



EARLY CHILDHOOD UPDATE

On July 13, after not seeing our smiling faces live for the past three months, we welcomed back our wonderful children for Camp Keshet! For four weeks straight, we've spent time outside, painted, had sprinkler and water game play, had several science experiments and nature hikes, celebrated birthdays and Shabbat, and had some wonderful Watermelon Wednesday guests! We successfully gave children ages two to five years old a safe and meaningful month where they were able to spend time with their friends! We had five of the best counselors we could have asked for, along with three teen helpers who were incredible with our children! On September 9, we will reopen our doors for a new school year.

During the COVID pandemic, we were able to successfully introduce children ages 18 months to five years to the world of digital learning. Children received two to four days of Zoom lessons, as well as hand-delivered materials, Shabbat on Fridays, Havdalah on Mondays, and daily stories throughout the time period Keshet was closed. We were fortunate to end the year with an in-person End of the Year celebration featuring Leah Sherman as a musical guest and Mini-Melts ice cream for a treat! Children received rainbow-themed goody bags, and were able to see friends and teachers from a distance.

With safety measures in place and several back-up plans, we are truly looking forward to welcoming everyone back in the fall. Some exciting programs in place include virtual trips to Israel, parent-teacher conferences via Zoom, and socially distanced family Sukkot programs. We will also be having our annual Apples with Abba on October 28 and Etrogs with Ima on October 7- both will be done virtually, with students in the class and bringing our families together via Zoom. Our curriculum will be the same enriched educational balance of Judaic and secular learning, along with a heavy focus on the social-emotional well-being of the children. Our plan is to give our children as normal of a school year as possible, given the abnormal times we are all facing.

Last year, we visited the concept of "What's Your Why?" Now more than ever, we need to revisit our "Why" as we slowly and safely welcome everyone back.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or for more information.

L'Shalom,

Mandi Warner

Mandi Warner



Keshet Apples with Abba


**SEPTEMBER 23
9:30 AM**

Apple themed activities, stories. Dads, Grandpas, Uncles, friends and family are all welcome virtually!

Etrogs with Ima

**OCTOBER 7
9:30 AM**

Sukkot themed activities and stories. Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, friends and family are all welcome virtually!





FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Since becoming Executive Director at Temple Beth El, much of my time throughout the summer has been dedicated to preparing for the High Holy Days. But, like everything else these past few months, the tasks that once were so routine have been anything but that.

In what has become, at least for now, our new normal, I have been working with our dedicated TBE staff to reimagine our High Holy Days, and pretty much everything else that happens routinely (and not) at Temple Beth El. While it has been a challenging time it has also been rewarding

In all the planning and prepping we always have you, our congregants, in mind. We have been learning new technical skills and trying to pass that knowledge along to you. A few highlights:

- You can still find Temple Beth El online by clicking www.tberochester.org. The website was completely redesigned with many new links and resources. Daily and Shabbat services can now be accessed in-person (for a small socially distanced number), on Zoom, on YouTube and often on Facebook live.
- We implemented a new billing system, www.tberochester.shulcloud.com, which is much more user friendly (I'm sure you'll all agree once you get the hang of it).
- We are working on upgrading our phone system so your calls can continue to be answered uninterrupted should we have to close the office again.

There were some staff changes this summer as well. Anna Eckert spent 14 years at Temple Beth El as an Administrative Assistant and Michelle Caron was a 20-year employee working a variety of different roles during her tenure. I want to thank Anna and Michelle for helping to make Temple Beth El a special place, and for all that they helped us to accomplish. Please join us in wishing them much success in their new endeavors. We are leaving open the possibility of working with both of them again.

The rest of us remain dedicated to meeting your Jewish and synagogue related needs as best we can. We miss the regular face-to-face contact and interactions with all of you. Please be in touch by phone, text, and email until we can see you in-person. We will continue to do the same.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and sweet New Year!

Deborah Zeger

YOUTH EDUCATION CORNER

Developing a clear and strong curriculum that generates buy-in from all congregational stakeholders is our first priority. This education strategy will aim to meet student and family needs through a schedule of curricular choices featuring contemporary topics explored through a Jewish lens. The aforementioned learning modalities will include in-person (when safe), in building, field learning, and virtual touchpoints to create a holistic systems approach.

Thank you to everyone who provided us with feedback and suggestions through surveys, interviews, and focus groups. We have heard from you that a core priority is Hebrew education, specifically making sure our students can follow and understand a Shabbat service. This is where we will start. We will offer a variety of options throughout the year including Hebrew skills, prayer and Torah comprehension, Jewish celebration, culture history, values and tradition.

