



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

MAY NEWSLETTER

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, May 1

5:00pm Tot Shabbat
 5:30pm Pre-neg/Oneg
 6:00pm Reform Family Shabbat Service & Kindergarten/1st Grade Shabbat

Saturday, May 2

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service with Torah discussion
 11:00am Robert Andrei, son of Talia Andrei & Matt Presseau, will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, May 8

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service with Torah Reading

Saturday, May 9

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service with Torah discussion
 11:00am Charlotte Dolinger, daughter of Jason & Alison Dolinger, will be called to the Torah as a *Bat Mitzvah*

Friday, May 15

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service

Saturday, May 16

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service with Torah discussion
 11:00am Sarah Winston will be called to the Torah as a *Bat Mitzvah*

Friday, May 22

7:30pm Reform Shabbat and Shavuot Service with Confirmation

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From Rabbi Holtz's Study

Dear Friends,

I asked our bulletin editor to bend the deadline for my article so I could write about the Gala. But I had no clue just how incredible an evening it would be! I'm still floating, and I'm struggling to express my joy, my wonder and my thanks for all the beautiful things that our Gala Committee did to make it such an unforgettable event. So instead, I'll share with you an excerpt of my remarks that evening. I think the full text is better (the recording may be online), but here are just a few of the things I have most enjoyed doing with you over thirty-three years:

Leading Shabbat services. Truth be told, there were many Fridays when I did not want to get up from the dinner table drive back to TBA. Or get out of bed on Saturday morning. Yet every week, no matter what my mood is, once the service begins, I feel connected with the congregation, with myself and with God. And I always leave Shabbat services with the feeling that I can be and ought to be a better husband and father, a better rabbi, a better person. Sometimes that feeling lasts for days; sometimes it only lasts until I get to my car. But it's a good feeling to have, and I highly recommend it to all of you.

Playing the guitar in front of an audience. I knew long ago that I would never make a living as part of a band. But being able to make music, especially with so many talented musicians over the years, has been a joy.

High Holy Days and particularly delivering sermons. For my entire career I have been astounded when I see congregants in August and they tell me, "I'm looking forward to hearing what you have to say this year." Over 33 years there have been good sermons, less good

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The Temple Office is closed Friday, May 22 for Shavuot and Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day

The Children's Garden Center is closed Friday, May 22 for Shavuot and Monday, May 25 for Memorial Day



TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM
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Cantor's Notes

The Sounds of Shavuot

The Jewish musical concept of *nusach* helps us to identify times and seasons on the Jewish calendar by melody. There are musical themes to accompany morning and evening worship as well as majestic motifs that tell us it is time to celebrate the High Holy Days. In addition, our song of freedom, *Mi Chamocha* - a prayer that we sing nearly every time we gather together to worship - is often sung by a seasonal melody. On Passover, we sing *Mi Chamocha* to the tune of *Adir Hu*. On Chanukah, we sing it to *Maoz Tzur*. The versatility of these words and the abundant ways in which we can sing them together as a community remind us how lucky we are to be able to celebrate our Jewish holidays. We cannot take our freedom for granted.

On Shavuot, our melody for *Mi Chamocha* is based on a liturgical poem called *Akdamut*. In Talmudic times, the reading of Torah was accompanied by a translation in the vernacular that helped people to understand the words they were hearing. At the time, the language happened to be Aramaic. This tradition has mostly fallen out of practice in modern times, since Aramaic is no longer widely understood. However, there are two occasions in which some congregations offer such readings: before reading about the parting of the Red Sea at the end of Passover and before reading the Ten Commandments on Shavuot.

The reading before the Ten Commandments took on the name "*Akdamut*," which simply means "preface" or "introduction." It was written by Rabbi Meir ben Isaac, a German contemporary of Rashi, who wrote the first 44 verses of the poem as an alphabetic acrostic. Each verse ends with the letters "Tav" and "Alef", the last and first letters of the Hebrew alphabet. This is meant to be symbolic of the fact that Torah has no end and that we never stop learning Torah.

According to the *Or Chadash*, a commentary on the Conservative Movement's Siddur Sim Shalom, the poem achieves the following:

"*Akdamut* praises God as Creator of the world. It highlights the inadequacy of any moral attempt at such praise. The angels join in groups to praise the Creator. Yet wondrous and respectful as angels are, the praise of the people Israel is far more precious to God because of Israel's unique devotion to God on earth. The people Israel have been enticed to join others in idolatry, but they have withstood temptation, maintaining their loyalty to God and Jewish tradition, anticipating the time when they will enjoy the *Shekhinah*, the splendor of God's presence. All of us, the poet concludes, will be able to merit and enjoy that splendor by fulfilling the 'Ten Words' presented at Mount Sinai by the living God: The words that embody God's gift of Torah."

