

THE

Temple Beth El

בית אל

Kael

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MARCH–AUGUST 2025

ADAR–ELUL 5785

5785

Spring & Summer
Issue with Passover
Schedules &
Information





Mission Statement

Temple Beth El is a vibrant and inclusive community of Jews who join together for prayer, education, celebration, mutual support and comfort, tikkun olam and acts of loving kindness. We are guided by Torah and the principles of the Conservative movement. We are committed to our community, the State of Israel, and Jews around the world.

Vision Statement

Our vision is that Temple Beth El will be an inspiring center of Conservative Judaism in which meaningful experiences and memories take root and grow.

Values Statement

We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation.

We value and respect each congregant and their personal journey in Judaism.

We foster a sense of connectedness with our community.

We value participation in all aspects of synagogue and Jewish life.

Our congregation will be here for the entire Temple family now and for future generations.

Welcome!



139 Winton Road South
Rochester, NY 14610
Phone: 585-473-1770

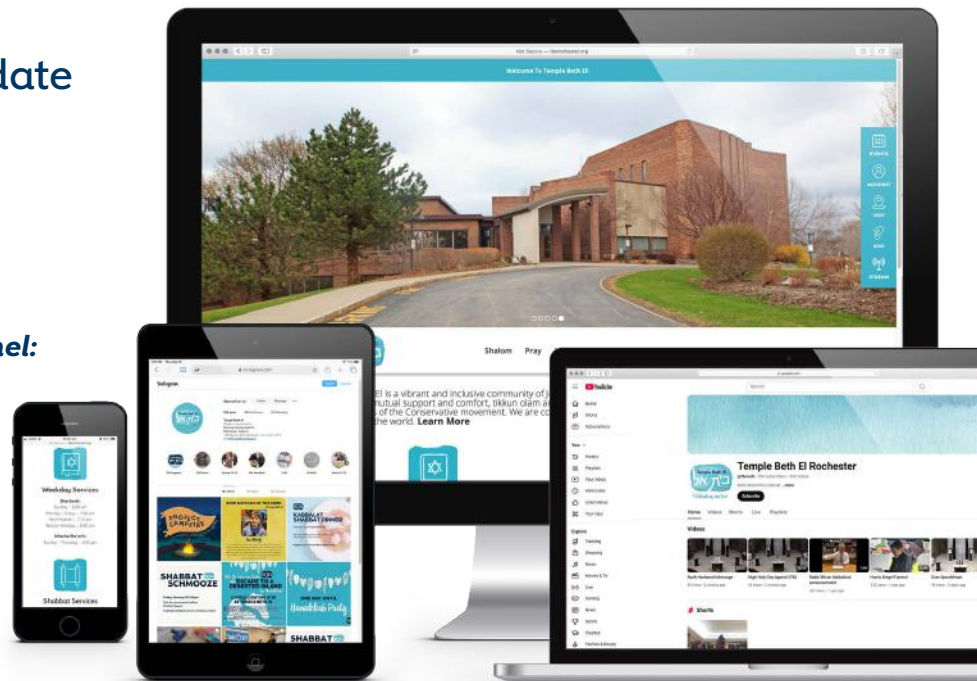
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information and content.

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Temple Beth El Rochester



WEEKDAY SERVICES

Shacharit:

Sunday:8:30 am
Monday–Friday:7:30 am
Rosh Hodesh:7:15 am
Secular Holidays:8:30 am

Mincha/Ma'ariv:

Sunday–Friday:6:00 pm



SHACHARIT ZOOM LINK:

<https://tinyurl.com/y6p5ky6h>
Call-in: (929) 205-6099
Meeting ID: 846 8881 5480



MINCHA/MA'ARIV ZOOM LINK:

<https://tinyurl.com/y6d78zxs>
Call-in: (929) 205-6099
Meeting ID: 841 5194 9603



SHABBAT SERVICES

Pesukei dezimra:9:30 am
Shacharit:10:00 am
Torah Service:10:30 am

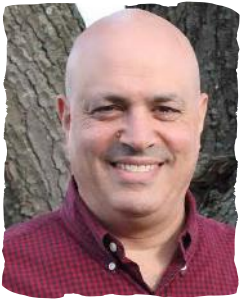
Mincha/Ma'ariv:

1 hour and 15 minutes
prior to Havdalah

LIVE STREAM LINK:

<https://www.tberochester.org/live-stream/>

All Shabbat information including our trifold can be found on our website:
<https://www.tberochester.org/pray/shabbat-services/>



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am writing this letter after enjoying myself at this year's Temple Beth El Hanukkah party. I am pleased to report that we had an attendance of 200 happy celebrants, many dressed in their finest Hawaiian shirts honoring our luau theme! Our Temple staff, teachers, shinshinim and congregant volunteers all contributed to make this event possible.

I consider Temple Beth El my hidden gem. I say hidden despite TBE being part of me my entire life. But it was not until fairly recently that I got more involved in my Temple community. It started with assisting in the effort to organize our annual joint Temple golf outing with Temple Beth David. It continued through becoming a member of the Temple Board. And has extended through my service as treasurer and now president. I never really knew what I was missing until I was drawn in. I can't imagine my life without TBE. And I hope that in 2025, if you have not been active in attending services, participating in the many activities we have to offer or volunteering in some capacity in Temple life, I encourage you to do so.

There is so much going on at Temple Beth El. Our Rabbi search committee led by Carolyn Nussbaum is now interviewing potential successors to Rabbi Bitran. The application process is an exhaustive one. There have been numerous congregational meetings to update our members where the committee has invited input as to the attributes a new Rabbi should possess.

Keshet is now in the process of being licensed by the NYS Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS). With the expected issuance of the license, we will be able to consider expanding the hours of operation as well as being eligible for state assistance for facility upgrades and professional development programs for our staff.

Have you seen all the activity stemming from our BeWise program? Jewish education for our kids is not just in a classroom. Last week there was a Tot Shabbat where a number of young families were in attendance. Furthermore, steps are being taken to revive our USY chapter!

I wish all of you a year filled with peace and happiness, as I prepare to light the Hanukkah candles with my loved ones. L'chaim!

Evan Spindelman



FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR RABBI

The Seder's Hidden Message

We will all be sitting at Seder meals in a couple of weeks.

Thinking ahead encourages us to reflect on the past. As we consider this year's Seder, we recall those

from previous years. Naturally, these memories are mixed; some are filled with joy, while others carry a bittersweet tone. Some included *kitniyot* (legumes), while others did not. Specific memories evoke great happiness, while others bring sorrow. They range from the Seder when you drank too much wine and woke up with a throbbing headache the next day to the first Seder after a grandparent or parent passed away. We all share these memories and more, each contributing to the 'specialness' of the Seder and the vintage Maxwell House Haggadot stained with wine and sprinkled with matzah crumbs.

Passover is considered one of the most significant Jewish events, even in secular society. Participation in a Passover Seder greatly exceeds attendance at a synagogue on Yom Kippur and closely rivals only the lighting of the *Hanukkah*.

The question is, "Why?" How did an almost secular event—like a dinner party with family, friends, and Matzot—become a highly charged religious occasion?

Jacob Neusner writes in his book, *The Enchantments of Judaism*, that "we would not discover anything if we merely reviewed the words spoken; just as the formula of Kol Nidre does not reveal the wonder of the theater into which the synagogue transforms on the eve of the Day of Atonement." (p. 69) He continues, "The Seder is a ceremonial meal; it transforms people into something different from what they believe themselves to be and places them squarely on the path of history. . . people become something else—a wonder created by words."

How can we explain the draw of the Seder?

Indeed, it offers an opportunity for family members to gather and is also viewed as a spring counterpart to Thanksgiving. However, in many instances, the meal is accompanied by some ceremony or rite derived from the Haggadah. What makes this even more unusual is that the Haggadah is written in a language that feels disconnected from our reality.

What is the central concept of the Haggadah? It is "*Avadim Hayenu*," meaning "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, Lord our G-d brought us forth from there . . ." And, of course, the essential dictation of the entire ritual is summed up in the passage, which proclaims, ". . . in every generation, everyone must think of himself or herself as having gone forth from Egypt."

The rituals and story of the Haggadah inspire us to connect with our past. We often think of the Seder rituals, such as drinking wine, eating matzah and *Maror*, dipping

Karpas in salt water, opening the door for the prophet Elijah, and the custom of reclining while eating and drinking. However, these food rites are only part of the Seder. What should truly capture our attention are the four questions.

Neusner offers an interesting and somewhat controversial suggestion. Why does the Seder speak to us as American Jews at home in America? After all, most of us have never truly experienced oppression and slavery. His answer turns to the passage proclaiming, "In every generation, they rise against us."

