



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, December 6

5:00pm Tot Shabbat
5:30pm Oneg/Pre-Neg
6:00pm Family Shabbat Service/4th
Grade Family Shabbat

Saturday, December 7

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service

Friday, December 13

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service with
Torah reading

Saturday, December 14

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service

Friday, December 20

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 21

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service

Friday, December 27

6:00pm Family Sing-Along &
Experience
7:00pm Communal Chanukah Candle
Lighting
7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 28

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service

CLOSINGS

The Office will be closed on
Wednesday, December 25, 2024
for Christmas Day
and on Wednesday, January 1, 2025
for New Year's Day.

Religious School will not meet from
Sunday, December 22, 2024 through
Wednesday, January 1, 2025
for Winter Break.
Classes will resume on
Sunday, January 5, 2025.



From Rabbi Holtz's Study

Dear Friends,

I'm going to be teaching a class about the Maccabees at the JCC in December. One of the things that intrigues me about the Maccabees is why they felt that the desecration of the Temple, as awful as it must have been, was worth fighting a war over. I have no doubt that they were extraordinarily angry over what had been done, but even so, it's a huge step to take, knowing that many of your own may die. I don't believe that anger was a big enough reason. I think that, perhaps even more than being very mad, they were also very sad.

We know why they were mad. They were mad that Antiochus and his soldiers had desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem by placing a statue of Zeus inside and demanding that the Jews sacrifice pigs on the altar there. Our ancestors were a people who took their religion very seriously, and this kind of insult could not go unanswered. The Middle East hasn't changed very much since then.

But there's answering, and then there's *answering*. As mad as the Maccabees were, it's not at all clear to me that the action of Antiochus, in and of itself, was worth starting a war over. Kings come and go. What one did, another might undo. A little patience might have saved a lot of bloodshed. So I think there was more. I think that, more even than being mad, Mattathias and his followers were scared.

They were scared that their religion and their world were changing right before their eyes. Well before Antiochus and his statue, there was a significant piece of the Jewish population that was embracing Greek culture - Hellenism - and all that it entailed. These folks welcomed not only some of the Hellenistic rituals, but also the Hellenistic mindset, one which valued the physical over the spiritual, the body over the soul, strength of body over firmness of conviction.

I believe that the Maccabees were scared, not simply of losing the Temple, but of losing all of the values that made - and continue to make - Judaism a light to the nations. They fought - literally - for what they believed in. Their military victories and the rededication of the Temple served not just the parochial interest of restoring a house of worship; they also served to renew and reinforce the Maccabees' belief in, and commitment to, the prophetic values that make Judaism so powerful. The Maccabees left a legacy which we continue to honor when we light the Chanukah candles.

Continued on page 5



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Cantor's Notes

We just celebrated Thanksgiving, an American holiday that is inextricably connected with Jewish values. In just a few short weeks, we will commemorate Chanukah. I like to think of Chanukah as an extension of the season of gratitude that we cultivate during Thanksgiving. After all, our major liturgical reference to Chanukah is wholly intertwined with our prayer for Thanksgiving.

The eighteenth and penultimate blessing of the Amidah is called *Hoda'ah*, which is an opportunity for us to offer our abundant gratitude for God's miracles, mercy, and kindness. During the holidays of Chanukah and Purim, there is an additional paragraph inserted into this prayer called *Al HaNisim*, which gives thanks specifically for the miracles, for the redemption, and for the wars God waged for our ancestors *bayamim hahem bazman hazeh*: in days of old, at this season, referring to the time of year that these holidays take place. This is one of the few liturgical references to Chanukah. The others include the blessings and rituals associated with lighting the Chanukah menorah and the *Hallel* psalms of praises that we sing during this season. By making this explicit connection between miracles and gratitude, our prayer book teaches us that the values associated with Chanukah and Thanksgiving are intimately intertwined. We must remember not to take the miracle of Jewish survival for granted – especially during today's challenging climate.

As children, many of us learned that we celebrate Chanukah for eight days because of the miracle of the oil. The tiny bit of olive oil that was found amidst the ruins of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem seemed to be enough to provide only one night of light. Miraculously, as legend has it, the oil somehow allowed the light in the Temple to shine for eight days. Because of this, we are often taught that we celebrate Chanukah for eight days, kindling a new candle each night until we are blessed with eight lights.