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Saturday, May 23

9:00am Conservative Shabbat and Shavuot Service with *Yizkor*
11:00am Ariel Dias-Sherrin, son of David Sherrin & Lea Dias, will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, May 29

7:30pm Reform Shabbat Service & Israel Shabbat

Saturday, May 30

9:00am Conservative Shabbat Service with Torah discussion
11:00am Abigail Gerson, daughter of Jeremy & Cindy Gerson, will be called to the Torah as a *Bat Mitzvah*



Last Days of Religious School:

Sunday: May 17
Monday: May 18
Wednesday: May 20



SHERRY SATURNO DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Dear Temple Beth Abraham Families and Friends,
There's something remarkable about May—the longer days, the scent of fresh air, and the feeling of everything coming back to life again. It's a time that naturally draws us closer together, helps us reconnect, and savor the moments we share as a community.

As we move through this exquisite season and look ahead to Shavuot, we have some wonderful opportunities this month to gather, worship, reflect, and enjoy one another's company. We warmly invite you to join us for our Shabbat services throughout the month—a meaningful way to pause, reflect, and connect in community. I am so excited to share with you just a few of our upcoming events:

CGC Art Show

Friday, May 1st at Shabbat Services through Sunday, May 3rd after Rabbi's discussion and luncheon, come spend time surrounded by exuberant creativity at our Children's Garden Center Art Show. It's always a joy to see the blossoming talent within our community and to share in something that brings people together in such an inspiring way.

Discussion & Luncheon with Rabbi Holtz

Sunday, May 3rd at 12:30pm, we'll gather for a relaxed and thoughtful discussion over lunch with Rabbi Holtz. It's a unique chance to share ideas and enjoy good company.

Books & More Club

Join me **Friday, May 8th at 10:00am** as we explore Reuven Fenton's *Goyhood*. Whether you've finished the novel or just want to listen in, it's a welcoming space for conversation, curiosity, and friendship.

TBA Fun Day in Honor of Rabbi Holtz & the Last Day of Religious School

On **Sunday, May 17th at 11:00am**, we'll come together for an incomparable Fun Day honoring Rabbi Holtz and celebrating the completion of Religious School with our learners. It promises to be a joyful celebration filled with laughter and appreciation.

Israel Parade

Join us on **Sunday, May 31st** as we take part in the Israel Parade. It's a powerful means to show our connection, pride, and solidarity together as a community. We hope you'll walk with us and be part of this day.

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STESSA PEERS DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Dear TBA Families,

On April 10th, our *Shinshinit* Eden became a *Bat Mitzvah* at TBA. I keep thinking about how incredible it was to celebrate Eden and everything she's accomplished on the exact same night that NASA astronauts Reid Wiseman (Commander), Victor Glover (Pilot), Christina Koch (Mission Specialist), and Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen (Mission Specialist), who had been in space since April 1, returned to Earth.

I had already asked friends to send me updates because they knew I wouldn't be able to be glued to the TV watching all the streams like I had been doing pretty consistently since they first went up. But to my surprise, a number of our 11th graders, and Morah Marla and Morah Kira, were there for Eden, and also quietly praying and hoping for the same thing that I was... a safe landing.

As someone who watched the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster, I didn't realize how much it affected me at the time. But every piece of news I learned about this mission brought me so much joy. Moon Joy, if you will. I really can't understate how much joy this has brought me, and I think a lot of us didn't realize how badly we needed something that felt beautiful, hopeful, joyful, and human again. There was so much poetry, heart, art, and what felt, to me, like spirituality woven into everything that was done on this mission.

Each of them carried their families, their people, their stories, and their humanity with them. They brought pieces of the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster so the Challenger could finally "make it" to space. They brought cloth from the Wright brothers' first flight, which shows that the "A" in STEAM, art, is woven into NASA's work, not just the "S" for science.

One of the astronauts, pilot Victor Glover, spoke after landing about his faith. He described seeing the Earth from that distance as something "too big to just be in one body," and talked about gratitude, about recognizing God's creation, and the call to love both God and neighbor. In Judaism we call it *Ma'aseh Bereishit*, the work of creation. We say, "*Mah rabu ma'asecha Adonai*, how vast and extraordinary this world is." We're taught *V'ahavta l'rei'acha kamocho*, to love our neighbor as ourselves.

They even, as a crew, named a crater Carroll, after Commander Wiseman's deceased wife, and now we get to look up at the moon and say her name. Her memory is now a shared memory. How very Jewish, and a blessing to all who learned her story. The poetry of it all is just so human, and so beautiful. I wish I could wax poetic about all of the things that gave me, and give me, Moon Joy, but that would take up the whole bulletin!

And all of this was hitting us as we were sitting in services, where we were praying for the heavens and the earth, for the moon and the planets. It was especially poignant as the we read *Emet Ve-Emunah*:

"To take the first step
is to close one's eyes and dive into unknown waters,
for a moment knowing nothing,
risking all...
and then to discover
the waters are friendly,
the ground is firm, and the song rises again."