Neusner suggests Passover, particularly the Seder, reminds us of our minority status. Jews are drawn to the Seder because they "experience an anguish rooted in mythic existence, as this anguish lends their ordinary lives a metaphoric quality that imbues meaning into what is already perceived."

In many ways, Passover addresses our sense of 'otherness.' While the imagery of slavery may feel distant for many, the feeling of 'otherness' still resonates—we remain strangers in a land that isn't our own! This is not because our neighbors are enemies, as it was for the Israelites in Egypt, but rather due to our awareness of how we differ from the majority. We are different. We may feel at home in North America, but being Jews here carries a particular sense of separation. We think of *matzah* and *Sedarim* while everyone else focuses on Easter bunnies and Easter weekend services.

For us, *Motzei Shabbat* (the end of Shabbat) on April 12, 2025, marks our first Seder. Although it falls a week before Easter this year, it remains one of those pivotal moments—Hanukkah being another prime example—when we are encouraged to reaffirm our Jewish identity in a Christian world.

The words may be strange and arcane, but the Seder's message—solidarity with the Jewish past, present, and hopefully future—somehow emerges from the text and reaches for our souls.

As you enjoy your *Sedarim*, please take a moment to reflect on the allure of the Seder, including its myths, magic, and transformative power. Consider the feeling of otherness and think about yourself, your family, and your Jewish community, remembering that many sub-communities within Judaism also experience this sense of otherness. Hopefully, this year, we will encounter less antisemitism and more acceptance of who we are.

Most of all, we should reflect on the Seder's powerful intergenerational message, which draws us to the moment and our sense of identity as Jews.

Hag Kasher V'Sameach

Rabbi Leonardo Bitran



FROM HAZZAN AUSTERKLEIN

Represent—and Act!

I love great Jewish liturgical music—masterworks which are now mostly performed in concert. Great performances beautify the words of our prayers, and singing them is a wonderful blessing. I am sure this is true for our Christian brethren who attend classical masterworks and performances of Christian sacred repertoire. Living in Rochester with its riches of great music, one has many opportunities to be eternally fascinated by these musical gems.

But there is a difference between representation and action—between experiencing and doing. For Christians, this is the difference between hearing a mass in concert and going to mass. For Jews, it is the difference between hearing Shabbat music and observing Shabbat. This phenomenon was observed by the mid-twentieth century philosopher Guy Debord (1931-1994) in his work, *The Society of Spectacle*. Debord described how our modern society tends away from communal action and towards representation of such action via spectacle, leading to our isolation. In a world which creates more and more manufactured and marketed desires, Debord pointed to each individual's challenge: "The more he identifies with the dominant images of need, the less he understands his own life and his own desires. The spectacle's estrangement from the acting subject is expressed by the fact that the individual's gestures are no longer his own; they are the gestures of someone else who represents them to him." That is to say that the more we want our lives to look like a certain thing, we often accumulate spectacles to replace the thing itself.

Even more than with music, this is an issue of contemporary social media. What are Instagram or Reels but an accumulation of spectacles? Locked into an ever expanding kaleidoscope of others' lives, we find ourselves prey to Debord's predictions of isolation as we accumulate—but never realize—the higher selves we want.

How do we rise above a world of endless representation? Judaism has an antidote—mitzvot.

Want an experience of transcendence? Don't just watch—do.
 Don't just sing—pray.
 Don't just hear music—make music.
 Don't just post and comment—call and visit.
 Don't just scroll—sit down with a friend and the ultimate scroll, Torah.

Although Mount Sinai was an awe-inspiring event, it was no mere spectacle. Jewish tradition teaches that God spurned revealing himself on the large, impressive mountains of Carmel and Tavor, instead picking the short, lowly hill of Sinai. Later, Elijah would discover that God's spectacular defeat of the prophets of Ba'al (1 Kings 18) was ineffective at long term change; instead, he had to listen to the still, small voice. So too, we should seek transcendence not through the grand accumulation of experiences, digital or otherwise, but with humility through the mitzvot and *hesed* (lovingkindness) we contribute to the world.

Our community is a bedrock of beautiful opportunities for mitzvot. We are filled with Jews, young and old, who want to act to care for each other, grow Jewishly, and contribute to our city. We Jews need representation, but we need action even more. May you be blessed this year to accumulate the next right action, the next mitzvah, and the next act of care, towards a life well-lived.

Warmly,

Matt Austerklein



ADULT EDUCATION AT TBE

*Find more class offerings on our calendar starting on page 30,
or online at tberochester.org/calendar.*

Weekly Haftarah Class

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 10 AM | ZOOM

When Antiochus IV Epiphanes (c. 215–164 B.C.E.; Greek Hellenistic king) forbade the public reading of the Torah to prevent Israel's spiritual revival. Instead, Israel resorted to reading the Prophets, replacing the Torah readings. Please join Rabbi Bitran on Zoom every Wednesday at 10 am to study and explore each Haftarah of the year.

Weekly Shabbat Kiddush Learning

EVERY SATURDAY

Every Saturday at kiddush, different presenters will lead an educational session for congregants. There will be an alternating list of local and visiting clergy, Jewish education professionals and academics from our own community.

Dilemmas of Faith Series

SELECT WEDNESDAYS | 7 PM

Rabbi Bitran and Rabbi Silbert of Temple Beth David lead the *Dilemmas of Faith* series from the Shalom Hartman Institute, a course meant to explore the foundational issues of faith. They will address the big questions raised by the intersection of faith and reason, faith and history, faith and politics, and the faith experience.

Pints and Purim

SATURDAY, MARCH 8 | 7–8 PM

THREE HEADS BREWING

Temple Beth El members and other community members are invited to Three Heads Brewing from 7–8 pm for shmoozing and learning from Stephen Papkin on everything that you didn't know about Purim!

BE.WISE Pesach For Parents

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 | 11:30 AM

Parents and guardians of BE.WISE students are invited at 11:30 am for bagels and a historical look at the Exodus from Egypt. Taught by Stephen Papkin

Learning On The Lake

SUNDAY, JUNE 29 | 9 AM | CANADICE LAKE

Congregants are invited to meet us at Canadice Lake on the morning of Sunday, June 29 for kayaking on Canadice Lake! We will take a break to learn about Jewish views on nature and protecting the earth. Taught by Stephen Papkin.



HAZZANUT AT TBE

This year we have contracted with Hazzan Matthew Austerklein and Hazzan Jonathan Kohan who will be here on a regular basis to lead our congregation in prayer.

Their schedules are listed below:

HAZZAN AUSTERKLEIN:

MARCH 15-16

MARCH 28-30

APRIL 25-27

MAY 16-18

MAY 30- JUNE 3

JUNE 6-8

JONATHAN KOHAN:

APRIL 10-20



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I've been talking a lot about wanting to slow down in 2025, for me that means pulling back a little from my more than full time job responsibilities to spend more time with friends and family. However, Temple Beth El is where many of my friends and family spend a lot of their time which poses a challenge to this goal.

I'm hoping you too have found your community at TBE. We have lots of opportunities for you to be here with your friends and family this spring and summer! Many of our committees including communications, ritual, membership, development, inclusion/LGBTQ, archives, education, tikkun olam, facilities, finance, sisterhood and men's club, are looking for new members to help plan and execute events. We also have some "stand alone" volunteer jobs. Check out Volunteer Central at tberochester.org/volunteer if you are interested in getting involved.

We're looking forward to our traditional warm-weather activities, like the Richard W. Briskin Cantorial Concert in March, Purim celebrations and our communal second Seder on Passover in the spring; Camp Keshet and Watermelon Wednesdays, the Annual TBE/TBD/TBK/Sinai Golf Tournament and Red Wings Baseball with Men's Club & 20's/30's round out the summer.

Be sure to check out The Irish-Yiddish sing along featuring Hazzan Austerklein and Himself, a local Irish music group. Coming up on Saturday, March 14, this year's program will include Irish Dance with Rabbi Cece Beyer, who will also participate in Shabbat services and study sessions while she is in town.

I'm thankful for all of the opportunities to spend time at TBE and continue to find joy and comfort in the community we have built here. However you choose to be here at TBE, I'm looking forward to spending quality time with you soon!

Debbie Zeger

ONLINE RESOURCES



YAHRZEITS You should have received an email or letter stating when the Yahrzeit of your loved one will be observed according to the Jewish calendar. Names will be read on the Shabbat dates listed below, prior to the actual Yahrzeit. Kaddish is also recited at Ma'ariv (evening service) on the night on which the Yahrzeit begins and at Shacharit (morning service) and Mincha (afternoon service) on the day of the Yahrzeit. Actual dates can be found on your Shulcloud account or by calling the office at (585) 473-1700.

The monthly list of daily Yahrzeit dates can be found at www.tberochester.org/celebrate/yahrzeits



DONATIONS

Temple Beth El is very grateful for every donation we receive. Your support enables us to provide ongoing services and programs to the congregation and community.