Given these uncertain times, we are planning for a slower start to our Limmud school year. The link below will give you additional information and options for Jewish and Hebrew learning at Temple Beth El this year. For additional information contact Becca Zaretsky at rzaretsky@tberochester.org or Debbie Zeger at dzeger@tberochester.org.

www.tberochester.org/learn/limmud/

TO OUR TEMPLE BETH EL FAMILY

In the spirit of the High Holy Days we ask your forgiveness for transgressions we may have committed. We always have best intentions to respond to calls and Email in a timely manner, and to acknowledge a simcha, loss, illness, or donation. Please accept our sincere apologies.

We remain committed to doing a better job in the coming year. Shanah tovah um'tukah.

Handwritten signatures of four individuals.

SHABBAT WITH DR. RALPH NURNBERGER PH.D., M.A., B.A

Sponsored by the Earl Goldstein Torah Memorial Fund



Dinner to Go and Discussion OCTOBER 2 | 7:30 PM

Dr Nurnberger asks "How did
Hamilton get Hamilton right?"



Kiddush to Go and Discussion OCTOBER 3 | 1 PM

"House and Senate Races where do they stand?"
A discussion with Dr. Nurnberger

Dr. Ralph Nurnberger is a widely acclaimed speaker who brings humor, current political insights and historical background to his presentations which cover a wide range of historical and political topics. Dr. Nurnberger taught at Georgetown University for 38 years. He was named Professor of the Year by the Graduate School of Liberal Studies in 2003 and received another award in 2005 for over 20 years of excellence in teaching. He has advised numerous Congressional, Senatorial and Presidential campaigns on foreign policy issues, especially those related to the Middle East. In addition to his academic career, Ralph Nurnberger has served on Capitol Hill, in the Executive Branch and has also spent over thirty-five years in the field of government relations. He served for over eight years as a Legislative Liaison for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). In this capacity, he had direct contact with dozens of Senators and Members of Congress on issues related to the Middle East. Dr. Nurnberger was the first director of "Builders for Peace", an organization established in 1993, with the encouragement of then-Vice President Al Gore, to support the Middle East Peace process through economic and social development.

Visit www.tberochester.org/calendar to order dinner and/or kiddush to go.





COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Tot Shabbat

SEPTEMBER 11 | 5:30 PM

Join us for an outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service geared towards children aged 2-5.

Kabbalat Shabbat and Picnic

SEPTEMBER 11 | 6 PM

Come join us for Kabbalat Shabbat and enjoy a picnic on the lawn (tables and chairs included). In case of rain, services will be in the sanctuary and meals will be available to go. Space is limited.



Selichot Service "Music for the Soul"

SEPTEMBER 12 | 8:45 PM

An exquisite evening of prayer accompanied by a string quartet ensemble with piano, featuring Hazzan Randall Levin and Emily Levin on vocals. Conducted by Jonathan Allentoff, with remarks by Rabbi Bitran.

Sponsored by the Sheinfeld and Gorin Families in Memory of Trudy and Al Sheinfeld (z"l).



Kever Avot Visits with Rabbi Bitran

SEPTEMBER 13 | 10 AM-2:30 PM

MOUNT HOPE, WHITEHAVEN AND BRITTON ROAD

About Kever Avot: it is the custom of visiting the graveside of parents or close relatives during the High Holy Day season. The themes of the graveside prayers are the peaceful eternal rest for the departed, and an invocation for God's aid to the living on the basis of the pious deeds the dead performed in their lifetime.



High Holiday Youth and Family Work Shop

SEPTEMBER 16TH | 7 PM, GARDEN ROOM & ZOOM

For families of 5th graders and up, led by Hazzan Levin. Featuring High Holiday themes and prayers from a new Conservative Youth Machzor and a discussion about ways to make the holidays holy, whole, and meaningful at home.

For more information call 473-1770 or visit tberochester.org

Congregation Tashlich

SEPTEMBER 20 | 5 PM, LAKE RILEY

Join TBE members as we cast off our sins together.

20/30 Somethings Tashlich

SEPTEMBER 22 | 6:30 PM, PITTSFORD CANAL

Join 20/30 somethings as we cast off our sins together with a discussion. Followed by drinks.

Keshet Apples with Abba-Zoom

SEPTEMBER 23 | 9:30 AM CRAFT AND SNACK

Apple themed activities, stories. Dads, Grandpas, Uncles, friends and family are all welcome!