Upon closer examination, this story appears to have a few holes in it. If there was enough oil to burn for one day, then the miracle didn't last eight days – it only lasted seven days! In addition, one of the reasons why the Jews needed the oil to last for eight days was because the journey to procure additional oil supposedly took eight days. Had the oil not been changed after the messenger charged with obtaining more oil returned, it's possible that the light could have lasted for even longer! The light never dimmed – the lamp was simply filled with more oil. We have no way of knowing the limits of this miracle, which makes the fact that we celebrate for eight days seem somewhat arbitrary.

In our liturgy for Chanukah, we speak of a more concrete miracle. We celebrate the unlikely victory of the small, but mighty, Maccabees over Antiochus and the much stronger Greek army. As *Al HaNisim* states: God delivered the "mighty into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few, the unclean into the hands of the righteous, and the arrogant into the hands of those who engage in your Torah." In other words, the Jews stood up for their religious freedom and won, and were able to purify and rededicate the holy temple. This is our prayer book's recollection of the miracle of Chanukah.

Continued on page 5



STESSA PEERS DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Here’s a Chanukah joke to kick off the month of *Kislev*:

*Why did the candle bring a sweater to the menorah lighting?
Because it heard Kislev nights can be de-**light**-fully chilly!*

While it’s definitely chilly outside, this joke really got me thinking about how much Jewish joy fills my life, not just because of Jewish jokes, but because of our wonderful TBA community. This month, we’re sharing that joy in so many meaningful ways, and I’m excited to tell you about the moments we shared last month, and ones we will share this month, here in our December bulletin.

We’ve been busy this past month at TBA’s Religious School, rolling out exciting new ways for our teachers to connect with our students and create vibrant, engaging classrooms. Our religious school teachers gathered for an awesome staff meeting that focused on three big areas: incorporating STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) in the classroom, classroom management strategies, and building a strong classroom community. Our teachers dove into ways to make learning hands-on, exciting, and deeply connected to Jewish values. By adding STEAM to our lessons, we’re sparking curiosity and creativity, and tying Jewish wisdom into the kind of critical thinking and teamwork skills that carry into all areas of life. We also shared methods to keep our classrooms positive, inclusive, and centered on community; spaces where every TBA learner feels valued, seen, heard, and understood.



Then came PJ Library Day, and it was all about bringing the values of loving-kindness (*chesed*) and hope (*tikvah*) to life. We read “Bagels for Benny,” a beautiful story about kindness and giving back, which got us talking about how small acts of kindness, like a single bagel, can have big ripple effects. To bring that lesson to life, the kids decorated felt hearts and dropped watercolor paint on them, watching as each drop spread and grew. It was a powerful reminder that, like kindness, even the smallest actions can reach farther than we imagine.

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Melissa McHugh
Director of Early Childhood Education
The Ian and Emily Cohen Children's Garden Center
at Temple Beth Abraham

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CGC

The time is going by so fast and it is hard to believe that December is upon us at The Children's Garden Center. We have been so blessed to spend the last couple of months with such wonderful children. Children bring peace and hope to the chaotic world around us. We as educators and parents/caregivers truly have such gifts before us each day, witnessing the world through the eyes of young people.

The past month has been about the word "**Gratitude**" in our classrooms. Glittery Letter G for Gratitude, a Gratitude Walk to express to our temple family that we are thankful for them, making "Gratitude" t-shirts, learning the song and dance, "I have a Gratitude Attitude," and a Gratitude feast to conclude our month. In the simplest of ways, we teach children that Gratitude arises from an appreciation of the good that persists despite challenges. As we embrace the light and triumph of Chanukah, let this beautiful reminder of joy and gratitude stay with us and be passed on.

**

Please spread the word: Registration for the 2025-2026 school year at The Children's Garden Center is upon us. Priority registration will open to current CGC families and interested TBA families on December 1st.

An **Open House** to the community will be held on Sunday, December 15th from 1:00pm-2:30pm. There will be an opportunity to tour our classrooms, ask questions, and register on this day. Please encourage any prospective families to come join us. All are welcome!

We still have limited availability in our **new "Fun to Be One"** class on Fridays starting January 10th from 10-11:20 am. Please call Melissa McHugh at (914) 631-1770 ext. 107 or email cgcdirector@tba-ny.org to inquire.

Happy and safe Chanukah and a Peaceful and Healthy start to 2025!