Give now to Temple Beth El at www.tberochester.org/support



VOLUNTEER

Give your time and talents to help at Temple Beth El throughout the year.

Find opportunities and initiatives at www.tberochester.org/meet/volunteer



MAZAL TOV

We are happy to pass along news about our congregants and community. Share yours by calling the office at (585) 473-1770 or by emailing communications@tberochester.org. **Mazal Tavs can now be found at**

www.tberochester.org/celebrate/mazel-tovs



COMMUNITY EVENTS & CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Temple Beth El programs and candle lighting times for Holy Days and Shabbat can be found by month and date **starting on page 30 and at www.tberochester.org/calendar**



YOUTH & FAMILY UPDATE

Shalom!

It's been proven that in the first five years of a child's life is when the brain develops the most and at the most exponential pace. One of the most powerful components of my role is getting to see the growth in Beth El's youngest members during these formative years and beyond. Between Keshet Preschool and those early years in BE.WISE, as well as getting to know your children through family programming, I'm always in awe as I watch them grow.

A bright spot to illuminate this concept was in early December when I was in the kindergarten class for BE.WISE. The children were making cards for soldiers, and there were four madrichim in the class. There was an interaction between a kindergartener and a high school sophomore that caught my attention. The kindergartener was a child who I had watched walk in the doors of Keshet in an incredibly shy manner when he had just turned three years old, hardly talking to anyone around him, and the sophomore was a young woman who I had the privilege of teaching when she was four years old. The boy was smiling ear to ear, chatting away, as the madrich was guiding him in writing, the same way I remember guiding her. To see this child feel confident enough to allow a teen to help him, and to see my student become the teacher to a student I had over ten years later was reminiscent of a scene from a movie. It was pure magic.

There have been plenty of other highlights throughout our school year. It feels like it was just yesterday that we welcomed almost fifty children into Keshet Preschool, and yet we are now more than halfway through the school year. Our students are thriving, and we see exponential growth in all disciplines from Judaic learning to social-emotional development to literacy and numeracy skills.

We had several Early Childhood events including apple picking for Rosh Hashanah and two Tot Shabbat services. Our apple picking event partnered with Beth Shalom's Early Childhood community, and about fifteen Beth El families attended. One of the most beautiful highlights of our Tot Shabbat services was the simultaneous timing with the BE.WISE services. There were several advantages to this including families with children in both age cohorts being able to participate in services at the same time. Another highlight was that all of the families were interacting with each other, and our younger children were able to see what is in their near future.

We have a lot to look forward to in the upcoming months. We are launching a new program for early childhood families soon to combine STEM with Judaic learning. These sessions will be taking place quarterly on Sunday mornings, and will involve in-house visits from the Rochester Museum and Science Center with follow up lessons on how these concepts relate to Jewish holidays and values. This program was made possible by the Ignite Jewish Education Partner Grant. Stay tuned for more information!

We will be releasing registration for Camp Keshet in the next few weeks, and you will not want to miss out. Last summer we were excited to welcome students from all over the world including Germany and Israel, and we brought in several new themes. We plan on doing the same this year by bringing back fan favorites such as Messy Art, but also introducing new themes including Hanukkah in July and Summer STEAM. We are looking forward to expanding our horizons with Watermelon Wednesday and bringing in even more guests throughout the summer.

Thank you for letting me be a part of helping in those formative years, and thank you for allowing me to continue to watch your children grow! Feel free to reach out to chat. I love getting new ideas and hearing what your family and children are involved in and interested in.

Mandi Warner

Mandi Warner
Youth & Family Director



CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING UPDATE

It is so amazing to see our youth engaging in vibrant Jewish learning and Jewish living here at Temple Beth El! This past fall, the BE.WISE Religious School's K - 7 program grew by twenty percent. Additionally, we added a teen madrichim program that has our teens working and volunteering in religious school classes. Eighteen teen madrichim are gaining valuable skills as the Jewish leaders of tomorrow, and are engaging in Hebrew high school education as well! Our BE.WISE students have helped to lead two Shabbat services so far this year and will lead two

more in the winter and spring. We are so excited for the kids to share the great Hebrew and prayer skills that they have had so much fun learning! BE.WISE family programming is scheduled throughout the rest of the school year as well, including our BE.WISE Family Tu B'Shvat Seder, a Purim carnival, and our end-of-year Siddur ceremony.

Teen youth group activities started out this fall with a kayak outing, an overnight Shabbaton, and a Chanukah-themed Nintendo tournament. We are looking forward to a lot of great teen programming throughout the winter and spring, including Havdalah Laser Tag, a Purim Limo hop, a chocolate seder, and a Shavuot ice cream party, all in collaboration with Temple B'rith Kodesh and Temple Sinai. Students are also looking forward to a Tu B'Shvat Succulent program, and overnight Lag B'Omer Shabbaton with teens from Ithaca! It is so great to see our teen community engaging so actively in Jewish life here at Temple Beth El. We are also planning some exciting opportunities for our Middle School students late in the spring, including a day trip to visit centers of Jewish life in Toronto!

Congregational learning opportunities will continue into the winter and spring for our adult learners as well, including monthly engagements with Chazzan Matt Austerklein from February through June and a lengthy visit from Chazzan Jonathan Kohan in April. The chazzanim will also participate in our weekly Shabbat Kiddush Learning, which will have alternating clergy and experts from our own community leading Jewish teaching sessions on a weekly basis! Other congregational learning opportunities include weekly virtual Hafarah study with Rabbi Bitran on Wednesday mornings, Pints and Purim learning at Three Heads Brewing, and a summer kayak outing on Canadice Lake to learn about Jewish laws about nature.

The upcoming months are going to be filled with a lot of fun, laughter and learning! Please feel free to reach out anytime with questions or concerns regarding Temple Beth El's educational programs. I look forward to learning with you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Papkin'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large 'S' and 'P'.

Stephen Papkin,
Director of Congregational Learning



BE. WISE:

JEWISH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

BE.WISE, (Beth El wisdom, identity, spirituality, enrichment, engagement, education) offers quality supplementary Jewish education. This comprehensive program is geared for children from grades Kindergarten through Seventh grade, and offers Madrichim programs for students in Eighth grade and high school. Core courses focus on building Hebrew literacy while building connections to Jewish tradition. Students learn about Israel, Jewish history, Jewish identity, Tefillah and the chagim. Elective classes change frequently with offerings including Judaism in Art, Culinary Judaism and Jewish Music.

For more information, contact
Stephen Papkin at
spapkin@tberochester.org or visit
tberochester.org/bewise



Keshet Preschool, a Jewish early childhood program, is dedicated to serving the entire Rochester community. In a warm loving environment, through play, your child will gain a love of Jewish and secular learning as well as develop their social-emotional skills.

Register now!
tberochester.org/keshet

For more information, contact **Mandi Warner**
at mwarner@tberochester.org





TEENS & BE. WISE AT TBE

TEENS

Purim Hop with TBK + Sinai

MARCH 11

On the evening of Tuesday, March 11th, teens from Temple B'rith Kodesh, Temple Sinai and Temple Beth El will meet at Temple Beth El for pizza bagels and a Purim spiel.

Afterwards, a party bus will take the teens to Temple Sinai for hamentaschen baking and Temple B'rith Kodesh for matanot l'evyonim (social action project aimed at helping food insecure families that is a special commandment on Purim).

Chocolate Seder

APRIL 6 | TEMPLE SINAI

Teens in grades 8-12 are invited to Temple Sinai to take part in a Pesach seder with a twist—everything in the seder meal is chocolate! Evening of Sunday, April 6.

Lag B'Omer Shabbaton with TBE Ithaca

FRIDAY, MAY 16 | 5:30 PM

Teens from Temple Beth El in Ithaca and from other synagogues in Rochester will come to Temple Beth El for a bonfire and Shabbaton to celebrate Lag B'Omer! Arriving at 5:30 on Friday, May 16th, teens will enjoy a bonfire, their own Kabbalat Shabbat services and a sleepover at Temple Beth El. Teens will completely unplug for a night of games and bonding before waking up and taking a special role in Shabbat morning services.

Shavuot with TBK + Sinai

MAY 31

Ending teen collaborations for the year with a bang, Temple Sinai and Temple B'rith Kodesh will join teens from TBE grades 8-12 for an ice cream party and Shavuot celebration to mark all of the fun that we had this year.

Middle School Toronto Trip

JUNE 8

Jewish teens from Rochester in grades 6-8 are invited to join us on a day trip to Toronto on Sunday, June 8th. Leaving early in the morning, teens will visit the Toronto Holocaust museum and other cultural Jewish sites in Toronto. Teens will get a kosher breakfast, lunch and dinner and will stop for a fun surprise before returning to Rochester that night.