Frame the Sukkah with Mens Club

SEPTEMBER 29 | 9:30 AM

Add the schach(roof) with Mens Club

SEPTEMBER 30 | 9:30 AM

Family Sukkah Decoration

SEPTEMBER 30 | 4-6 PM

Spend September making decorations and come hang them socially distanced in our sukkah while enjoying some apple cider and donuts

October events on next page



Dinner to Go and Discussion

OCTOBER 2 | 7:30 PM

Special guest Dr. Ralph Nurnberger asks "How did *Hamilton* get Hamilton right?"

Registration requested for zoom link and for dinner at www.tberochester.org/calendar.

Kiddush to Go and Discussion

OCTOBER 3 | 1 PM

Special guest Dr. Ralph Nurnberger
"House and Senate Races where do they stand?"

Registration requested for zoom link and for dinner at www.tberochester.org/calendar.

Sponsored by the Earl Goldstein Torah Memorial Fund.

20/30 Somethings Sukkah and a Movie

OCTOBER 6 | 7 PM

Bring a warm blanket and join us in the sukkah, come for hard apple cider and donuts and stay for the movie.

Etrogs with Ima-Zoom

OCTOBER 7

9:30 AM CRAFT AND SNACK

Sukkot themed activities and stories.

Moms, Grandmas, Aunts, friends and family are all welcome!



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MAZAL TOV

To **ELLEN & CHARLES KONAR** on the birth of their grandson, Cameron Yorra Konar on July 23, 2020. And Mazal Tov to parents, Jessica & Stephen Konar; maternal grandparents Nancy & Mark Yorra; and great-grandparents Helen & Al Yorra and Fred Garner and Helaine Garner, z"l.

To **JOANNE PRIVES** on the engagement of her grandson, Benjamin Zax to Michelle Miron, and on the engagement of her grandson, Jacob Zax to Hannah Mellman. And Mazal Tov to Benjamin's parents, David and Marcia Zax of Ithaca, NY; and to Jacob's parents, Jeffrey Zax and Judith Graham of Denver, CO.

To **RACHEL & ALEX FINKEL** on the birth of their son, Ari Jacob Finkel on May 8, 2020. And Mazal Tov to big sister, Anna Maya Finkel; grandparents, Lisa & Ed Pelta and Svetlana & Tulya Finkel; and great-grandparents, Lynn & Arnold Goldman.

To **WENDY & JACK SCULL**, on the engagement of their daughter, Sabrina Michelle Scull to Brandon Ari Levey. And Mazal Tov to sister of the bride, Gabriella (Jacob) Becker; and to the grandparents, Isaac Manson & Evelyn Scull, z"l and Irving & Adele Faitler, z"l; and to the parents of the groom, Lisa & Larry Levey; siblings of the groom, Josh (Gaby) Levey, Gabrielle Levey, Adam Levey and Eliana Levey; and to the grandparents of the groom, Betty Handwerger & Joel Handwerger, z"l, Arnold Besser, z"l, Arline Gold & Larry Gold, z"l, and Burt Levey, z"l.

To **JENNIE SCHAFF & DAVID CLAR** on their engagement. And Mazal Tov to their children, Nathan, Charlie & Elie Schaff and Asher & Zach Clar; and to the mother of the bride-to-be, Isobel Goldman; and parents of the groom-to-be, Joan & Bob Clar.

To **ALLISON GROSSER** and **SHIRA PRESBERG** as the recipients of the Alan Tulin award for the 2019-2020 School Year. This award was established in 1988 in memory of Alan S. Tulin, one of the principals of Midrasha, the predecessor of today's Limmud program. Alan was a devoted supporter of Jewish education, and a wonderful teacher in both Hebrew and Public school. The award is a scholarship towards a program of Jewish studies in college.



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Please contact Sarah Lloyd
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B'NAI MITZVAH



NOAH WAGNER

Bar Mitzvah Date: August 22, 2020
Parents: Aaron Wagner and Nicole Stassen
Grandparents: Mark & Marcia Wagner and Catharina & Frans Stassen

Noah is an 8th grader at Twelve Corners Middle School. Noah is sports minded and athletic, playing both football and baseball. He excels scholastically and also plays the trumpet in the school band. He is looking forward to a time when all his friends and family can join him in celebrating becoming Bar Mitzvah.