Melissa McHugh

Rabbi's Article Cont'd from Page 1

Every group, even every generation, is angry about something and also afraid of something. We have seen it worldwide over the past few years, as fear of globalization and anger at the powers that be have led to political shake-ups and a surge of populism. These, in turn, have led to rising fear of violence, anger at what many see as an abandonment of American ideals, and now, for many, fear of what the next few years might bring.

If you have been feeling an increased sense of fear, or anger, or general unease, I encourage you to see in the symbols of Chanukah a beacon of hope. Lighting candles will not make everything better. But, at the darkest time of the year, when our darkest fears seem most tangible, the lights of the chanukiah come to cheer us, and to remind us of what is possible, and what is important. They tell us that things are not hopeless, and we are not helpless. As you light the candles, look around you. Give thanks for all your blessings, for despite our fears and our realities, we have been well and truly blessed.

L'shalom,

Rabbi David Holtz

Cantor's Article Cont'd from Page 2

This confirms the fact that Chanukah is a celebration of miracles - but what about the oil? The story of the oil burning for eight days is actually a Rabbinic addition to the Chanukah story that appears for the first time in the Babylonian Talmud in the fifth century. It is thought that Rabbis of the Babylonian Talmud, who were living under oppressive conditions not unlike that of the Maccabees, were worried that celebrating the miracle of Chanukah through a lens of warfare would set a bad example for future generations. They wanted to enable Jewish pride through celebration rather than battle. "By inventing the story to emphasize God's miraculous actions in the past, these ancient rabbis taught that miracles occur because God makes them occur," writes Rabbi Paul Kipnes. "Therefore, they taught, our role in life is to pray for God's intervention in the world."

The miracle of the oil lasting for eight days as told in the Babylonian Talmud is one convenient explanation for the fact that we kindle eight lights. There is another reason offered in the First and Second Books of Maccabees, which contain detailed accounts of the battles waged by Judah Maccabee and his brothers as well as the earliest references to the story of Chanukah and the rebuilding of the Temple. These books belong to a collection of literature known as Apocrypha, which are writings that existed when the Bible was canonized but for some reason or other were not included.

II Maccabees quotes a letter sent circa 125 BCE from the Maccabees to the leaders of Egyptian Jewry, which describes Chanukah as being "the festival of Sukkot celebrated in the month of *Kislev* (December)," rather than *Tishrei* (September).

Under the tyranny of the evil Antiochus, the Jews were forbidden to observe Shabbat or Festivals. Because of this, they missed the year's harvest and their chance to observe the festival of Sukkot. Chanukah means dedication, and the ceremony used to dedicate the newly restored temple was thought to have involved a lulav, etrog, and a special mid-winter celebration of Sukkot.

Regardless of which interpretation you fancy, the real miracle of Chanukah is the survival of Jewish peoplehood. We are constantly creating new ways to commemorate and observe our Jewish traditions. In today's challenging times, the Jewish people have continued to survive amidst struggle and persecution. The eight branches of our Chanukah lights will no doubt continue to shine brightly with this message for many centuries to come.

With light and love,

Cantor Lauren Phillips Fogelman

Stessa's Article Cont'd from Page 3

We also crafted our own *tzedakah* boxes, discussing how showing love and hope isn't just about words; it's about giving back whenever we can. The kids were so excited to decorate their boxes, and they got to take them home as a reminder that generosity and compassion are values we carry with us all year round.



This month, I am very much looking forward to our 4th grade *mitzvah* project! Our 4th graders are preparing to welcome members of our community for a special morning of conversation, breakfast, singing, games, and a fun craft on Sunday, December 15th. Their mitzvah, *hachnasat orchim* (welcoming guests), brings all ages together, and I'm always touched by the connections formed and the laughter that fills the room. Through this program, we're showing our students that, behind every giggle and joke, there's kindness, caring, and community. If you would like to participate in this program, please email SPeers@tba-ny.org.

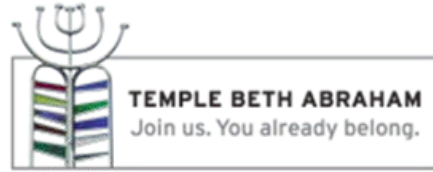
As we enter Kislev and the Chanukah season, we've got even more joyful, meaningful programming in store! Our classes will be buzzing with Chanukah energy, and our youth groups will also have festive twists this month that will incorporate Chanukah. We also have Latkepalooza AND our Board of Education Book Fair Fundraiser for our school, both immediately following school on Sunday, December 8th from 11-1:30! I know our youth, teens, and families are ready for some hands-on, Chanukah-themed fun, and I am too!