Kickoff Event - Letchworth Hike

AUGUST 31 | 8 AM

Teens from Temple Beth El will kick off the year with a hike through Letchworth State Park! All Jewish teens grades 8-12 are welcome to join us at Temple Beth El in the morning before we drive together down to the park for a morning of hiking and a kosher lunch.

BE. WISE

Family Purim Celebration

THURSDAY, MARCH 13 | 5-7 PM

BE.WISE families are invited to attend the annual Family Purim Celebration on March 31! Everyone should feel free to bring a costume and come enjoy games, prizes, face painting, a costume show, and a family Megillah reading.

Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Austerklein

MARCH 28 | 5:30-6 PM | YOUTH LOUNGE

BE.WISE Families will arrive between 5:30-6 pm for snacks in the youth lounge and BE.WISE students will help to lead services with prayers they have been learning in school this year! Hazzan Matt Austerklein will lead services.

Year End Party and Ceremonies

SUNDAY, MAY 4 | 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

It's a Star Wars themed end of the year celebration of learning! May the Fourth be with you because families are invited to enjoy music, games, food, learning showcases and a siddur ceremony!



MEN'S CLUB

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

A Men's Club Minute from Club President Howard Ressel

So far this season we have met our new Education Director Stephen Papkin at our Member's Stories program and we featured an outstanding presentation by our neighbor and Mayor Malik Evans. By the time you have read this you will have met fellow member Freyda Schneider, the founder of TYKEs theater at the JCC. Several more Member Stories programs are planned for this spring. As we transition from winter to spring, we also completed our successful World Wide Wrap program. Aaron Turney has taken over this program and worked with our teachers to continue the successful "Build-a-Pair" program. Did you know the "Build-a-pair" program was started in Pittsburgh PA, by members of our own Tri-State Region?

As this Kol hits your mailboxes, we will be weeks away from Men's Club Shabbat. Thanks, again to Larry Kovalsky for helping to coordinate our torah readers. I am sure it will be a very enriching Shabbat morning service led by the Club. Look for yellow candles, they will be out soon.

We continue to reach out beyond traditional Men's Club boundaries working with Ben Hart to support his Haver - Abbas group that aims to bring dads and kids together in a Jewish environment. We are also working with the University of Rochester chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi), an international Jewish fraternity.

Finally, I close this message with a hearty thank you to all who have helped me grow Temple Beth El's Men's Club. This will be my last year as President, but I am sure I will be as involved as ever for years to come. I plan to close out my term by attending the FJMC Biennial Convention in Chicago. I hope to bring back lots of new ideas and programs for us to try. Stay tuned in June as we announce our new slate of officers for 2025-26.

Feel free to contact me with anything Men's Club related questions, ideas, or complaints at Mensclub@tberochester.org

Howard Ressel
President



Calendar

MARCH

8 Men's Club Shabbat

30 Men's Club
Breakfast

APRIL

8 Members Stories:
Getting to Know Us

24 Yom HaShoah

MAY

18 Members Stories:
Getting to Know Us

JUNE

15 Annual meeting
with speaker

AUGUST

15 Annual Red Wings
Outing



SISTERHOOD

**When women support each other,
incredible things happen.**

*All Sisterhood meetings and programs are
open to the entire Temple Beth El family.*

FAQs—Are Sisterhood programs only for Sisterhood members?

No. These are Temple-wide programs. Everyone can help run, and participate, in everything. Sisterhood is the organizer.



**Our Next
P.A.D.
Party
SUNDAY,
MARCH 9
11 AM**

Have fun. Do a good deed.

Please consider donating Individually wrapped feminine hygiene products to include in these kits, in the barrel outside the Chapel.

Or, send a donation to TBE Sisterhood, 139 Winton Rd South, Rochester NY 14610. Write "PAD Donation" in the memo. We'll purchase items for you.

College "Care Packages" DEADLINE: MARCH 24

Do you have a child or grandchild in college this year? Sisterhood would like to send a "care package" to them, to let them know we are thinking about them. Packages will ship before Passover. This program is free and open to Temple Beth El Sisterhood members in good standing.

Please email the following information to Amy Wasserman at wasscleans@aol.com:
Name of Sisterhood member
Name of college student
College student's school address

Sisterhood Annual Meeting SUNDAY, JUNE 8 | 1 PM

Check our bi-monthly Sisterhood Newsletter for up-to-date program details about our Annual Meeting and other current programs.

Not receiving our Newsletter? Send an email to gailfink49@gmail.com, and we will add you to our distribution list.

You don't have to be a Sisterhood member to receive the Newsletter. You don't have to be a Sisterhood member to participate in Sisterhood programs.

Just Judaica Gift Shop

Just Judaica, our Temple gift shop, is the largest retail Judaica Gift Shop in western and central New York. The money we make goes back to the congregation, as Shiva packages, Chumashim gifts for Bat/Bar Mitzvahs, Tikkun Olam projects like our PAD program, Sisterhood Shabbat, and so much more.

We have an outstanding selection of Mezzuzot and Tallit, and items for every Jewish holiday. Need a wedding present or baby gift?—this is the place. We sell high quality personalized Kippot and Ketubahs at below-internet prices.

Many items in our shop are created by artists and craftspersons for us, and not available on the internet. We use our buying power to offer you below-internet prices.

Regular Shopping Hours – when school is in session

Sunday mornings - 9:30 AM to noon

Wednesday afternoons: 4-6 PM

Need a different time?

For an appointment call Lynda (585-314-8288) or Iris (585-739-2428).



Sisterhood Mission Statement

Our mission is to strengthen and unite the women of Sisterhood and support them to understand and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism in the home, synagogue and community and reinforce their bonds with Israel and Jews worldwide.



20s & 30s

This is a welcoming place for Jews in their 20/30s. Jewish and non Jewish partners are always welcome to join! Parents may bring children under the age of 2.

Join the 20s & 30s on Facebook for information on all upcoming events at www.facebook.com/TBE2030. All times are subject to change.

Hamantaschen Bake

MARCH 12 | 6:30 PM

Post-Pesach Hike

APRIL 27

Shabbat Dinner

MAY 30 | 7 PM

Eric Weiner Memorial Event

JUNE 8



A watercolor-style illustration of a Purim celebration. In the top left is a blue and white masquerade mask. In the top center is a blue plate filled with triangular hamantaschen (Oznei Haman). To the right is a wooden dreidel with a green band. The background is a warm, textured yellow with scattered gold stars and yellow streamers.

Purim 5785

AT TEMPLE BETH EL

FAMILY PURIM CELEBRATION
MARCH 13 | 6 PM

Megillah reading, music, games, food, and more!

FULL MEGILLAH READING
MARCH 13 | 7:30 PM
MARCH 14 | 7:15 AM

Join Us for **2 WEEKENDS** **WITH HAZZAN MATT** **AUSTERKLEIN**

MARCH 14–16

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

5:30 PM: Shabbat Schmooze with Hazzan Austerklein

6 PM: Musical Kabbalat Shabbat

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

9:30 AM: Shabbat Services with Hazzan Austerklein
and Rabbi Cece Beyer

5:30 PM: Mincha, Maariv, Havdallah and inspiration
with Hazzan Austerklein and Rabbi Cece Beyer

8 PM: Yiddish-Irish Pub Sing featuring HIMSELF,
Hazzan Austerklein, and Rabbi Cece Beyer



MARCH 28–30

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

6 PM: Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Services

7PM: Dinner with Hazzan Austerklein and Justin Zvi Pellis

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

9:30 AM: Shabbat Services with Hazzan Austerklein and Justin Zvi Pellis

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

2 PM: Briskin Cantor-in-Residence Concert with Justin Zvi Pellis featuring Hazzan Austerklein

**REGISTER ONLINE
FOR DINNER AT
WWW.TBEROCHESTER.ORG**

YIDDISH-IRISH PUB SING

MARCH 15 | 8-10 PM | TBE

Come grab a pint and sing along with Hazzan Matt Austerklein & local Irish band HIMSELF as we host a special Yiddish-Irish Pub Sing, complete with Irish dancing by Rabbi Cece Beyer. Festive beverages and snacks will be served as we explore shared themes in Jewish & Irish culture.



RICHARD W. BRISKIN CANTOR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

MARCH 28-30

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

6 PM: Musical Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Austerklein and Justin Zvi Pellis

7 PM: Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner with Hazzan Austerklein and Justin Zvi Pellis

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

9:30 AM: Shabbat Services with Justin Zvi Pellis and Hazzan Austerklein

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

2 PM: Briskin Cantor-in-Residence Concert

Keep an eye on www.tberochester.com for more information!

Justin Zvi Pellis is finishing his final year of cantorial studies at JTS. Justin brings a multifaceted background in voice performance, composition, and Jewish leadership to his cantorate. With a deep passion for music and a commitment to community building, Justin looks forward to creating sacred spaces where every voice can rise in harmony.