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Eden Levy





Melissa McHugh Director of Early Childhood Education HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CGC

Embracing Spring and New Beginnings

Spring welcomes us, surrounding our community with art, nature, and music—a beautiful season of newness, growth, and change. At CGC, this time of year feels especially meaningful, as we reflect on a year filled with friendship, joyful learning and discovery.

Together, we celebrate the completion of our second year of renewal, honoring how far we have come as a school with the TBA family as our advocates and cheerleaders. Thank you.

May begins with our annual CGC Art Show, a cherished tradition that highlights the creativity and imagination of our children. Throughout the year, the students explored the works of great masters, expressing themselves through a variety of materials and experiences. Our teachers carefully gathered these creations, curating a meaningful showcase that reflects each child’s unique voice and growth.

We continue our celebration of the evening with Tot Shabbat, where families join together for songs, stories, and blessings with Cantor, Rabbi, and Morah Stessa. These moments help nurture a love of Jewish tradition in our youngest learners, creating warm connections between home, school, and synagogue life.

As we move through the final months of the school year, we remain grounded in the values that guide us—kindness, curiosity, and community. We look forward to more opportunities to gather, celebrate, and learn together, embracing the spirit of spring and the promise it brings.

Wishing everyone a joyful and meaningful season!

Upcoming CGC Events:

- Friday, June 12 St.Jude Trike-a-Thon
- Tuesday, June 16 Moving Up Ceremonies

Registration for the 2026–2027 school year is in full swing. We have only a few remaining spaces! Please help us spread the word to friends and families who may be interested in joining the warm and vibrant community of CGC/TBA.



A Letter From The President



After a Night Like That

Last week, we filled the room.

We came together to celebrate Rabbi David, to say thank you for 33 years, and to be part of something that felt, in every sense, like TBA at its best.

It was a great night.

But what's stayed with me isn't just the speeches or the program.

It's what the room felt like.

The Social Hall looked incredible. The refresh came together beautifully, new flooring, new stage, new drapery, new lighting. Warmer. More flexible. And brighter.



That didn't happen on its own.

To the donors who stepped up so quickly to make this possible, thank you. And to the Fundraising Committee, who made the night feel effortless, even though we know it wasn't, thank you.

But what made the night was the people.

The conversations. The energy. The way the room filled in, not just physically, but with connection.

It felt like a community that knows itself.

And that doesn't just happen at a gala.

Because that night wasn't an exception. It was a snapshot.

A really good one.

Of what happens here all the time, in smaller ways, on regular days, in moments that don't have a program.

That's what Rabbi David helped build over 33 years.

Not just big moments.

A place where people show up. For each other. Again and again.

You can already see it in the space itself.

The Social Hall isn't just for events like the Gala. It's where we celebrate *simchas*, *b-mitzvahs*, weddings, baby namings. Where families gather and memories get made.

Now it's a space that matches those moments.

Warmer. More flexible. And brighter.

And that's really the story.

Not just what we celebrated that night.

But what we keep creating here, week after week, year after year.

And what we carry forward together, tending the light and building our future, one moment at a time.

Warmly,
Brian Schneider

Rabbi's Article Cont'd from Page 1

sermons, and a few of which I am particularly proud. Whether you agreed or disagreed with the point I was making, I have always tried to give you something to think about. And I have always kept in mind the backhanded praise I got about a month into my tenure here from a congregant who said, "Rabbi, I really love your sermons: they have a beginning, a middle and an end."

Congregational trips to Israel: We saw many sights. But it was never just about sightseeing. It was mostly about getting firsthand knowledge of the land our people have been dreaming of for centuries, and we ourselves have been hearing about our entire lives. It was making a connection with the land itself, visiting with Israelis, both Jewish and Arab, and about getting a better of understanding of this far-off country we see on the news.

Teaching: Rabbi of course means teacher, and I am still not tired of sharing thoughts and ideas, and seeing the spark in someone's eye, someone of any age, when something I teach connects. I have been blessed to be able to teach students from 2 to 102. Shabbat with the nursery school, "Ask the Rabbi" sessions on Sundays, Confirmation on Mondays, Adults and Jews by Choice at any time; what a joy it has been!

But, the most important of the many things I've loved about my years at TBA is being a part of so many peoples' lives. As this year has gone by, and so many of you have shared your memories with me, I have become deeply aware of the amazing privilege it is to be a congregational rabbi. You have invited me to be part of the most important, and personal moments in your life - the happy and the sad - and you have trusted me to help you find joy, comfort - meaning - in those moments. It has been an incredible blessing for me to be part of all of them: holding the babies and bringing them into the covenant; guiding 13-year olds as they begin their journeys into adulthood; sitting with you by your hospital bed and offering healing prayers; standing with loving couples under the *chuppah* as they speak their vows and embark on married life; gathering with you and your family when a loved one has died, listening as each person tells me what that person has meant in their lives.

These individual moments are each precious. The cumulative impact of them on the person I have become over 33 years is nothing short of astonishing. Thank you. Thank you for inviting me to walk with you along this part of the pathways of our lives.

