



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, February 6

5:00pm Tot Shabbat Service
5:30pm *Oneg/Pre-neg*
6:00pm Reform Family Shabbat
Fifth Grade Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 7

9:00am Conservative Shabbat
Service

Friday, February 13

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service
with Torah Reading

Saturday, February 14

9:00am Conservative Shabbat
Service

Friday, February 20

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 21

9:00am Conservative Shabbat
Service

Friday, February 27

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 28

9:00am Conservative Shabbat
Service

The TBA Office is closed on
Mon., Feb. 16 for President's
Day

Religious School will be
closed from Sun., Feb. 15
through Wed., Feb. 18 and
will resume on Sun., Feb. 22

The Children's Garden Center
is closed from Mon., Feb. 16
through Fri., Feb. 20 and will
resume on Mon., Feb. 23



From Rabbi Holtz's Study

Dear Friends,

There's a wonderful and important concept in Judaism called *Hakarat ha-tov*. The literal translation is "see the best," but is better translated "assume the best," meaning "assume the best of another person unless proven otherwise." There are at least two reasons we ought to practice this attitude.

The first is that we often don't know what's going on in someone else's life and we often have no idea of the true reason they are behaving a certain way. I'm confident that you can think of examples where you were upset with what someone did, only to later find out that their "why" made their actions perfectly reasonable. If we start out assuming the best, we don't have to go through the period of thinking ill of them. Moreover, we won't have been tempted to talk to others about how badly the person had behaved.

There is a second, sometimes longer-term reason to start by expecting the best. I once read a fascinating study about the power our own expectations have on the success of others. The article was titled, "Want to make a lab rat smarter? Treat it like a smarter lab rat." An experimental psychologist snuck into his own lab at night, and randomly put a label on each cage declaring the rat inside to be either exceptionally smart or exceptionally dumb. In reality they were really all just normal rats. The next day, he invited a bunch of researchers to take a rat for the week, and run it through a maze to see how well it learned. The researchers were told if they had a "smart" or "dumb" rat. The result? Across the board, the rats who were expected to be smart did twice as well on their maze learning than the rats labeled dumb! But they were all just average white rats. What could account for the startling difference in performance?

The only possible reason for the difference seems to be that they were treated differently by their handlers. The handlers, it turns out did subtle, unconscious things that affected the learning. For example, the ones who thought they had a smart rat tended to treat it much more gently, which has been shown to improve the learning performance of white rats.

Continued on page 7



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM
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www.tba-nj.org

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- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
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| Second Vice President | Herb Baer |
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| Jon Strom, | Risa Swersey, | Amy Zerman, |
| | Claire Zucker | |

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| Jamie Schaefer Wilson | | |



Cantor's Notes

WICKED PURIM CONNECTIONS

The hit movie and Broadway show *Wicked* contains many Jewish themes, some of which I've written about in the past. There are also some eerily specific connections between *Wicked* and the upcoming Jewish holiday of Purim. This is just one of the many reasons why we're celebrating with a special presentation of TBA's original "Defying Tragedy: A Wicked Purim Shpiel."

The Purim story, like *Wicked*, is one that depicts hidden identities and the struggle between good and evil. The *Megillah* features many characters whose identity, natures, or intents are hidden: Esther hides her Jewish identity and later tricks the king into saving her people; and Haman hatches a secret plan to annihilate the Jews. Similarly, Elphaba hides the magical powers that she believed cursed her childhood - until she discovers as a college student that they hold the key to fulfilling her lifelong dream of meeting the Wizard.

In her first big song in the musical, "The Wizard and I," Elphaba sings, "This weird quirk I've tried to suppress or hide is a talent that could help me meet the Wizard...if I make good." Of course, we later learn that the Wizard has secrets of his own. In fact, I would argue that the Wizard is the Haman of the *Wicked* story. Just as Haman seeks to destroy all of the Jews in Shushan, the Wizard suppresses animal rights in Oz by taking away their powers, their independence, and their voices. Elphaba becomes the unsung hero in restoring their dignity. She befriends her professor, a goat named Dr. Dillamond, who explains in detail the struggles that many of his animal colleagues are facing. Elphaba becomes his ally and defender. In doing so, she herself turns into the scapegoat. Her good intentions are deemed to be "wicked" because they threaten the Wizard's balance of power - and all of Oz turns against her.