Raised in Mount Kisco, NY, Justin's connection to Judaism was deeply shaped by his upbringing at home, where creativity and observance of *chagim* and *kashrut* were emphasized. Justin's outlook was further shaped by his time at The Leffell School, Bet Am Shalom, and a transformative gap year in Israel at Mechinat Nachshon.

Justin completed his undergraduate studies at Goucher College, where he majored in Music. While studying abroad at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, COVID forced him to return home to finish his studies, where he connected with his local Orthodox shul and quickly took to leading services. He soon felt a calling to enroll in night classes at Yeshiva University's Belz School of Music, and shortly thereafter, the H.L. Miller Cantorial School.

Currently, Justin serves as Cantorial Intern at Temple Israel Center of White Plains, NY, and at Or Hadash in Fairfield, CT. He also is the Conducting Intern at NASHIR! The Rottenberg Chorale. His composition works include the "Teki'ot Suite for Shofar, Trumpet, and Hazzan" (2022). Justin is profoundly grateful to his mentors and The Nachshon Project for helping him refine his vision for Jewish musical leadership.





5785

Passover Schedules & Information



5785

Passover SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

7 AMMorning Minyan
followed by the Siyum Bechorim & breakfast
6 PMMincha & Ma'ariv
8 PMBedikat Hametz at Home

FRIDAY, APRIL 11 (EREV PESACH)

7:30 AMMorning Minyan
12 PMBurn the Hametz (Biyur Hametz)
6 PMKabbalat Shabbat
7:30 PMCandle Lighting

SATURDAY, APRIL 12 (1ST SEDER)

9 AMShabbat Services (Shabbat Hagadol)
12 PMKiddush Lunch
6 PMMincha
8:34 PMCandle Lighting

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 (2ND SEDER)

9 AMMorning Services for First Day of Passover
12 PM Kiddush Lunch
6 PMMincha
6:30 PMSecond Seder at Temple Beth El
8:35 PMCandle Lighting

MONDAY, APRIL 14 (1ST DAY OF THE OMER)

9 AMMorning Services for Second Day of Passover
12 PMKiddush Lunch
6 PMMincha
8:36 PMHoly Day Ends

TUESDAY, APRIL 15–THURSDAY, APRIL 17 (CHOL HAMOED PESACH)

7:15 PMMorning Minyan
6 PMMincha & Ma'ariv

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 (CHOL HAMOED PESACH)

7:15 AMMorning Minyan
6 PMKabbalat Shabbat Services
7:38 PMCandle Lighting

SATURDAY, APRIL 19 (SHABBAT 7TH DAY PESACH)

9 AMMorning Services for Shabbat
& Seventh Day of Passover
12 PMKiddush Lunch
7:30 PMMincha
8:10 PMMa'ariv
8:43 PMCandle Lighting

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

9 AMMorning Services for Eighth Day of Passover
11 AMYizkor
12 PMKiddush Lunch
6 PMMincha
8:44 PMPesach Ends





**PLEASE
JOIN US
FOR OUR
ANNUAL**

Second Seder



APRIL 13, 2025

6:00 PM | MINCHA

6:30 PM | SEDER

Our menu will include mazah ball soup, roasted chicken, brisket, kugels, fresh vegetables, and dessert.

Vegetarian & vegan options available!

Adults (13 years and older):

_____ \$65 per person

Children (12 and younger):

_____ \$25 per person

**Sign up at www.tberochester.org
to reserve your meal today!**

***Prices increase April 4
Adult \$75 | Child \$30***



Passover

INFORMATION

For a more complete Passover guide prepared by the Rabbinical Assembly which includes guidelines for koshering a kitchen, please visit: rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide.

EREV PESAH SIYUM

The sunrise to sunset *ta'anit* (fast) *bekhorim* (of the firstborn), which occurs on the day before Passover, is the only fast that applies to just a segment of the community: all males who are the firstborn children in their families (if the firstborn child is female, the first son born after her is not obligated).

There is a widely practiced exemption: On the principle that fasting is prohibited on a joyous occasion, Judaism allows for anyone who attends a religious feast to forego fasting. It is customary to hold a celebratory meal on the completion of study of a tractate of rabbinic literature, called a *siyyum* (conclusion). So the sages initiated the practice of studying the end of a tractate after morning services on Erev Pesah followed by a celebratory meal.

This year, Siyum B'khorim is held on Thursday, April 10, as the day before Passover falls on Shabbat. At 7am on Thursday, April 10, the firstborn in each family is invited to the Siyum B'khorim. Following the meal, there is an opportunity to burn your family's remaining hametz in a bonfire in the TBE Garden.

IS IT KOSHER FOR PASSOVER?

Passover has its own special rules of kashrut. On Pesah, Jews are forbidden from owning or consuming hametz (flour, food or drink made from the prohibited species of leavened grain: wheat, oats, barley, rye or spelt).

Most Ashkenazic authorities have added the following foods (*kitniyot*) to the above list: rice, corn, millet, legumes (beans and peas; however, string beans are permitted). The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards has ruled unanimously that peanuts and peanut oil are permissible. Sephardic authorities permit the use of all of the above *kitniyot*.

PERMITTED FOODS:

A. The following foods require no kosher l'Pesah label when purchased before or during Passover: fresh fruits and eggs, fresh fish (whole or gutted), fresh or frozen kosher meat other than chopped meat, whole (unground) spices and nuts, including whole or half pecans (not pieces), pure black, green, or white tea leaves or teabags, Nestea regular and decaffeinated unflavored tea, coffee (unflavored regular), baking soda and bicarbonate of soda.

B. The following items may be purchased before Pesah without a Pesah hekhsher but if bought during Pesah require a kosher l'Pesah label: white milk, 100% pure fruit juice, filleted fish, frozen fruit (with no additives), pure white sugar (with no additive), olive oil (extra virgin only), non-iodized salt, quinoa (with no additional ingredients).

C. The following products require reliable ("kosher l'pesah") certification (regular rabbinic supervision is not sufficient), whether purchased before or during Pesah: all baked goods (matzah, Pesah cakes, matzah flour, farfel, matzfel meal, and any other products containing matzoh), herbal teas, canned tuna, wine, vinegar, liquor, decaffeinated coffee and tea, dried fruits, oils, frozen uncooked vegetables and all frozen processed foods, candy, chocolate-flavored milk, ice-cream, yogurt, cheeses, butter, and soda. Any processed food bought during Pesah must have a ("kosher l'Pesah") certification.

D. Any detergents, cleaners, etc. which are not a foodstuff and which are not eaten, may be used for Pesah and do not require a special label. These items include: isopropyl alcohol, aluminum products, ammonia, coffee filters, baby oil, powder and ointment, bleach, charcoal, candles, contact paper, plastic cutlery, laundry and dish detergent, fabric softener, oven cleaner, paper bags, plates, wax paper, plastic wrap, polish, sanitizers, scouring pads, stain remover, and bottled water with no additives.

E. Medicines: Prescription medicines are permitted. Non-prescription pills and capsules are permitted, for liquid medications, check with your rabbi.

For a more complete Passover guide prepared by the Rabbinical Assembly which includes guidelines for koshering a kitchen, please visit: rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide.

BEDIKAT HAMETZ

One of the required holiday ceremonies is Bedikat Hametz, searching for leaven. On the night before the first seder we conduct a candle-lit search through our home to ensure that no hametz is still present. It is a brief ceremony in which the entire family can and should participate. As the day before Passover is Shabbat, we perform this ritual on Thursday, April 10.

1. Make sure that all hametz has been removed or locked away with the exception of what will be needed for the morning.
2. Carefully hide some crumbs of bread. This is to ensure that the blessing and the ceremony will not be performed in vain.
3. Take a candle, a feather or brush, and a box or cloth for the crumbs, and recite this blessing:
Baruch Ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melekh haolam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu al biur hametz.
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has sanctified us with the commandments and commanded us to remove all leaven.
4. Perform the search and gather up all the crumbs. Tie them in a bundle which will be burned the next morning. Feel free to (safely) burn it on your own, or use the bonfire at Temple Beth El following morning minyan.
5. Recite the following: All manner of leaven which is in my possession, that I have not seen or removed shall be annulled and void of any ownership and considered as the dust of the earth. (The Aramaic for this can be found in the front of your Haggadah.)
6. On Friday, April 11, at or before 12 pm, burn the leaven and recite the following:
All manner of leaven which is in my possession, that I have seen or not seen, that I have removed or not removed, that I have destroyed or not destroyed shall be annulled and void of my ownership and considered as the dust of the earth.
(The Aramaic for this can be found in the front of your Haggadah.)
7. On Friday, April 11, at or before 12 pm, burn the leaven and recite the following:
All manner of leaven which is in my possession, that I have seen or not seen, that I have removed or not removed, that I have destroyed or not destroyed shall be annulled and void of my ownership and considered as the dust of the earth.
(The Aramaic for this can be found in the front of your Haggadah.)