In a world where joy isn't always easy to find, I am grateful that we can carve out moments of Jewish joy together at TBA; in our classes, programs, educator meetings, and with each other. May this season of light bring warmth, laughter, and many (MANY!) shared smiles at TBA.

L'Shalom,

Stessa

Torah Readings	
<u>December 6</u>	<u>Vayitzei Genesis 28:10-32:3</u>
<u>December 13</u>	<u>Vayishlach Genesis 32:4-36:43</u>
<u>December 20</u>	<u>Vayeishev Genesis 37:1-40:23</u>
<u>December 27</u>	<u>Mikeitz Genesis 41:1-44:17</u>



“Light One Candle” on your menorah to help bring joy to local families this holiday season!

The “Light One Candle” program gives the power to purchase gifts to parents of La Asociación de Familias Hispánicas de los Tarrytowns (AFHT).

Each \$30.00 donation becomes a coupon that they purchase for \$5.00. With that combined \$35.00, La Asociación parents shop for a gift for their child at “[All Together Now](#),” the small local business/toy store on Main Street in Tarrytown. **Support a local business and this amazing program!**

La Asociación de Familias Hispánicas de los Tarrytowns (AFHT) is a Kids’ Club and Tarrytown school district-sponsored Family Literacy Program to help develop vital literacy skills in underserved youth and their parents in our community. The program runs three times a week at John Paulding school, and provides opportunities for parents and children, working together, to become exposed to developmentally appropriate educational activities, as well as enriching social and cultural experiences.

“Light One Candle” is a great way to make an important impact on the lives of local families and share the spirit of the holidays!

Scan the QR Code or go to bit.ly/TBALight1Candle to make a donation online



PLAYBILL®

TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM THEATER

Cantors in Concert

125 Years of Broadway

celebrating

125 Years of TBA



THEN AND NOW
THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY

Featuring

Cantor Margot Goldberg and Cantor Lauren Phillips Fogelman

Special Guests

Rabbi David Holtz ♦ Shira Holtz ♦ Stessa Peers ♦ Aram Peers and more

December 15 ♦ 4:00pm



25 Leroy Avenue, Tarrytown (914) 631-1770 Reservations Required

**Sunday,
December 15
2024**

4:00 pm

**General
Admission Tickets
\$36/person**

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Playbill Listing

One Ticket & Name listed in Playbill as event sponsor \$90/person

Producer's Circle

**Two Tickets with VIP Seating PLUS a full-page advertisement
in the Playbill \$360 (One Ticket \$270)**

Full Page Playbill Ad \$180 (no ticket)

Raffle Items Needed! Contact fundraising@tba-n-y.org if you have tickets, gift cards, tchotchkes to donate.

**Tickets, sponsorships and ads available at
bit.ly/TBA-Cantors125**

Adult Education



Torah Study

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00am, in Person and via Zoom

Torah Study will NOT meet on Wednesday, December 25 or January 1

Rabbi Holtz leads a class every Wednesday morning, which goes at its own pace through the *Tanakh* in English. No previous knowledge is required, and you can join in at any point in the cycle.

On Saturdays, join us at 9:00am for a lively discussion of this week's Torah reading during Conservative Services.



Mah Jongg

Mondays, 1:00pm-4:00pm, in Person

Wednesdays, 7:00pm-9:00pm, in Person

Mah Jongg will NOT meet on Wednesday, December 25 or January 1

Play Mah Jongg in a friendly, non-competitive (no betting) gathering at Temple Beth Abraham on Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.

Nominal charge for guests.



Canasta

Wednesdays, 1:00pm-3:00pm, in Person

Canasta will NOT meet on Wednesday, December 25 or January 1

Learn the rules. Play the game.