Thank you for welcoming me into your lives. I am looking forward to many more years with you as TBA's Rabbi Emeritus. On behalf of my entire family, I pray that we and this wonderful community will continue together to go from strength to strength.

L'Shalom,
Rabbi David Holtz



Dr. Renée and Rabbi David Holtz at the Annual Gala
Photo by Kevin Swersey

Cantor's Article Cont'd from Page 2

The entirety of the poem can be heard [here \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMXltDml9Yo\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMXltDml9Yo), as sung by eighteen cantors from Southern California in 2021. You may recognize the melody as sounding similar to the Festival Kiddush. That's because the *Akdamut* motif comes from the joyful pattern on nusach that we use during the festivals. This makes good sense, since *Akdamut* is closely associated with Shavuot.

To create a modern version of *Akdamut*, you can take the English alphabet and use each letter to say something inspirational about Torah. I challenge you to take this ancient text and to find ways for it to inspire you this Shavuot as we celebrate receiving, learning, and studying Torah.

L'Shalom,
Cantor Lauren Phillips Fogelman

Director's Article Cont'd from Page 3

This time of year reminds us how important it is to stay connected—to show up for one another, to share experiences, and to continue building the warm, welcoming community that makes Temple Beth Abraham feel like home.

Please stop by my office when you are in; I would be so delighted to chat with you!

L'Shalom,
Sherry

Stessa's Article Cont'd from Page 4

Under any other circumstance, we wouldn't have ever looked at a stream during services. But Judaism teaches us that sometimes holiness finds us in unexpected places, and that moments of connection, wonder, and awe can be deeply spiritual, even when they don't look the way we imagined.

We were sitting there, just holding our breath... and then they made it back. They hit the water, and the quiet excitement was palpable in our pews.

And at that exact moment, Rabbi David said it was time to read the *Modim*... for gratitude. You or I couldn't have written it better than that. And there was this moment in the room, I don't know how else to describe it, but a collective exhale, this shared feeling, like we were all holding the same thing together.

It was a moment of collective effervescence: the feeling of being part of something bigger than yourself, all at once. This is humanity... and this is Judaism.

I also keep coming back to something Eden said in her d'var Torah. She talked about *Parashat Shemini*, that week's Torah portion, and focused on something I don't think I've really heard centered before: Aaron, and what he doesn't say. When his sons die, he's silent. There's so much strength in that silence. But also in what comes after. He continues, he moves forward, and I think that's a really great lesson right now.

Because it feels like so many people are silently screaming about the world, about everything that's going on. And there's this question underneath it of how do we move forward? How do we continue? How do we have hope? And then, somehow, we do. We see it in things like this mission. We see it in Eden, having a Bat Mitzvah when there was a time she didn't even know if that was something that could happen for her as an Israeli woman.

The world is full of beautiful possibilities, and I'm really glad to be part of it, especially here, at TBA.

L'Shalom
Morah Stessa

Shabbat and Holiday Candle Lighting

MAY 2026

Friday, May 1, Iyar 14 _____	7:34 pm
Friday, May 8, Iyar 21 _____	7:42 pm
Friday, May 15, Iyar 28 _____	7:49 pm
Thursday, May 21, Sivan 5 (Erev Shavuot) _____	Light holiday candles at 7:55 pm
Friday, May 22, Sivan 6 _____	Light shabbat/holiday candles from a preexisting flame at 7:55 pm
Friday, May 29, Sivan 13 _____	8:01 pm



Shabbat Torah Readings

May 2 _____	<i>Emor</i> Leviticus 21:23
May 9 _____	<i>B'har - B'hukotai</i> Leviticus 25:1-27:34
May 16 _____	<i>B'midbar</i> Numbers 1:1-4:20
May 23 _____	<i>Naso I</i> Numbers 4:21-5:31
May 30 _____	<i>Naso II</i> Numbers 6:1-7:89

Build the Future of TBA



Legacy Giving at Temple Beth Abraham

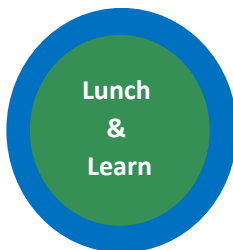
- Temple Beth Abraham exists today because earlier generations planned for the future. Legacy giving allows each of us to do same.
- Include TBA in your will, retirement plan, or estate plans to help secure our congregation's future.
- Legacy gifts sustain our programs, clergy, and community for the long term.



Interested in learning more?

Speak with synagogue leadership or contact the office for a confidential conversation.

Together we can ensure that Temple Beth Abraham continues to thrive for generations.



To Everything There is a Season Practical Life Lessons from 39 years in the Rabbinate A Discussion with Rabbi David Holtz Sunday, May 3, 2026

"As I've been reflecting on more than half a lifetime in the congregational rabbinate – teaching, counseling, praying, sermonizing and more - I've realized that there are certain Jewish/ethical/practical ideas and behaviors that have guided my life and my work. They all have their roots in the texts that have shaped the Jewish people – Torah, Talmud, Midrash and more. In this unique program, we'll look at some of these life lessons, and discuss how we might apply them for ourselves, our families and our community. I truly hope you'll join me."