HANNAH WAGNER

Bat Mitzvah Date: August 22, 2020 Mincha
Parents: Aaron Wagner and Nicole Stassen
Grandparents: Mark & Marcia Wagner and Catharina & Frans Stassen

Hannah is an 8th grader at Twelve Corners Middle School. She is quite athletic competing in both Cheer and Softball. She also is a figure skater. Hannah loves spending time with her two cats Katy and Rocket. She is looking forward to a time when she can truly celebrate becoming Bat Mitzvah with her friends and family from around the United States.



ZACH LEVITAN

Bar Mitzvah Date: August 29, 2020
Parents: Susan Sagan Levitan & Michael Levitan
Sibling: Max Levitan
Grandparents: Joyce & Bob Sagan and Anita & Ian Levitan

Zach is entering 8th grade at Barker Road Middle School. He was born and spent the first half of his life in Manhattan. Zach loves to play baseball, ski, travel and spend time with his family, friends and our dog Bobo. He is very entrepreneurial and into everything about sneakers! Zach can't wait to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with his family and friends in person and on Zoom.



ARI MAIER SPOKONY

Bar Mitzvah Date: September 5, 2020
Parents: Martin A. Spokony & Lina N. Maine
Sibling: Chaya Beth Spokony
Grandparents: Karl & Edith Spokony and Noury & Yvette Maine

Ari is entering eighth-grade at Hillel Community Day School. He is a big Green Bay Packers fan and likes playing basketball. Ari is an avid reader and enjoys all genres of music, especially 80's rock. More than anything else, Ari loves spending time with his family and friends. We are so very proud of Ari and we look forward to celebrating his Bar Mitzvah!



NICHOLAS LOPES GRAY

Bar Mitzvah Date: October 17, 2020
Parents: Coeli Lopes & Daniel Gray
Sibling: Isaac, Samuel & Elias Gray
Grandparents: Miriam & David Gray and Iracema Lopes & Milton Lopes, z'l

Nick is in 8th grade at Twelve Corners Middle School. He loves playing hockey and playing his saxophone. Earlier this year, he played on the modified soccer team at school. He is very excited to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with his friends and family



SAMUEL DAVID COHEN

Bar Mitzvah Date: October 24, 2020
Parents: Judy and Michael Cohen
Sibling: Laina Cohen
Grandparents: Stanley Skupsky & Pnina Skupsky z"l and Avraham and Michele Cohen

Sammy will be an 8th grader at Hillel Community Day School this fall. He is an avid reader that loves to learn. In his free time, Sammy enjoys playing piano and doing gymnastics. He is looking forward to celebrating his Bar Mitzvah with family and friends.



RYDER JACOB FLAUM

Bar Mitzvah Date: October 24, 2020 Mincha
Parents: Monica & Asher Flaum
Sibling: Austin Flaum
Grandparents: Ilene & David Flaum and Roberta & David Geula

Ryder is a fourth generation TBE member. He is the first born grandchild of the Flaum family with the middle name Jacob honoring his great grandfather Jacob Flaum, who survived the Holocaust. Ryder is an eighth grader at Twelve Corners Middle School. Ryder is an intelligent, compassionate, loyal, and well-rounded individual with many friends and strong relationships. His interests and hobbies have always included outdoor activities such as downhill skiing, wakeboarding and biking. Ryder is on the school basketball team and is on several competitive travel lacrosse teams. He is a dedicated pianist as well as an animal lover. He is also a budding entrepreneur, taking his passion for sneakers and streetwear and starting a small online business. He has also learned the importance of giving back to his community. He is a volunteer at Foodlink and has become their first Hungry Hero helping begin their Hungry Hero program.

Welcome New & Returning Members

Ronald Villa





MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club of Temple Beth El
Involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life

From the President

I hope all our Temple Beth El families are safe and well during this time of trial. The global pandemic has become the focal point of our lives and has affected the activities and operations of our congregation and the functions of its subsidiary organizations. The Men's Club programming has been disrupted because we have no access to the building and because it is not yet safe to gather in the numbers that we are accustomed to. It is unclear at this time when we will be able to resume our programming. At some point, we will try to present virtual programs, but alas, without the nice breakfasts or luncheons that usually accompany them.

In a few weeks, all congregants will be receiving a request to join or renew membership in the Men's Club for the next year, but dues will be voluntary. If you are so inclined, we ask for your support at whatever level you think appropriate.

Again, I wish everyone the best of health and hope we can all be together soon.
Gerald Russ



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incredible things happen.



SHANAH TOVAH

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year

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COMING SOON

We are working to
develop an on-line
presence. Watch for
more information.