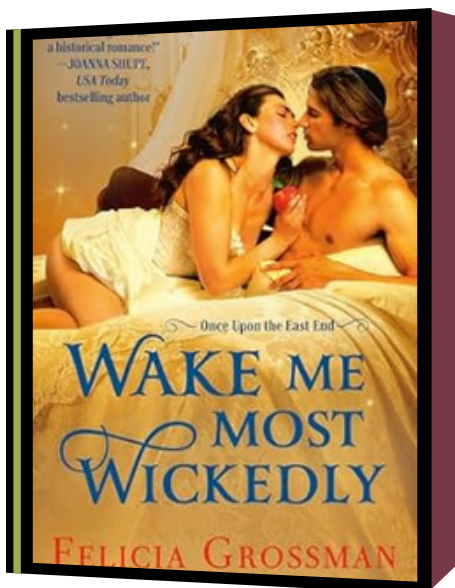
Meet new friends, spend fun time with old friends, or take a coffee break.

Learn how to play from a knowledgeable instructor or brush up on your playing skills.

Free for temple members, \$5.00 per session for guests.

TBA Book Clubs

Books & More

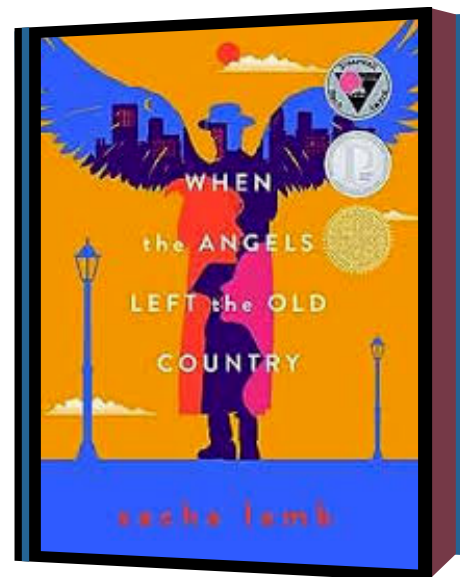


Wake Me Most Wickedly

by Felicia Grossman

Fri., January 10 at 10:00am

Books@Night



When the Angels Left the Old Country

by Sasha Lamb

Wed., January 15 at 7:00pm



OH FUDGE!



Join Jane Rubin in the TBA Kitchen
to make
“Flypaper Fudge”

Tuesday, December 10
at 11:30am

Limited to 8 participants

We'll make a basic gluten-free chocolate fudge recipe and then choose from a variety of additions to make a yummy treat!

All ingredients will be provided, including a carry-home container. Please bring an apron if you use one.



This event is full, but we are accepting registrations for the wait list

To register please click [HERE](#) or scan the QR Code

Please register by Friday, December 6



Temple Beth Abraham

MOVIE MAVENS

Saturday, December 14, 2024 7:00pm only on ZOOM

Present Continuous

(Original title: HaHaim Bentaim)



One Friday afternoon, while everyone is asleep, Ruti, an Israeli mother, barricades her home. Ruti is unable to deal with the stress and anxiety she suffers as a result of the political situation. She decides to protect her 20-year-old soldier son, Ofer, her 16-year-old daughter, Noa, and her husband, Yoel. They all wake up to find the house locked, disconnected from the outside world. "For how long?" ask the surprised family members. "Until there is peace," comes the motherly response.

Poreh Productions, 2012, 100 mins., Not rated, Subtitled

No charge for Temple members. \$5.00 per person for guests.

Email adulded@tba-ny.org to register for the zoom



Women's Circle at Temple Beth Abraham

Friday, December 20, 2024 5:45 pm – 7:15 pm

featuring a discussion led by

Katia Kravitz



An Israeli Living Abroad in these Challenging Times

Special this month:
Chanukah "White Elephant"
(Check your closet- bring something to re-gift)

Please register (in person or zoom)
<https://bit.ly/TBAWomenDec2024>



Bring Your Menorahs and Candles and Join Us For the First Night of Chanukah

Friday, December 27, 2024

6:00pm Family Sing-Along & Experience led by Cantor Lauren & Morah Stessa

7:00pm Latkes, Applesauce, Sour Cream, and Communal Chanukah Candle Lighting

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service led by Rabbi David

8:30pm Festive Oneg with Sufganiyot (Jelly Donuts), Dreidels & Gelt!



Please scan and RSVP so we know how many are coming and we don't run out of latkes!

bit.ly/TBA-Chanukah24





Light the first candle on Wednesday evening, December 25, 2024

The lights of Chanukah are a symbol of our joy. In time of darkness, our ancestors had the courage to struggle for freedom: freedom to be themselves, freedom to worship in their own way. Theirs was a victory of the weak over the strong, the few over the many, and the righteous over the arrogant. It was a victory for all ages and all peoples.