– Rabbi David Holtz

Discussion and Luncheon 12:30pm-3:00pm

All are welcome. Free of charge for members, \$18 for guests.

Please RSVP to the office: (914) 631-1770 or tbaoffice@tba-ny.org

*This program is made possible by a grant from the
Harriet Verter Jewish Education Fund at Temple Beth Abraham*



THE GREAT BIG JEWISH GOODBYE

SAVE THESE DATES FOR EVENTS IN HONOR OF RABBI DAVID'S RETIREMENT

**SUN
MAY 3**

TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON

12:30 PM | DISCUSSION AND LUNCHEON: RABBI REFLECTS ON HIS 39 YEARS IN THE RABBINATE: FREE FOR MEMBERS, \$18 PER GUEST (RSVP REQUESTED). PRESENTED BY THE HARRIET VERTER JEWISH EDUCATION FUND

**SUN
MAY 17**

TBA FUN DAY IN HONOR OF RABBI DAVID HOLTZ

11:00AM-1:00PM | PARTY IN HONOR OF RABBI DAVID HOLTZ & LAST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL - FOR ALL AGES! FEATURING "THE SKAM" ROCK BAND. RSVP: [TINYURL.COM/TBAFUNDAY](https://tinyurl.com/tbafunday)

SHABBAT SHALOM RABBI DAVID

**FRI
JUNE 5**

FAMILY SERVICE SENDOFF CELEBRATION

6:00 PM | FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE - INCLUDING CAMP BLESSINGS AS WE SEND OUR KIDS OFF FOR SUMMER AND RABBI INTO RETIREMENT. WE WILL HAVE SURPRISES FOR RABBI DAVID.

**FRI
JUNE 19**

REFORM SHABBAT FAREWELL CELEBRATION

7:30 PM | DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

**SAT
JUNE 27**

CONSERVATIVE SHABBAT FAREWELL CELEBRATION

9:00 AM | RABBI'S FINAL SERVICE AS TBA'S SPIRITUAL LEADER BEFORE BECOMING RABBI EMERITUS. DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

All events take place at Temple Beth Abraham.
Each event will be unique, so please consider joining us for as many as you can so you don't miss a thing!



TBA FUN DAY

PARTY IN HONOR OF RABBI DAVID HOLTZ & LAST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

For all ages!

SUNDAY, MAY 17 11:00am-1:00pm

Celebrate Rabbi's retirement and our amazing community with lunch, baked goods, treats, games and music!

This event is free of charge but please RSVP and note any food allergies.

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:
THE SKAM
ALTERNATIVE ROCK BAND**

REGISTER NOW:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/TBAFUNDAY](https://tinyurl.com/TBAFUNDAY)



Help Us Give Rabbi Vaisberg a Warm, Joyful TBA Welcome!

As we prepare to welcome Rabbi Vaisberg to Temple Beth Abraham, we're forming a Rabbi Welcome Team—and we'd love you to be part of it.

Team members will help imagine and organize a range of opportunities—casual meetups, small gatherings, online conversations, and more—so that everyone in our TBA family has a chance to connect with Rabbi V in meaningful ways.

Whether you have ideas to share, enjoy planning, or simply want to help create a warm and communal experience, your voice and energy will make a difference.

Interested in joining? We'd love to hear from you—please reach out to RabbiWelcomeTeam@tba-nyc.org to get involved.

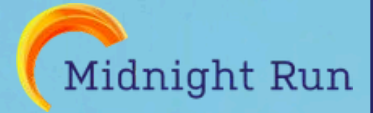


Help us welcome Rabbi Vaisberg, along with his family (from left to right) son Judah, wife Miriam and daughter Nava, into our TBA family.

Co-chairs: Jen Povman & Sharon Kirschner



MIDNIGHT RUN



NEW DATE: June 27, 2026

ONGOING COLLECTION-BINS CAN BE FOUND IN THE LOBBY
FOR QUESTIONS OR TO GET INVOLVED TO VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME
PLEASE REACH OUT TO MELISSA DICKMAN AT MIDNIGHTRUN@TBA-NY.ORG

CLOTHING

T-SHIRTS/LONG SLEEVES
HOODIES/SWEATSHIRTS
JEANS (DARKER WASHES)
(ALL SIZES OF CLOTHING)

SUPPLY LIST

please send items to the temple by June 20

AMAZON WISHLIST
AVAILABLE FOR EASY
DONATION at: bit.ly/4uSQyJo

TOILETRIES

TRAVEL SIZE HAND SOAP, AND
TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSHES,
DEODORANT (ALL STORE BOUGHT)

SHOES

SNEAKERS/ATHLETIC SHOES/
BOOTS (SIZES 9-14)

SIGN UP TO HELP!



