays, dates as noted 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Wednesdays 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

*All events subject to change. Please see our announcements or visit our website [www.tbemaine.org](http://www.tbemaine.org) for the latest information.*

APRIL

**TUESDAY, APR. 1**

5:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting

**FRIDAY, APR. 4**

5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
6:54 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, APR. 5**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
7:54 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, APR. 6**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel

**TUESDAY, APR. 8**

5:30 pm TBE Board Meeting

**FRIDAY, APR. 11**

5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
7:02 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, APR. 12**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
8:02 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, APR. 13**

9:00 am Kadima Beth El  
9:00 am Morning Minyan & Schmooze and Shmear  
10:00 am Perspectives on Israel  
1:00 pm Baruch Spinoza & Contemporary Novel

**MONDAY, APR. 14 – Erev Pesach, First Seder Night**

6:50 am Morning Minyan  
7:05 pm Candle lighting time

**TUESDAY, APR. 15 – Passover, 1<sup>st</sup> day, Second Seder Night**

**TBE OFFICE CLOSED**

9:30 am Holiday Services  
8:08 pm Candle lighting time

**WEDNESDAY, APR. 16 – Passover, 2<sup>nd</sup> day, TBE Office Closed**

9:30 am Holiday Services  
8:10 pm Havdalah Time

**FRIDAY, APR. 18 – Passover, 4<sup>th</sup> day**

5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
6:30 pm Friday Night Holiday Dinner  
7:10 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, APR. 19 – Passover, 5<sup>th</sup> day**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
8:10 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, APR. 20 – Passover, 6<sup>th</sup> day**

9:00 am Morning Minyan  
7:12 pm Candle lighting time

**MONDAY, APR. 21 – Passover, 7<sup>th</sup> day, TBE Office Closed**

9:30 am Holiday Services  
8:16 pm Candle lighting time

**TUESDAY, APR. 22 – Passover, 8<sup>th</sup> day, TBE Office Closed**

9:30 am Holiday Services  
8:18 pm Havdalah Time

**FRIDAY, APR. 25**

5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
7:17 pm Shabbat candle lighting time

**SATURDAY, APR. 26**

9:30 am Shabbat Services  
8:17 pm Havdalah time

**SUNDAY, APR. 27 - Erev Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance)**

9:00 am Morning Minyan  
TBA Holocaust Remembrance Observance at Slivka Memorial  
1:00 pm KBE 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

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for the May/June 2014 issue is Thursday, April 10.

Please submit material via e-mail as text in the body of the message or as an attached Microsoft Word document to [office@tbemaine.org](mailto:office@tbemaine.org). Temple Beth El reserves the right to edit all material.

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# TEMPLE BETH EL

400 Deering Avenue  
Portland, ME 04103

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www.tbmaine.org

## A NIGHT OF JEWISH BASEBALL

*A Tribute to William Toub*



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