TO SELL YOUR HAMETZ

The Torah prohibits the ownership of hametz (flour, food or drink made from the prohibited species of leavened grain: wheat, oats, barley, rye or spelt) during Passover. Ideally, we burn or remove all hametz from our premises which may be done through donations to a local food pantry. In some cases, however, this would cause prohibitive financial loss. In such cases, we arrange for the sale of the hametz to a non-Jew and its repurchase after Passover. You can arrange for this sale of your Hametz by sending the following form to Rabbi Bitran at the Temple office **no later than Monday, April 7.**

It is customary to include a donation to provide Maot Hittin funds for Passover supplies for the needy. Please make checks payable to Temple Beth El which will be contributed to Maot Hittin on everyone's behalf.

Form is also available on our website at
www.tberochester.org/celebrate/passover/

Dear Rabbi Bitran:
Please act as my agent for this sale of any hametz on my premises.

Name _____

Address _____

email _____

COMMUNITY YOM HASHOAH EVENTS

We invite all to join in community Yom HaShoah events organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester. Stay tuned for more information, coming soon.

APRIL 23

7 PM: Yom HaShoah: Marking 80 Years Since the Defeat of Nazi Germany

APRIL 24

5:30 PM: 35th Annual Yom HaShoah: Tell Our Story with Lynn Novick

7 PM: Zikaron Basalon (Adult Session, Hebrew)

PREPARING A FLAME FOR YOM TOV

On Yom Tov, kindling a *new* fire is not permitted; however, the use of an *existing* fire for cooking or other purposes is permitted.

To light candles for Day 2 of Yom Tov (Friday night) and Shabbat, ensure you have a fire burning before candle-lighting time for Day 1 (Thursday evening) that will continue to burn until Shabbat candle-lighting time.

For example:

- A burning candle that lasts for more than 25 hours
- A pilot light on a gas range (not a gas range with an electronic starter)

*Information from Luah Hashanah 5785 by
Rabbi Miles B. Cohen and Leslie Rubin*



GADI PERL VISIT

TUESDAY, APRIL 22 | 7 PM | TEMPLE BETH EL

MANY FRONTS, ONE STRUGGLE

In his various roles, Maj. (res.) Gadi Perl has seen up close many fronts in the struggle to keep Israel secure, democratic, and a welcoming home for every kind of Jew. In sharing with us his take on the interdependency of Israel and the Diaspora and the common fate we all share, Gadi will talk about how seemingly separate struggles are indeed part of one singular struggle for a Jewish future, and the important, urgent role American Jews need to play in helping shape that future.

GADI PERL serves as Vice Chairman of KKL/JNF as a representative of MERCAZ, the political party representing the global Conservative/Masorti Movement on the boards of KKL/JNF, the Jewish Agency, and the WZO. In this role, Gadi is on the frontlines of MERCAZ's important work fighting for Conservative/Masorti values on the board of KKL/JNF, which allocates over \$1 billion annually both in Israel and across the Jewish world and owns and manages 13% of the land in the State of Israel. A passionate activist, Gadi is an active member of a Masorti community in Jerusalem that has found itself at the epicenter of a closely-watched battle regarding the ability of Masorti Jews in Israel to fully and safely exercise their religious rights. He is a reserve officer in the IDF's Military Police Corps with the rank of Major, where he helped manage the handling of property of fallen soldiers immediately after October 7th. In his professional career, Gadi has served as a senior cybercrime investigator for the Israeli government, and is currently a Research Fellow at the Federmann Cybersecurity Research Center's Cyberlaw Program and the Chesin Center for Advanced Legal Studies at Hebrew University.



Please note that as this visit falls during online elections for the World Zionist Congress, Gadi will leave time at the end of their presentation to enable anyone to exercise their democratic right and vote, and to assist those who need assistance with the process.



MERCAZ USA: THE VOICE OF CONSERVATIVE/ MASORTI JUDAISM

VOTE MERCAZ AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Starting on March 10, American Jews will vote for their delegates to the 39th World Zionist Congress, the “parliament of the Jewish people,” which will convene in Jerusalem in October 2025. Voting in the election is the most powerful opportunity to have your voice heard in Israel, make an impact in Jewish communities worldwide, and stand up for Zionism. The representatives who are elected—with one-third of them coming from the United States—will make key decisions on allocating over \$1 billion annually to support the most pressing needs across Israeli society and the Diaspora.

MERCAZ USA WORKS WITH THE WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS AND ITS AFFILIATES TO:

Advocate for our shared values of democracy, inclusion, and respect and preserve a pluralistic Jewish society

Secure millions in funding for comprehensive Israel education through Ramah (especially the shlichim program), USY, synagogue programming, and more

Rebuild Israel in the aftermath of October 7 and support our hostages

Direct resources into our communities to combat antisemitism

Promote an understanding of the Zionist vision and counter misinformation

WHO: Any Jewish adult over 18 who lives permanently in the U.S. and didn't vote in the last Knesset election

WHAT: Voting MERCAZ USA in the 2025 World Zionist Congress elections

WHERE: Check out mercazusa.org for more information and sign up for reminders.

WHEN: Voting opens on March 10, 2025.

WHY: MERCAZ USA claims space for Conservative/Masorti Jews in the Zionist future.

Registration and voting will open on March 10, 2025. Voting will be online and paper ballots will be available on request. The fee to register and vote is \$5, which goes to cover the operating costs of the election. The Temple Beth El Community Code for voting is 397.

March

ADAR /NISAN

MARCH 8

11:30 AM How to Talk to Your Children About Israel with Stephen Papkin

MARCH 3

7 PM Adult Education Class: Language of Zionism with Joy Getnick

MARCH 8

9:30 AM Men's Club Shabbat

7 PM Pints & Purim at Three Heads Brewing

MARCH 9

2 PM Community Purim Carnival at Louis J. Wolk JCC

MARCH 11

5 PM Teen Purim Hop

MARCH 12

6:30 PM 20/30s Hamentaschen Bake

MARCH 13

6 PM Megillah Reading & Family Purim Celebration

7:30 PM Full Megillah Reading

MARCH 14

7:15 AM Full Megillah Reading

5:30 PM Shabbat Schmooze with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

MARCH 15

9:30 AM Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein and Rabbi Cece Beyer

5:30 PM Mincha, Maariv, Havdalah, and Inspiration with Hazzan Matt Austerklein and Rabbi Cece Beyer

8 PM Yiddish-Irish Pub Sing featuring HIMSELF, Hazzan Matt Austerklein, and Rabbi Cece Beyer

MARCH 19

7 PM What Does It Mean to Believe? The Challenge of the Rational and the Reasonable with Rabbi Silbert

MARCH 28

BRISKIN CANTOR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services featuring BE.WISE Students with Hazzan Matt Austerklein and Justin Zvi Pellis

7 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner

MARCH 29

BRISKIN CANTOR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

9:30 AM Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

MARCH 30


BRISKIN CANTOR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND


11:30 AM Adult Education class: Holocaust Education for a New Generation with Susan Shapiro

2 PM Briskin Cantor-in-Residence Concert

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times

 **1** 6:42 pm


 **7** 5:49 pm

 **8** 6:51 pm


 **14** 6:57 pm

 **15** 7:59 pm

 **21** 7:06 pm

 **22** 8:09 pm

 **28** 7:14 pm

 **29** 8:16 pm

Mincha begins 1 hour & 15 minutes before Shabbat ends.