STORE BOUGHT MENS SOCKS AND
UNDERWEAR (ALL SIZES)

Adult Education



Torah Study

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

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 Monday, May 25 due to the Memorial Day holiday. It will meet on Thursday, May 28 instead.

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.

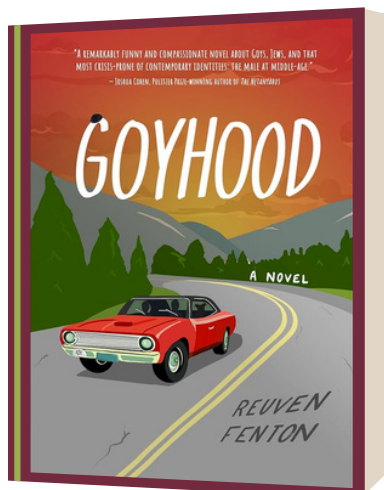
Learn how to play from a knowledgeable instructor or brush up on your playing skills.

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



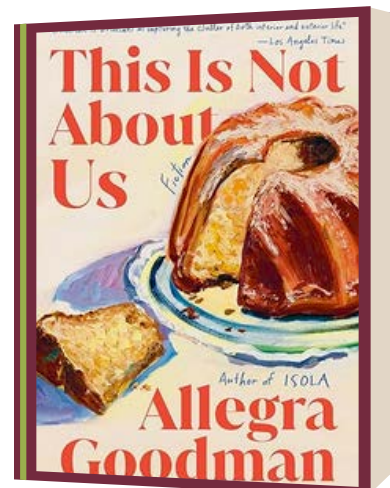
TBA Book Clubs

Books & More



Friday, May 8 at 10:00am
Goyhood by Reuven Fenton

Books@Night



Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00pm
This is Not About Us
by Allegra Goodman



Women's Circle

Friday, May 15 at 5:45pm

TBA's three Cantors, Lauren, Margot and Mandi, will talk about the anniversary of women in the cantorate.

RING CEREMONY CELEBRATING RABBI DAVID K. HOLTZ



**33 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
AT TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM**

**MONDAY, MAY 10, 2026
7:45-8:15PM**

ADDING HIS LINK TO THE CHAIN OF TRADITION

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL: SPEERS@TBA-NY.ORG

Israel Shabbat Dinner

May 29, 2026

6:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Reform Shabbat

Share in this meaningful moment as we gather for Shabbat, deepen our connection to Israel, and show what it means to stand together.

Dinner will include a choice of kosher chicken or vegetarian entrées.

\$18.00 per person

Register here: bit.ly/TBA-IsraelDinner
so we know how much food to buy





Join our Westchester community as we march up 5th Avenue in the world's largest gathering in celebration of Israel. We will march with the Westchester Jewish Council.

For more information and to order your free t-shirts, contact Marla Peers by May 15 at israelcommittee@tba-ny.org.

Tshirt sizes are limited (S-XL)

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026
11:30am - 4pm • 62nd-74th St. on Fifth Ave.

Join us at the world's largest parade in support of Israel LIVE on FOX's My9 and IsraelDayOn5th.com starting at Noon EDT. A project of JCRC-NY.
Limited spectator areas - first come first served. No backpacks permitted.

IsraelDayOn5th.com

f Israel Day on Fifth **X** @israeldayon5th **ig** jcrcny_israeldayonfifth






Temple Beth Abraham's May

Family Shabbat

Friday, May 1, 2026

5:00pm Tot Shabbat

5:30pm Oneg/Pre-Neg: Snack and Schmooze

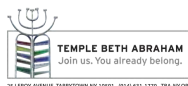
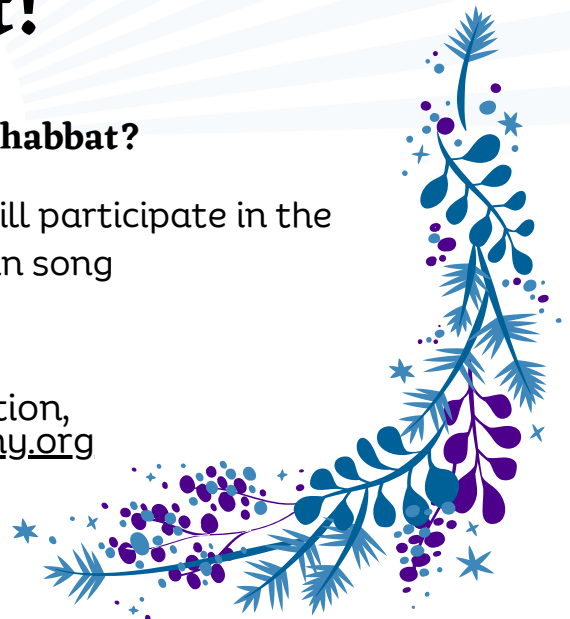
6:00pm Family Services

Join us for Kindergarten and 1st Grade Shabbat!

What is K/1 Family Shabbat?

Kindergarteners and 1st Graders will participate in the service by leading us in song

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



CGC Art Show

Come celebrate the beautiful artwork across all mediums created by the students at CGC!