Elphaba was unable to predict the pushback she would receive upon embarking on her mission to save the animals of Oz. But Esther, a Jew, had centuries of Jewish history and persecution to prepare her to be more calculated in her plight to protect her people. She intentionally hides her Jewish identity from the king, winning him over with her wit and charm before going in for the big ask. Interestingly enough, Esther's name comes from a Hebrew root that also means "to hide" or "to conceal" - so it makes sense that she takes this approach to save the Jews. The fact that Esther hides her identity is one of the reasons why it is customary to wear costumes on Purim.

Esther is not the only hidden figure in the *Megillah*. The Book of Esther is the only book in the Hebrew Bible in which God's name never appears. God, too, is hidden in the Purim story. This teaches us that we as humans each have the power - just like Esther - to take our fate into our own hands and to strategically stand up for justice with thoughtfulness and intention.

Continued on page 7



SHERRY SATURNO
 DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Dear TBA Families and Friends,

What will inspire you this February? In January we joyfully united to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Ecumenical Community Service at the Foster Memorial AME Zion Church, and celebrated the victories of the civil rights movement at *Shabbat Tzedek*. Cantor Lauren presented an engrossing Clergy Talk at the Shames JCC, "Shalom Gorgeous: Barbra Streisand on Judaism and Jewish Identity," and we delighted in our Youth Group Hangouts and our gorgeous new Judaica offerings for sale. I was thrilled to welcome our participants back to our "Books & More" Book Club meeting, and chat about everything new - and there is so much of it - underway at the temple.

Albert Camus wrote "In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer. And that makes me happy. For it says that no matter how hard the world pushes against me, within me, there's something stronger - something better, pushing right back." That quote has always resonated profoundly with me, and I believe that as a united and strong congregation, it is very fitting, as we support and encourage each other on our path forward.

Thank you for being part of the TBA family, and wishing you a wonderful month ahead! Please stop by to chat with me if you have a moment—my door is always open!

L'shalom,
 Sherry

New! Now Live by the Coffee Bar!



Visit the TBA Judaica Shop

Pay online and pick up in the TBA office during regular office hours

tba-judaica-shop.square.site



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STESSA PEERS DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



Dear TBA Families,

Purim is a time when joy, generosity, and community naturally come together, and at Temple Beth Abraham we see that in a few really meaningful ways.

One of those is our *Mishloach Manot* program, a *mitzvah* of giving gifts of food that we are commanded to uphold and which, for us, has become a Purim tradition we look forward to each year. It is also the Religious School’s largest annual fundraiser to support the Pincus Fund, which helps ensure that Jewish education at TBA remains accessible to all families. Through this program, every TBA household receives *Mishloach Manot*, while contributions support the students and families who make up our school community.

This year, our Third Graders will participate in their *Mitzvah* Project after Religious School on March 8. As part of this experience, students will help bring *Mishloach Manot* to older members of our TBA community who are not able to attend Purim celebrations in person. It is a simple but meaningful way for our students to connect what they are learning in school with what it means to care for others and to be part of a community that looks out for one another.

We will also be celebrating Purim with our teen-led Purim Carnival on March 1. The carnival is our youth group’s only fundraiser and directly supports our youth programs, while also being one of the most fun and lively days of the year here at TBA.

Whether you are celebrating through giving, learning, or simply being together, Purim at TBA is about connection and showing up for one another. More details about *Mishloach Manot*, Purim dinner and services, and celebrations will be shared soon!

L’Shalom,
Stessa

Shabbat Candle Lighting February 2026

Friday, February 6, <i>Shevat</i> 19		5:01 pm
Friday, February 13, <i>Shevat</i> 26		5:09 pm
Friday, February 20, <i>Adar</i> 3		5:18 pm
Friday, February 27, <i>Adar</i> 10.		5:26 pm

Shabbat Torah Readings

February 7		<i>Yitro</i> , Exodus 18:1 – 20:23
February 14		<i>Mishpatim</i> , Exodus 21:1 – 24:18
February 21		<i>T’rumah</i> Exodus 25:1 – 27:19
February 28		<i>T’zaveh</i> , Exodus 27:20 – 30:10



Melissa McHugh Director of Early Childhood Education

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CGC

Retreat and Rest. Wintering. Even in the movement and energy of preschool, Winter brings a sense of quieter curiosity and intricate discovery. This season invites us to slow down and focus our attention on the beauty around us. Snow and ice transform the landscape outside our windows, and light reflects in new and fascinating ways. Spending more time indoors offers rich opportunities to explore creativity across all learning centers and curriculum.