The candles are placed in the Chanukiah (menorah) from right to left, and kindled from left to right.

Always light the newest candle first

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech haolam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

Praised are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, who makes us holy through Your mitzvot, and who commands us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech haolam she-asah nissim la'avoteinu bayamim hahem bazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

This prayer is said on the first night only

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech haolam shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu lazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this joyous season.

Ner Shel Tzedakah (Candle of Justice) Blessing

A Blessing to recite on the 6th night of Chanukah, December 30, 2024

As we light this "Ner Shel Tzedakah" tonight, we pray that its light will shine into the dark corners of our world, bringing relief to those suffering from the indignity and pain that accompany poverty. May our act of giving inspire others to join with us in the fight against the scourge of hunger, homelessness, need and want. Together, let us raise our voices to cry out for justice, and may that clarion call burst through the night's silence and declare that change must come.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל צְדָקָה

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech haolam, asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav, v'lamdeinu l'hadlik Ner Shel Tzedakah.

Blessed are You, Eternal, our God, who makes us holy through the performance of Mitzvot, and inspires us to light the Candle of Righteousness.



Chanukah Candle Lighting

"Hanerot Halalu"

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Chanukah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.

Maoz Tzur (Rock of Ages)

Ma-oz tzur y'shu-a-ti,
 l'cha na-eh l'sha-bey-ach.
 Ti-kon beyt t'fi-la-ti,
 v'-sham to-dah n'za-bey-ach.
 L'eyt ta-chin mat-bey-ach,
 mi-tzar ha-m'na-bey-ach.
 Az eg-mor b'shir miz-mor,
 cha-nu-kat ha-miz-bey-ach.

מַעוֹז צוֹר יְשׁוּעָתִי
 לְךָ נִאֶה לְשָׁבֶח
 תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תְּפִלָּתִי
 וְשָׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח
 לְעֵת תִּכּוֹן מִטְבְּחִי
 מִצַּר הַמְּנַבֵּחַ
 אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר
 חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ

Rock of ages, let our song
 Praise thy saving power;
 You, amid the raging foes,
 Were our sheltering tower.
 Furious, they assailed us,
 But your arm availed us,
 And your word broke their sword,
 When our own strength failed us.

Children of the Maccabees,
 Whether free or fettered,
 Wake the echoes of the songs,
 Where you may be scattered.
 Yours the message cheering,
 That the time is nearing,
 Which will see all men free,
 Tyrants disappearing.



Latkepalooza

Sunday, December 8th
11:00am-1:30pm

Cakes by Jane
benefitting
Tikkun Olam

**Children's
Activities**

**Gifts
for sale**

Latkes!

Raffles!

**TBA
Authors**

Judaica

Tallit

Jewelry

**Teacher
Gifts**

Featured Vendors!

[Andrea Strongwater](#)

[Ariane's Jewel Box](#)

[Marci Gifts, LLC](#)

[Pixelane](#)

click on the name to learn more!

**Children's
Clothing**

Book Fair
benefitting the
Religious School

Temple Beth Abraham | 25 Leroy Ave | Tarrytown, NY 10591 | (914) 631-1770 | TBA-NY.ORG

 [tbatarrytown/](https://www.facebook.com/tbatarrytown/)  [templebethabrahamny](https://www.instagram.com/templebethabrahamny)

Time Capsule



Look for the Fundraising table at Latkepalooza where we will have a book for notes and signatures that we will include in the time capsule!

TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM'S
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL'S
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

BOOK FAIR

December 8, 2024

LEARNERS WILL GET TO BROWSE WITH THEIR CLASS FOR
20 MINUTES, BUT THE BOOK FAIR WILL REMAIN OPEN
WITH LATKEPALOOZA

TO BROWSE OR PURCHASE
ONLINE:

<https://www.mainstreetbookfairs.com/tba>

ACCEPTED PAYMENTS:
CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD (WITH FEE)

For More Information,
Email: SPeers@tba-ny.org



Temple Beth Abraham's November

Family Shabbat

Friday, December 6th, 2024

5:00pm Tot Shabbat

5:30pm *Oneg/Pre-neg*: Snack and Schmooze

6:00pm Family Services - 4th Grade Family Shabbat Service

After Services: 7th Grade Shul In

Join us for
4th Grade Family Shabbat!