April

NISAN/IYAR

APRIL 2

7 PM

Dilemma of History: G-d, Evil, and the Book of Job with Rabbi Bitran

APRIL 6

11:30 AM

BE.WISE Pesach for Parents
Teen Chocolate Seder at Temple Sinai

APRIL 9

4 PM

BE.WISE Family Program

APRIL 13

6:30 PM

Community Passover Seder

APRIL 22

7 PM

Many Fronts, One Struggle: Visit with Gadi Perl

APRIL 23

7 PM

Dilemma of Theodicy: Where is G-d in the Midst of Suffering?
with Rabbi Silbert

APRIL 25

5:30 PM

6 PM

Shabbat Schmooze with Hazzan Matt Austerklein
Kabbalat Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

APRIL 26

9:30 AM

Bar Mitzvah of Harrison Flaum with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

APRIL 27

20/30s Post Pesach Hike


APRIL 28


7 PM


Adult Education Class: Jews & Art History

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times


 **4** **7:22 pm**


 **5** **8:25 pm**

 **11** **7:32 pm**

 **12** **8:34 pm**

 **18** **7:38 pm**

 **19** **8:43 pm**

 **25** **7:46 pm**

 **26** **8:52 pm**

*Mincha begins 1 hour
& 15 minutes before
Shabbat ends.*

All events and times are subject to change. For more information call 473-1770 or visit www.tberochester.org



IYAR/SIVAN

MAY 2

5:30 PM
6 PM

Shabbat Schmooze
Kabbalat Shabbat Services

MAY 3

9:30 AM
12 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Charlie Rosenblatt
Member's Stories Kiddush Talk

MAY 4

9:30 AM

Last Day of BE.WISE Celebration

MAY 7

7 PM

Dilemma of Spiritual Role Models:
A Biblical View of Redeeming Personalities with Rabbi Bitran

MAY 13

9:15 AM

Keshet Popsicles with Parents

MAY 15

6 PM

Erev Lag B'Omer Bon Fire

MAY 16

5:30 PM

Lag B'Omer Teen Shabbaton

MAY 19

7 PM

Adult Education Class: Steering the Senate with Gerald Gamm

MAY 21

7 PM

Dilemma of Conviction:
Do I Have to Believe in G-d to Be a Good Jew? with Rabbi Silbert

MAY 30

6 PM
7 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein
Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner with Hazzan Matt Austerklein


MAY 31


9:30 AM
1 PM


Shabbat Services with Hazzan Matt Austerklein
Teen Shavuot Ice Cream Party


Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times


 2 7:55 pm


 3 8:58 pm


 9 8:02 pm

 10 9:11 pm


 16 8:10 pm

 17 9:20 pm

 23 8:17 pm

 24 9:28 pm

 30 8:23 pm

 31 9:35 pm

*Mincha begins 1 hour
& 15 minutes before
Shabbat ends.*

All events and times are subject to change. For more information call 473-1770 or visit www.tberochester.org

June

SIVAN/TAMUZ

JUNE 1

6:30 PM

Annual Meeting

7:30 PM

Dinner and Tikkun Leil Shavuot

JUNE 1

6:30 PM

Adult Education Class: Jewish Trend in Philosophy
with Jennie Schaff

JUNE 7

9:30 AM

Bat Mitzvah of Charlie Cerami with Hazzan Matt Austerklein

JUNE 8

9:30 AM

Men's Club Breakfast
Eric Weiner Memorial Event

JUNE 13

5:30 PM

Shabbat Schmooze

6 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

JUNE 21

12 PM

Member's Stories Kiddush Talk

JUNE 25

1 PM

Watermelon Wednesday

JUNE 27

6 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

7 PM


Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner


JUNE 29


9 AM

Learning on the Lake at Canadice Lake

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times


 6 8:29 pm


 7 9:41 pm


 13 8:32 pm

 14 9:45 pm

 20 8:35 pm

 21 9:48 pm

 27 8:35 pm

 28 9:48 pm

*Mincha begins 1 hour
& 15 minutes before
Shabbat ends.*

All events and times are subject to change. For more information call 473-1770 or visit www.tberochester.org

July

TAMUZ/AV

JULY 9

1 PM Watermelon Wednesday

JULY 11

5:30 PM Shabbat Schmooze
6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services

JULY 14

7 PM Adult Education Class: Israel & Iran

JULY 16

1 PM Watermelon Wednesday

JULY 18

6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services
7 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner

JULY 19

9:30 AM Pride Shabbat



JULY 23



1 PM Watermelon Wednesday



JULY 30



1 PM Watermelon Wednesday

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times

 **4** 8:34 pm
 **5** 9:46 pm

 **11** 8:31 pm
 **12** 9:42 pm

 **18** 8:27 pm
 **19** 9:35 pm

 **25** 8:21 pm
 **26** 9:28 pm

*Mincha begins 1 hour
& 15 minutes before
Shabbat ends.*

All events and times are subject to change. For more information call 473-1770 or visit www.tberochester.org

August

AV/ELUL

AUGUST 4

7 PM Adult Education Class: Jewish Humor & Satire

AUGUST 6

1 PM Watermelon Wednesday

AUGUST 15

6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services

7 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner

AUGUST 21

6:30 PM Back to BE.WISE Parent Social

AUGUST 24

12 PM Red Wings Outing

AUGUST 29

5:30 PM Shabbat Schmooze

6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services

AUGUST 30

9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Gelb


AUGUST 31


8 AM Kickoff Event: Teen Letchworth Hike

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times

 **1** 8:13 pm


 **2** 9:11 pm


 **8** 8:04 pm


 **9** 9:08 pm

 **15** 7:54 pm

 **16** 8:51 pm

 **22** 7:43 pm

 **23** 8:44pm

 **29** 7:31 pm

 **30** 8:32 pm

*Mincha begins 1 hour
& 15 minutes before
Shabbat ends.*

All events and times are subject to change. For more information call 473-1770 or visit www.tberochester.org

TEMPLE BETH EL LINCOLN TROOP 3



A new plaque commemorating Troop 3 has been created! Temple Beth El Lincoln Troop 3: A legacy of service to our youth and our congregation



1917-1921

Lord Baden-Powell founded the scouting movement in England in 1908, in the US it was founded in 1910 and Temple Beth El joined the movement merely 7 years later. As Baden-Powell stated back then, "There is no religious 'side' of the movement. The whole of it is based on religion, that is, on the realization and service of God". Scouting has been connected to religious institutions throughout its history and Temple Beth El was on the ground floor.

Temple Beth El recognized the benefits of scouting and upon its youth (boys) within one year of the charter of this great institution. While Temple Beth El celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2016, in 2017 Lincoln Troop 3 celebrated its 100th anniversary.

With a long tradition, over 105 boys have become Eagle Scouts at Temple Beth El; many of them are your fathers, uncles and maybe some of your children. Lincoln Troop 3, as it was originally chartered, was likely the longest running youth group program at Beth El, longer than USY. Our first Eagle was awarded to Meyer Fix in 1922 and our last to Ben Spanjer in 2017. Did you know that Richard Briskin (The Richard W. Briskin Cantor in Residence Weekend) was an Eagle scout?

Back in the early days Jewish boys were not so welcomed in most scout troops. In those days a thriving and growing Jewish community embraced the ideals of scouting and created several Cubs Scout packs and Boy Scout troops in Rochester mostly at religious schools in the Joseph Avenue area. Over time however, Jews in our community were warmly accepted into secular social institutions and no longer excluded or outright banned. By the late 1970's only Troop 3 survived. Competition came from non-Jewish units, where issues of keeping kosher and being shommar shabbos were no longer a priority. Other activities that draw our boys (and girls) have also drawn away potential scouters. For a while the JCC hosted a cub scout pack (300) and Temple Beth Am hosted a co-ed explorers post. Priorities changed and those who wished to involve their kids in scouting no longer saw the need to support an all-Jewish unit. By the last year of our charter with Temple Beth El Troop 3 was down to a handful of boys. It was time to retire Troop 3.

Those who served in the troop as leaders and scouters had some great experiences. The skills they learned helped them become leaders in their community and many have gone on to take leadership roles in their own communities, both Jewish and secular.

In order to honor the legacy of the Troop and keep its memory alive, much of Troop 3's archives, which remain in storage in the synagogue's basement, will hopefully be integrated into the TBE archives and preserved for future generations. The remaining troop funds, along with some additional donations, allowed for the purchase of a plaque to honor the 105 Eagle Scouts that were awarded by the troop. The plaque is also dedicated to the parents and volunteer leaders and supporters and the many troop members who were unable to obtain the Eagle Scout award but were valuable members of Troop 3.

The plaque will soon be on display in a permanent location at TBE. Come take a look and discover who you might know.

Have a Troop 3 story you want to share for the archives? Send them to Howard Ressel c/o Temple Beth El and we will make sure it gets preserved with the troop history.