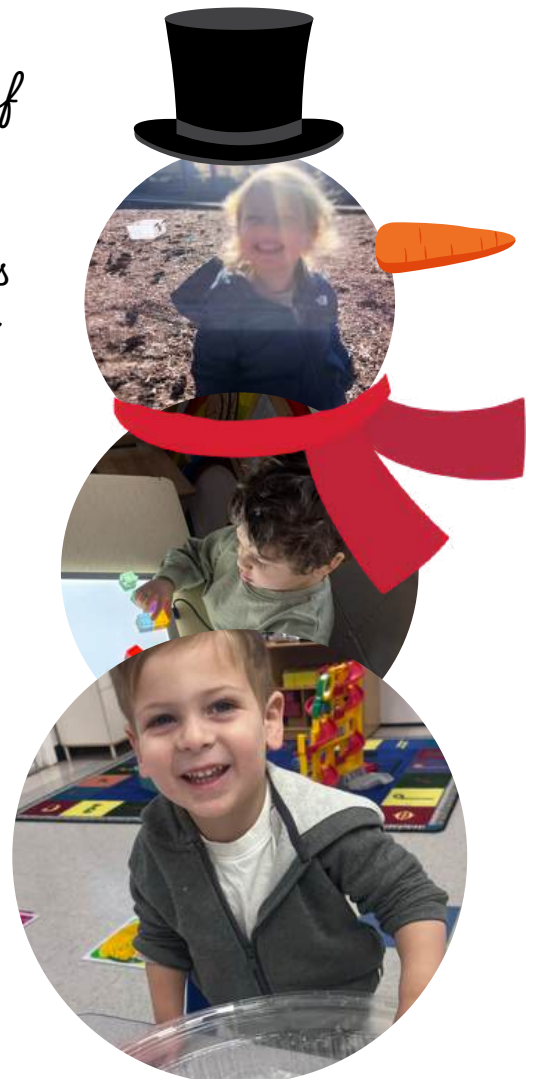
Our first month of 2026 was filled with process and discovery as we explored Arctic animals, the rainforests of Puerto Rico, the word "pes" ("peace" in Hebrew), and the concepts of light and sound. Each Friday, we were excited to welcome Cantor Lauren or Rabbi David to sing and celebrate Shabbat with us.

As we move into February, we will continue our exploration of nature and winter, beginning with the holiday of *Tu B'Shvat*. Children will participate in a special indoor planting project, nurturing their mini plants until they are ready to be brought outside in the spring. February is also Heart Month, and we will celebrate love, explore our five senses, and hold a special "Capabilities Day." On this day, children will learn about Braille, sign language, and wheelchair use, honoring all that we are able to do—even when we encounter physical obstacles.

Wishing you retreat, rest, love, and new discoveries this February!



"In the middle of the hotel lobby, only a three-year-old child knew what it was like to touch the marble floor."



A Letter From The President



As we head into February, I wanted to take a moment to check in and share where things stand at Temple Beth Abraham. A lot has been happening over the past several weeks, much of it behind the scenes, and it felt like a good time to pause and connect the dots.

One major area of focus continues to be our rabbinic search. After many months of thoughtful work, the search committee has completed its process and brought forward a recommendation. The Board of Trustees has voted to approve that recommendation, and we will be holding a special congregational meeting shortly for congregational ratification. I am deeply grateful to the members of the search committee for the time, care, and seriousness they brought to this responsibility. Their work reflects a deep commitment to the future of TBA and to choosing our next rabbi with intention and integrity.

At the same time, we have been moving forward with *Strengthen & Sustain*. This initiative is about making sure TBA is on solid footing as we move through a significant moment of change. To date, *Strengthen & Sustain* has brought in approximately \$200,000, much of which is earmarked for the endowment, and we are grateful to all who have donated so far. That is an encouraging start. Our \$3 million goal will support closing our operational budget gap, renovating the chapel, and strengthening the endowment.

As we continue to review our finances, we are also seeing some areas of pressure. At a recent Finance Committee meeting, we noted that our annual High Holy Day appeal has raised less than we had budgeted. It is not too late to contribute, and I hope you will consider doing so if you are able. In addition, due to the age of our building and recent extreme weather, the House budget has already fully allocated its repair funds for the year. As a result, the operating gap we are working to close may be larger than previously anticipated. I share this to be transparent about where things stand as we continue this work together in the months ahead.