What is Family Shabbat?

Family Shabbat is a service geared towards children and families. 4th Graders will participate in the service by leading us in song, and will be receiving their *siddurim* (prayer books).

What is a Shul In?

Shul ins are sleepovers at TBA!

After services, 7th graders will meet for a sleepover that will end at 8:00am the following morning.

To register: <https://bit.ly/7thgradeshulin24>

For more information,
email SPeers@tba-ny.org



4TH GRADE MITZVAH PROJECT

Welcoming Guests - *Hachnasat Orchim*

Welcoming TBA members as guests of the 4th Grade

Are you a TBA member who would like to give back? Please join us for the 4th Grade Mitzvah Project where the 4th grade will welcome guests to their 4th Grade Community. Please join the 4th Graders, their families, and TBA community members for a great day of getting to know each other, a craft project, and fun!

To Register: <https://bit.ly/4thmitzvahproject24>

Sunday, December 15, 2024

9:30AM for Guests

Temple Beth Abraham

December Youth Group Hangouts!

ZEET^YKatan (k-2nd grade)

December 1, 2024: 11am-12:30pm

ZEET^YTeeny (3rd-5th grade)

December 15, 2024: 1-2:30pm

ZEET^Y678 (6-8th grade)

December 1, 2024: 11am-12:30pm

ZEET^Y (9th-12th grade)

December 15, 2024: 1-2:30pm

To Register:

<https://bit.ly/decyg24>

For More Information, Please Contact our Director of Education and Youth Engagement, Stessa Peers, at sPeers@tba-nyc.org



Temple Beth Abraham's Adult Education Committee presents:

Masters & Stewards: Jewish Environmental Ethics with Rabbi Marla Feldman

Wednesday, January 29 at 7:30pm on ZOOM



Judaism has much to teach us about our relationship to the natural world and our obligation to care for God's creation as responsible stewards. This textual approach to Judaism and the environment will examine relevant texts from Biblical, Rabbinic, and Medieval tradition and consider what these teachings mean for us today.

Rabbi Marla Feldman is a lawyer and published author of "Biblical Women Speak: Hearing Their Voices Through New & Ancient Midrash." She has written Reform Movement Action Manuals including "Speak Truth to Power," "Khilat Tzedek: Creating Communities of Justice," and "From Tzedek to Tzedakah: Social & Economic Issues of Concern for Women and Children."

Click [HERE](#) to register or scan the QR code:



TBA FAMILY



THE FOLLOWING EVENTS REFLECT THE KNOWN SORROWS AND SIMCHAS OF OUR TBA FAMILY SINCE OUR NOVEMBER BULLETIN:

CONDOLENCES TO:

- Richard Eisert and family on the death of his mother, **Barbara Eisert**
- **Melissa Jacobson** and family on the death of her father, Victor Klein
- **Sarah Kay** and family on the death of her father, Dr. Jerald "Jerry" Kay
- **Nancy Solomon** and family on the death of her mother, Toby Schiff
- **Scott Ziluck** and family on the death of his mother, Rosanne Ziluck

REFUAH SHLEIMAH TO:

- **Cantor Mandi Beckenstein**
- **Ina Bearak Helfand**
- **Harry Stein**

MAZEL TOV TO:

- **Abby Feuer and Dan Blum** on the birth of their daughter Eloise who joins siblings Hazel and Phillip Blum
- **Mark Polisar and Felise Milan** on the wedding of their daughter Ariel to Jason Quint

DONATIONS



BIMA FLOWERS

- **Benjamin & Audrey Gelfand** in loving memory of Phyllis Gelfand
- **Harryette Helsel** in loving memory of Stanley Helsel

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- **Audra Schweitzer & Michael Andrela** in honor of, and with thanks for, Brady's *bar mitzvah*

Conservative Kiddush Fund

- **Cantor Margot & Barry Goldberg**
- **David Jacoby** in honor of Wendy and Neil Bruckner
- **Jane Rubin** in loving memory of Michael Karnes on his *yahrzeit*
- **Gordon Swartz & Deborah Doyle**

DONATIONS



ENDOWMENT FUND

- **Cantor Margot & Barry Goldberg** in loving memory of Peter Bermas
- **Sharon Kirschner** in loving memory of her parents, Barbara and Martin Tanzer