JOIN US FOR A LAG B'OMER BBQ & BONFIRE

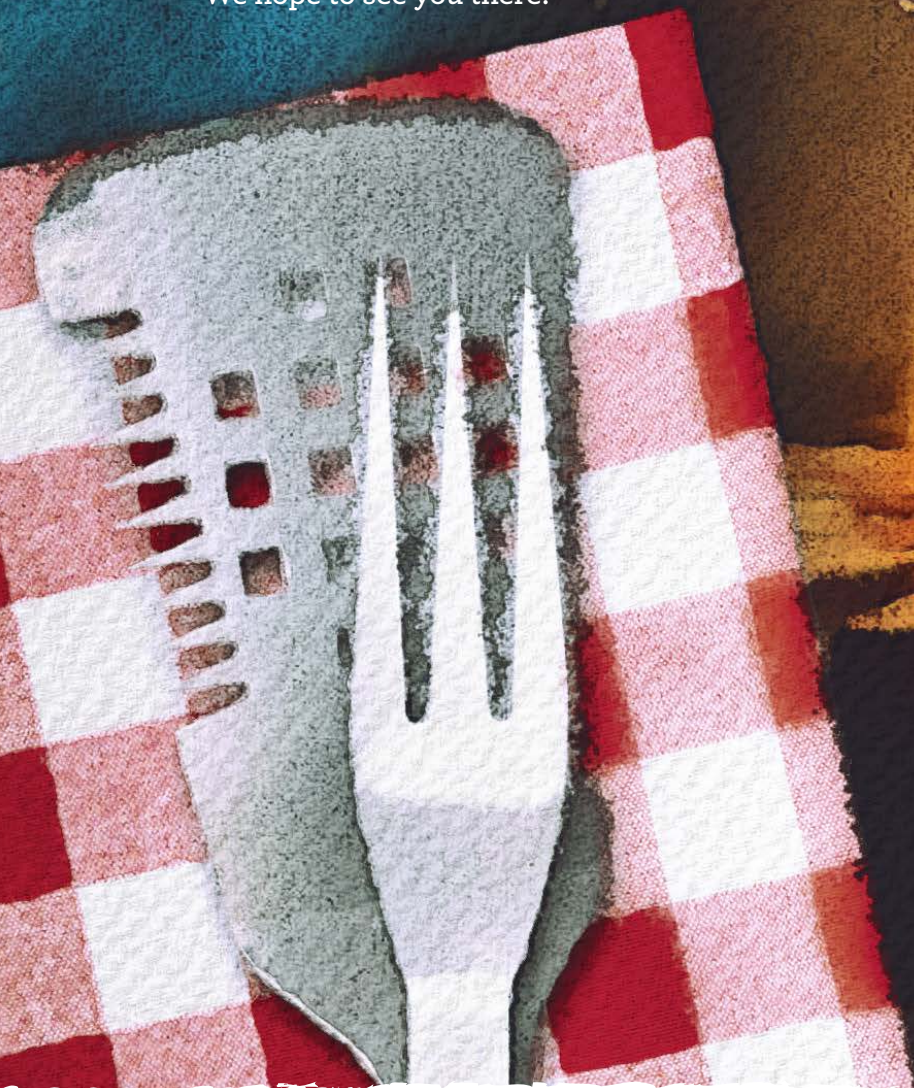
THURSDAY, MAY 15 | 6 PM

We invite all to join us for our annual Lag B'Omer bonfire.
Hot dogs and chips will be provided!

Mincha held at 6 pm with food and fun to follow.

This event is free but registration is required.

We hope to see you there!





Join Us!

ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 1

MINCHA | 6 PM

ANNUAL MEETING | 6:30 PM

MA'ARIV | 7:30 PM

DINNER & TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT TO FOLLOW

Join us for the installation of new Officers and Board Members, Dinner, and Tikkun Leil Shavuot.

This event is free but registration is requested at tberochester.org

SHAVUOT

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

6 PM: Mincha

6:30 PM: Annual Meeting

7:30 PM: Ma'ariv

Dinner & Tikkun Leil Shavuot
to follow

MONDAY, JUNE 2

9 AM: Shavuot Services

12 PM: Kiddush Lunch

6 PM: Mincha

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

9 AM: Shavuot Services

11 AM: Yizkor

12 PM: Kiddush Lunch

6 PM: Mincha

9:38 PM: Shavuot Ends



WATERMELON WEDNESDAY

JUNE 25

JULY 9, 16, 23, 30

AUGUST 6

1 PM | TBE PLAYGROUND

Join other families with young children every Wednesday this summer, featuring special guests like the Rochester Fire Department, Butterfly Kids Yoga, and more!

**no Watermelon Wednesday on July 2*



Temple
Beth El

CAMP KESHET 2025

Keshet
קשת

JUNE 23–AUGUST 8

No camp June 30–July 4

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Find more information and sign up at www.tberochester.com/camp



JUNE 23–27
Party in the USA



JULY 7–11
Messy Art



July 14–18
Summer STEAM



JULY 21–25
We're Going to the Beach!



JULY 28–AUGUST 1
Hanukkah in July



AUGUST 4–8
It's a Circus Around Here!

PRIDE SHABBAT

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 19



**An Inclusive
Jewish Community**

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SAVE THE DATE!
AUGUST 11

More information to be announced soon—
Watch www.tbe.org for details!



TISHA B'AV

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 (SHABBAT CHAZON)

8 PM: Mincha & Eicha

8:15 PM: Fast Begins

9:11 PM: Shabbat Ends

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

8:30 AM: Shacharit

2 PM: Mincha

6 PM: Mincha & Ma'ariv

9:08 PM: Fast Ends



SHABBAT SCHMOOZES

5:30 PM

MARCH 14 | PURIM SCHMOOZE

APRIL 25 | WITH HAZZAN MATT AUSTERKLEIN

MAY 2

JUNE 13

JULY 11

AUGUST 29

No registration necessary, just drop by for light refreshments and conversation before Shabbat begins.





SHABBAT DINNERS AT TEMPLE BETH EL

MARCH 28 | BRISKIN CANTOR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

MAY 30 | WITH HAZZAN MATT AUSTERKLEIN

JUNE 27

JULY 18

AUGUST 15

Please register for dinners online at tberochester.org or by calling the office at (585) 473-1770.



Temple Beth El PILLAR SOCIETY

For the New Centennial

Please join members of the Temple Beth El family who have already made the additional commitment to our congregation by becoming members of the Pillar Society.

For more information contact Deborah Zeger at the Temple Beth El office at 473-1770 or by email to dzeger@tberochester.org.

**“The world stands on three things:
on the Torah, on the service to God,
and on deeds of loving kindness.”**

Ethics of the Fathers

Fulfill the Mitzvah of *G'milut Chasadim* (deeds of loving kindness) by supporting our synagogue. Members of the Pillar Society make annual commitments over and above full membership dues to help ensure the well-being of our synagogue. As a member of the Pillar Society you will be instrumental in preserving the future of Temple Beth El for generations to come. In appreciation of your exceptional commitment, which is also recognized as a contribution to the High Holy Day Appeal, you will receive the following additional benefits:

All Pillars Receive:

- Recognition as a Contributor to the High Holy Day Appeal
- Apples and Honey Sponsorship
- Invitation to the Annual Pillar Event
- Honored at Pillar Society Shabbat

YACHAD UNDER 40 (\$1,000-\$1,499)

- 1/4 page in Remembrance Book

CHAI (\$1,500-\$2,999)

- 1/4 page in Remembrance Book
- 2 Tickets for 1 event (ie: Friday Night Live, Hanukkah Party or Purim Celebration)

SHOMER (\$3,000-\$5,499)

- 1/2 page in Remembrance Book
- 4 Tickets for 1 event (ie: Friday Night Live, Hanukkah Party or Purim Celebration)

KOACH (\$5,500-\$9,999)

- Full page in Remembrance Book
- 6 Tickets for 1 event (ie: Friday Night Live, Hanukkah Party or Purim Celebration)

OHR (\$10,000+)

- Full page in Remembrance Book
- 8 Tickets for 1 event (ie: Friday Night Live, Hanukkah Party or Purim Celebration)
- Reserved High Holy Day seating

Yes, I would like to support Temple Beth El by making a 3 year commitment to the Pillar Society for the New Centennial, in the amount of: \$_____ a year.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ YACHAD ☐ CHAI ☐ SHOMER ☐ KOACH ☐ OHR

___ My check for \$_____ is enclosed

___ Please bill me: ___ Annually ___ Quarterly ___ Monthly

___ Please charge for my first installment of \$_____ ☐  ☐  ☐ 

Card # _____ Expires _____ Signature _____



from one
generation
to the next...

**for our
future.**

For Over a Century Temple Beth El has continued to play a unique role in the Rochester community providing a place where Jewish tradition and Innovation combine and where we share the most meaningful events in our lives. TBE is the place that offers anyone the opportunity to find their own spirituality and meaning.

Our legacy donors are individuals and families who wish to ensure that TBE remains an enriching community for generations to come. We continue to seek meaning together. Please consider making a legacy gift today.

For more information about supporting Temple Beth El's future please contact Debbie Zeger at dzeger@tberochester.org or 473-1770.



If you have made provisions for Temple Beth El in your estate plans, or would like more information about doing so, please let us know by providing the information requested here. We would be honored to include you as a member of the L'Dor V'Dor Society and recognize your commitment.

☐ I/We would like more information on becoming part of the L'Dor V'Dor society

Name: _____

☐ I/We wish to receive more information about how to make a planned gift

Address: _____

☐ I/ We have provided for a gift to Temple Beth El in my/our will or estate plan

City/State/Zip _____

☐ I/We wish to be listed as member(s) of the L'Dor V'Dor society

Phone # _____

☐ I/We accept membership in the L'Dor V'Dor society but wish to remain anonymous at this time

Email _____



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