A lot of the work so far has been about getting ready for the rabbinic transition and strengthening how we approach fundraising, so that our efforts feel thoughtful and manageable rather than rushed or confusing. It may not always be visible, but it makes a real difference.

We are also beginning to see how this planning is turning into tangible improvements. Work has already begun on a refresh of our social hall, motivated in part by the upcoming gala honoring Rabbi Holtz, which will be held there (save the date: Saturday, April 25). This effort is being made possible by the generosity of several benefactors, and the goal is a space that feels brighter, fresher, and more welcoming for all of us. We are excited to see it taking shape.

I am also happy to share that we recently welcomed a new Facilities Manager to TBA. Christian Samuels joined us in January, and many of you have already seen him around the building. We are fortunate to have Christian working alongside John Johnson, our Assistant Facilities Manager, who has already become a steady and familiar presence at TBA. Together, they help keep our building welcoming and running smoothly, and we are grateful for their work.

On a lighter note, our new Judaica Shop is now open upstairs next to the coffee bar. Whether you are looking for a gift, something for an upcoming occasion, or just want to browse, please stop by the next time you are at TBA. Items can be purchased easily by QR code and picked up during regular office hours. It is a small addition, but one we hope adds to the warmth and vibrancy of our building.

Taken together, these efforts reflect a community moving forward with care and intention. Thank you for your patience, your trust, and your continued engagement as we navigate this important chapter together.

Brian Schneider
President, Board of Trustees

Rabbi's Article Cont'd from Page 1

The takeaway is that the advanced expectations of the handlers, for good or bad, was the determining factor in how well the rats did. Just think about all the implications of this in real life!

Think about the kid labeled early on as slow, or troubled, or whatever. That label does, subconsciously, impact the expectations of their teachers, and perhaps even their parents, which very likely affects the child's development.

Think about the times we expect a hassle from a customer service rep, and perhaps our tone and our language betray that expectation, and suddenly it comes to pass.

Hakarat ha-tov - look for, assume the best of others. Start out with the idea that they are capable, good-hearted, smart. More often than not, they will rise to meet our expectations. And often they do so because of our expectations and how we express them, both intentionally and subconsciously. Our sages knew this long ago, without the benefit of lab rats! I encourage you to include "looking for the good" as part of the way you approach the world.

Peace and blessings,
Rabbi David Holtz

Cantor's Article Cont'd from Page 2

Elphaba was not so lucky - though she can be redeemed by the fact that she did not succumb to peer pressure. She fought valiantly for what she believed in until the very end in spite of the challenges that she faced. Though Elphaba ultimately becomes exiled from Oz, her legacy lives on through Glinda. At the musical's close, both characters celebrate how they were each changed "For Good" by the unlikely friendship that developed between a quiet green outcast and a "Popular" pink princess.

We hope you'll join us to discover these "Wicked" Purim connections and more at our Purim Shpiel and (abbreviated) Megillah reading on Monday, March 2. We'll read the whole Megillah at Conservative services on Tuesday, March 3.

Chag Sameach,
Cantor Lauren Phillips Fogelman



Celebrate *Tu B'Shvat* with Jewish National Fund-USA

Jewish National Fund-USA provides special opportunities to enhance the way you celebrate *Tu B'Shvat* and connect to the land and people of Israel. We proudly think of *Tu B'Shvat*, the world's first Earth Day, as it embodies our dedication to Israel's environment.

shop.jnf.org/collections/plant-trees



MISHLOACH MANOT

ORDER BY FEB. 23



It's easy to order
and pay online!

Click [HERE](#) or scan
the QR code to
participate!



[Click HERE for FAQs!](#)

**It's a *mitzvah* to send sweet treats and warm wishes
(*Mishloach Manot*) to family and friends on Purim!**

Mishloach Manot will be given to each member family along with a scroll listing the names of all participants. You can pick up your Purim gift at Services on March 2nd & 3rd.

This fundraiser directly supports the Religious School's Pincus Scholarship Fund. Thank you for helping make Jewish education accessible to all.

Two levels of participation are available again this year:

- **Sponsor Level: \$180.** All Sponsors will be listed in the "Sponsor" section of the scroll. In addition, sponsors will receive an additional treat in their *mishloach manot* bag!
- **Member Level: \$72.** All members who pay \$72 will have their names included on the scroll which is distributed with each bag.