HARRIET VERTER JEWISH EDUCATION FUND

- **Herb & Melissa Baer** in loving memory of Harriet ("GG") Verter on her birthday

HIGH HOLYDAY APPEAL

- **Robert & Kristen Clarfeld**
- **Judy Cohen**
- **Melanie Gersten & Rachel Goldman**
- **James & Donna Goldsmith**
- **Jeffrey & Barbara Harris**
- **Leonard & Judith Hyman**
- **Maya Isayev**
- **Morrie Kleinbart**
- **Evan & Lori Kornrich**
- **Donald Kumka & Jane Silverman**
- **Michael & Marcia Lechner**
- **Mark Mishler & Cynthia Barr-Pfeffer**
- **Jerald & Andrea Moskowitz**
- **Phil Rothenberg**
- **Pearl Ann Schwartz**

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

- **Vincent and Meredith Bloch** in loving memory of Mariel Miriam Bloch
- **Jodi and Ira Citron** in loving memory of Sandra Tobi Dornbush
- **Jerald & Gayle Seti** in loving memory of Rose-Marie and Roger Seti

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

- **Bob, Beth & Melissa Schiller** in loving memory of Toby Schiff

ONEG FUND

- **Gordon Swartz & Deborah Doyle** in loving memory of Toby Schiff

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- **Sheila Buitekant** in loving memory of Michael Buitekant
- **Barbara Landau** in honor of Susan and Larry Tolchin for their granddaughter Lily's *Bat Mitzvah*
- **Paula Lerer** in loving memory of Richard Lerer, Tillie Lerer, Norman Lerer, Gladys Plosky and Ellen Plosky
- **Audra Schweitzer & Michael Andrela** in honor of, and with thanks for, Brady's *bar mitzvah*

DONATIONS



TEMPLE FUND

- **Carole Eagle** in loving memory of Sidney Eagle
- **Eva Fischer** in loving memory of Robert (Robby) Fischer and Rosa Fischer
- **Stuart and Barbara Fishkind** in honor of Eva Fischer
- **David and Ina Bearak Helfand**
- **Rochelle and Stuart Kessler** with gratitude for *Mi Shebeirach* prayers
- **Marvin & Ruda Klein** in loving memory of Irving Cohen
- **Elaine Miles** in loving memory of Robert Miles
- **Ivan Schneiderman** in gratitude for High Holyday services
- **Geri Singerman** in loving memory of Sarah Yorkowitz

TIKKUN OLAM PROGRAMS

- **Robert & Kristen Clarfeld** for the Yom Kippur Food drive (Feeding Westchester)
- **Eric & Julie Last** to support the Backpack program



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914.773.0030

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**Save the Date!
Scholar In Residence
Weekend
March 28–30, 2025**



“What Superheroes Teach About Torah and What Torah Teaches About Superheroes”

with *Batman* Editor Jordan “Gorf” B. Gorfinkel

Special interactive family session on Sunday – make a comic book!

Sponsored by the Fran Friedman Fund for the Enrichment of Children
and the Harriet Verter Fund for Jewish Education





TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Join us. You already belong.

25 LEROY AVENUE, TARRYTOWN NY 10591 (914) 631-1770 TBA-NY.ORG

Deadlines for upcoming issues:
December 6, 2024 for January, 2025
January 3, 2025 for February 2025



LEAVES FOR LIFE CYCLE EVENTS ON OUR TREE OF LIFE

Our synagogue is proud to possess the *Etz Chaim*, our *Tree of Life*. This original sculpture by the noted synagogue artist, Sanford Werfel, is permanently displayed in the Temple Beth Abraham lobby. The branches of the tree contain leaves that may be inscribed to highlight or commemorate such joyous events as births, weddings, anniversaries, *b-mitzvot*, graduations or simply to honor parents, family, or friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family *simchas* on our synagogue's *Tree of Life* as a permanent dedication to the meaningful and happy events that touch the lives of our community. **Please note that the creation of a leaf may take up to 8 weeks.**

The price per leaf is \$360.00 for members and \$450.00 for non-members.
For more information, please call the Temple office at (914) 631-1770

PLEASE PRINT THE INSCRIPTION EXACTLY AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR
Maximum of 5 lines of text (24 characters per line, including spaces)



Contributed by: _____ Phone Number _____

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