**Friday, May 1, 2026
4:00pm-5:00pm**

Refreshments will be served. Please stay for music and storytime at Tot Shabbat immediately following at 5pm.



IT'S A 7-12TH GRADE SHUL IN!!
GET EXCITED FOR A SLEEPOVER AT TBA

HAMAKOM SHUL IN

MAY 15, 2026
AFTER SERVICES (7:30PM SERVICE START TIME) TO
MAY 16, 2026
AT 8:00AM

To register: <https://bit.ly/421v0VT>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL: SPEERS@TBA-NY.ORG

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM'S
CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 5786 · 2026

SAMUEL BERGMAN, LEVI BERGMAN, EVAN BLOOM,
BENNETT CHAZEN, CAMDEN CHAZEN, AND
NOAH STEIN

*Confirmation
Service*

at Shavuot Services
Friday, May 22, 2026
Service begins at 7:30PM
Temple Beth Abraham
Tarrytown, NY 10591



FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL
SPEERS@TBA-NY.ORG

Join us May 22 for

**SHAVUOT
DAIRY ONEG**



**FOLLOWING 7:30PM SHABBAT
AND SHAVUOT SERVICES**

sponsored by the Ritual Committee



**4TH GRADE
MITZVAH PROJECT
SENIOR VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Welcoming Guests - *Hachnasat Orchim*
Welcoming TBA members as guests of the 4th Grade

Sunday, May 10
9:30AM for Guests
at
Temple Beth Abraham

Would you like to attend?
Email: SPeers@tba-ny.org
or RSVP at
bit.ly/4thmitzvahproject26

Please join the 4th Graders, their families, and TBA community members for a great day of getting to know each other, a craft activity, and fun!

We invite TBA seniors to participate as our guests for the 4th Grade Mitzvah Project.

PS Don't forget your to get your car washed by our 5th Graders!

TBA'S 5TH GRADE

CAR WASH

A MITZVAH PROJECT BY OUR 5TH GRADERS

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026
9:30-11:00 AM | RAIN OR SHINE

CAR WASH MENU:
\$10 - Standard Wash
\$20 - Super Clean (Wash + Dry)
\$10 - Not to Wash

BAKE SALE & BLOOMS!
\$2 Each - Fresh Baked Treats
\$2 Each - Flowers for Mom

May 10
9:30-11:00AM
Rain or Shine



**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT
THE 5TH GRADE TZEDAKAH!**
FOR INFO: SPEERS@TBA-NY.ORG

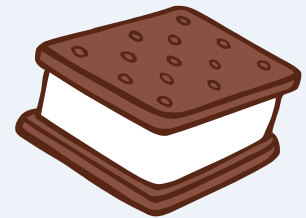


TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

& Ice Cream Social

TUESDAY, JUNE 9
AT 7:30 PM

You are warmly invited and encouraged to join your fellow congregants as we conduct the Annual Meeting of the Hebrew Congregation of North Tarrytown and Tarrytown (Temple Beth Abraham's formal corporate name) on Tuesday, June 9, 2025 at 7:30pm. Details to follow.



The meeting will be followed immediately by an Ice Cream Social!

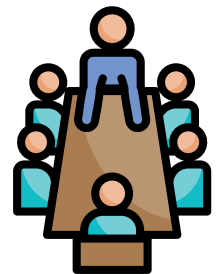
Please note that only members who are current in their financial obligations to Temple Beth Abraham are permitted to vote at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

This meeting is IN PERSON only

Save the Date:

Friday, June 12, 2026, 7:30pm

Join us as we officially install our 2026-2027 Board of Trustees. Wish *Mazel Tov* to our new Board members and thank and bid farewell to those stepping down from service.



June is LGBTQ+Month. On the same night, join us for a special Reform Shabbat Service honoring Gay Pride. Service is open to all.

TBA FAMILY



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

CONDOLENCES TO:

- **Yuval and Barbara Ehrenreich, David and Rachel**, on the death of their mother and grandmother, Ruth Ehrenreich.
- **Julia and Steve Gosset, Ryan and Becca**, on the death of their mother and grandmother,
- Deborah Pomeranz
- **Phil Rothenberg** on the death of his mother,
- Elaine Rothenberg
- **Nicole Doniger Strom and Jon Strom, Frieda and Ike**, on the death of their father, and grandfather, Bruce Doniger.

MAZEL TOV TO:

- **Susan and Jonathan Cember** on the birth of their grandson, Joshua Cember. Parents are Winnie Lee-Cember & William Cember
- **Karen Filler** on the birth of her grandson, Leo Jordan Bar. Parents are Allison Filler and Samuel Bar.