Additional bags may be purchased for \$18 each.

You may also **make a contribution to the Pincus fund** (in an amount of your choosing) using the link or QR code above.

**Join us to pack Mishloach Manot bags together on
Saturday, February 28 at 1:00pm at TBA.**

Families welcome!

Please RSVP to Board of Ed chairs, Emily Chazen and Amy Shapiro-Kessler,
at boardofed@tba-ny.org

Adult Education



Torah Study

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

Class will not meet on Wednesday, February 18

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

The game scheduled for Monday, February 16 will move to Thursday, February 19

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

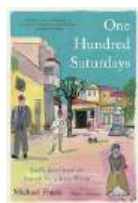
Wednesdays, 1:00pm-3:00pm, in Person

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.



BookseNight

Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00pm

One Hundred Saturdays by Michael Frank, illustrated by Maira Kalman

The remarkable story of ninety-nine-year-old Stella Levi whose conversations with the writer Michael Frank over the course of six years bring to life the vibrant world of Jewish Rhodes, the deportation to Auschwitz that extinguished ninety percent of her community, and the resilience and wisdom of the woman who lived to tell the tale. (Non-Fiction)

Moderated by congregant Sharon DeLevie or Kimberly Marcus

Free for temple members, \$5.00 suggested donation per guest.



Women's Circle

Friday, February 20, 5:45pm, in person only

This month: Jennifer Povman, Tu B'Shvat Seder

A Tu B'Shvat Seder is a Kabbalistic-inspired ritual meal celebrating the Jewish "New Year for Trees." Join us as we sample foods and wines that symbolize growth, spiritual connection and care for the environment, accompanied by readings and songs.

Bring a nosh to share. No charge. To register: bit.ly/TBAWomenFeb20

JOIN US FOR THESE PURIM EVENTS

PURIM DINNER

Monday, March 2, 6:00pm

Dairy Dinner

\$18 each person

\$54 maximum per family

Please RSVP by Wednesday, February 25

so we know how much food to order

bit.ly/PurimDinner26

REFORM SERVICE & SHPIEL

Monday, March 2, 7:00pm

CONSERVATIVE SERVICE WITH MEGILLAH READING

Tuesday, March 3, 9:00am

MISHLOACH MANOT

Help us pack bags on Sun. February 28

Pick up your Purim Bag at Services

on Mon., March 2 or Tues., March 3

PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday, March 1, 11:00am - 1:00pm

TBA's Teen-led Purim celebration!

Games! Spin art! Snacks! Raffle!

Food items \$1-3

Activity Tickets: 10 for \$10

or \$36 for unlimited

Cash preferred

Please bring a box of rice or dried pasta to services to serve as a grogger which will be donated to the Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown following services.



Our annual Purim shpiel is taking on a *Wicked* twist, and you can help make the magic happen!

We hope you'll join us on March 2 at 7:00pm for a Purim service, an abbreviated Megillah reading, and our Purim shpiel!

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Shpielbill

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Full screen - \$36 Well-wisher - \$18
Purchase your ad using our online form.
Go to: <https://bit.ly/Shpielbill> or scan the QR code above

We're happy to help design your ad!
Ads must be received by February 23

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 25, 2026

TBA Gala
honoring Rabbi David Holtz
on his retirement from
Temple Beth Abraham

for more info:
tba-ny.org/annual-gala/

Please send us photos of you with
Rabbi David for a special montage
at the Gala!

email them to:
Fundraising@tba-ny.org



The Fundraising Committee

February Youth Groups

AT TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

ZEETYKatan (Kindergarteners-2nd Graders)

February 8, 2026: 11:00am-12:30pm

ZEETYTeeny (3rd-6th Graders)

February 22, 2026: 11:00am-12:30pm

ZEETY678 (6th-8th Graders)

February 8, 2026: 1:00-2:30pm

ZEETY (9th-12th Graders)

February 22, 2026: 1:00-2:30pm

To Register: <https://bit.ly/febyg26>



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT OUR
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT,
STESSA PEERS,
AT YOUTHDIRECTOR@TBA-NY.ORG



Temple Beth Abraham's February

Family Shabbat

Friday, February 6th, 2026

5:00pm Tot Shabbat

5:30pm Oneg: Snack and Schmooze

6:00pm Family Services - 5th Grade Family Shabbat Service

After Services: 5th Grade Shul In

Join us for 5th Grade Family Shabbat!

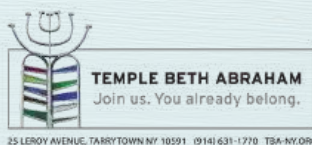
What is Family Shabbat?

Family Shabbat is a service geared towards children and families.
5th Graders will participate in the service by leading us in prayer and song

What is a Shul In?

Shul ins are a sleeover at TBA!
After services, 5th graders will meet for a sleep over
that will end at 8:00am the following morning.

To register: <https://bit.ly/5thgshulin26>



For more information,
email SPeers@tba-n-y.org

TBA FAMILY



THE FOLLOWING EVENTS REFLECT THE KNOWN SORROWS AND SIMCHAS OF OUR TBA FAMILY SINCE OUR LAST PUBLICATION:

CONDOLENCES TO:

- **Sheldon and Susan Manspeizer** on the death of Sheldon's sister, Lenore Rose
- Rhonda Leibowitz and Jackie Stromfeld on the death of their mother, **Mary Perchick**
- **Stephen and Phyllis Schwartz** on the death of Stephen's brother, Alan Schwartz

REFUAH SHLEIMAH (A COMPLETE HEALING) TO

- **Judith Balsan**
- **Maddy Cohen**

MAZEL TOV TO:

- **Steven & Claire Zucker** on the birth of their grandson, Coby Hayes Zucker. Parents are Brad and Carly Zucker

DONATIONS



ADULT EDUCATION

- **Kevin Joseph Feehan** in gratitude for our open, inclusive worship services

BIMA FLOWERS

- **Herb, Melissa, Emma & Ethan Baer** in loving memory of Gladys Baer
- **Sharon, Laura & Rachel Kirschner** in loving memory of Rhoda Tanzer and Rebecca Lipton
- **Jared & Amy Zerman** in loving memory of Andrew and Miriam Zerman

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- **Saara Gallin** in loving memory of Peter Weiss
- **Jared & Amy Zerman**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

- **Kevin & Joan Frankel** in loving memory of Murray and Myra Frankel
- **Norman & Melissa Jacobson** in honor of Rabbi Holtz

CGC FUND

- **Jamie & Lee Lefkowitz** with thanks for bringing Jewish joy to the next generation

CONSERVATIVE KIDDUSH FUND

- **Mandi Beckenstein** in loving memory of Ella and Julius (Joe) Kark
- **David & Beth Rubin** in loving memory of Arnold Rubin and Emil Propper

DONATIONS



ENDOWMENT FUND

- **Karen Filler**
- **Richard & Donna Fleming** in loving memory of Lillian Soson
- **David & Meryl Gordon**
- **Loretta & Roger London** in support of TBA's *Strengthen & Sustain* Initiative
- **Liz Ross & Bernie Tolpin** in loving memory of Peter Weiss

HIGH HOLYDAY APPEAL

- **Judy Cohen**
- **Paul Levy & Loren Ratner**
- **Stephen & Phyllis Schwartz** in support of TBA's *Strengthen & Sustain* Initiative

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

- **Barbara Feibelman**
- **Adrienne Kringas**
- **Donald Kumka & Jane Silverman**
- **Victoria Ritter**

PINCUS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- **Ann Schwab** in loving memory of Murray, Harry and Rose Schwab
- **Harald Schwab** in loving memory of Murray Schwab and Sylvia Rosen

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- **Marvin & Ruda Klein** in loving memory of Sarah Klein
- **Harry & Linda Lubell** in loving memory of William Lubell
- **Carolyn Topp** in loving memory of Steve Sanders
- **Andres Valdespina & Michelina Hallie** in honor of Rabbi David Holtz
- **Jeffrey Wexler** in honor of Quinn Alexander's baby naming

TEMPLE FUND

- **Susan Bannon** in loving memory of Nat Epstein
- **Barry & Jane Agdern** in support of TBA's *Strengthen & Sustain* Initiative
- **Louise Citron** in honor of Scott and Hannah Citron
- **Mira & Robert Fein** in loving memory of Honey Black Kay, Stephen Kay, Milton Fein, and Lee Fein
- **Eva Fischer** in loving memory of Henry Fischer and Wilhelm Fischer



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM
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Deadlines for upcoming issues:
February 9, 2026 for March 2026
March 6, 2026 for April 2026

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

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