DONATIONS



BIMA FLOWERS

- **Ida Doctor** in loving memory of Bertha Greenberg

BUILDING FUND - SOCIAL HALL REFRESH

- **Ann Adenbaum & Dr. Alan Schramm**
- **Arnie Ecker & Linda Shulman** in honor of Honey Sackelman's special birthday
- **Jennifer & Michael Povman**
- **Barbara Steiner**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND FOR THE CONSERVATIVE CHAPEL RENOVATION

- **Barbara Steiner**

DONATIONS



CONSERVATIVE KIDDUSH FUND

- **Cantor Mandi Beckenstein** in honor of her birthday
- **Richard & Donna Fleming** in loving memory of Anna Schorr and Esther Soson
- **Saara Gallin** in honor of Neil Bruckner
- **Cantor Margot, Barry & Tamir Goldberg** in loving memory of Lin Bermas
- **Diane & Richard Lane** in loving memory of Mark Monack
- **David Rubin & Beth Propper** in honor of the Conservative Minyan

ENDOWMENT FUND

- **Marianne Rich** in honor of Rabbi Holtz
- **Barbara Steiner**

FRAN FRIEDMAN FUND FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF CHILDREN

- **Michael Friedman** in loving memory of Fran Friedman
- **Sharon Kirschner** in honor of Ida Doctor on the birth of her granddaughter Joni Faye Rosenberg

in loving memory of Debbie Pomeranz

- **Herb & Melissa Baer**
- **Allan Brodsky**
- **Michael Friedman**
- **Jonathan Gleit & Kimberly Marcus**
- **Elaine & Marty Goldstein**
- **Sharon Kirschner**
- **Liz Ross & Bernie Tolpin**
- **Shellie Rutstein**
- **Douglas & Andrea White**

DONATIONS TOWARD THE SUCCESS OF THE ANNUAL GALA IN HONOR OF RABBI HOLTZ

- **Ann Adenbaum & Dr. Alan Schramm**
- **Jonathan Cohen, Truist Investment Services**
- **Ida Doctor**
- **Jonathan Gleit & Kimberly Marcus**
- **Jenny Libien & Richard Goodwin**
- **Phil Rothenberg**

DONATIONS



ISRAEL COMMITTEE

- **Ellen Post**
- **Carol Schwartz** in loving memory of Elaine Rothenberg

PINCUS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- **Barbara Barak, Susan, Beth & Sander** in loving memory of Dr. Jack Barak

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- **Diana Lurie Boersma, Steve Boersma and Ray Lurie** in loving memory of June Lurie
- **Steven & Julia Gosset** in loving memory of Debbie Pomeranz
- **Don & Margie Ostrower**

TEMPLE FUND

- **Richard Isaacson & Marianne Petitbon**
- **Sharon Kirschner** in honor of Loretta London's Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Award
- **Sharon Kirschner** in loving memory of Lin Bermas
- **Susan and Sheldon Manspeizer** in loving memory of Fannie and Harry Tannenbaum
- **Linda & Richard Okrasinski** in loving memory of Max Berkowitz
- **Linda Shulman** in honor of Ida Doctor's granddaughter, Joni Faye Rosenberg
- **Naomi & Morry Silbiger** in honor of Benjamin Kleuster
- **Geri Singerman** in loving memory of Nettie Singerman
- **Harriet and Ira Weinbaum** in loving memory of Sally Weinbaum
- **David & Eileen Weiner** in loving memory of Florence Steinman and Samuel Liebman

TIKKUN OLAM FUND

- **Sharon Kirschner** in loving memory of Elaine Rothenberg

YOUTH GROUP FUND

- **Benjamin & Emily Burley** for use of the Temple Beth Abraham Torah

DONATIONS



YELLOW CANDLE - PINCUS FUND

- **Ann Adenbaum and Dr. Alan Schramm**
- **Jane & Barry Agdern**
- **Herb & Melissa Baer**
- **Cantor Mandi Beckenstein**
- **Janet & Jeffrey Chester**
- **Ida Doctor**
- **Eva Fischer**
- **Saara Gallin**
- **Michael, Stan & Scott Gamzon**
- **Cantor Margot, Barry & Tamir Goldberg**
- **Jonathan & Rebecca Greller**
- **Harold Gross**
- **Bob & Marilyn Harris**
- **Sharon Kirschner**
- **Don Kumka & Jane Silverman**
- **Michael & Marcia Lechner**
- **Paul Levy & Loren Ratner**
- **Loretta & Roger London**
- **Phyllis Mandel**
- **Marilyn Miller**
- **Richard & Linda Okrasinski**
- **Harlan & Adrienne Pincus**
- **Gideon Rabino**
- **Marianne Rich**
- **Gary & Farron Roboff**
- **Steven Schieffelin**
- **Pearl Ann Schwartz**
- **Dietmar & Tammy Serbee**
- **Linda Shulman**
- **Morry & Naomi Silbiger**
- **Carol and Bradley Wank**
- **David & Eileen Weiner**
- **Matthew & Lynne Wilson** in loving memory of Ira Wilson



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TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Join us. You already belong.

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

Deadlines for upcoming issues:
May 4, 2026 for June 2026
Please note: the next bulletin after June will be September 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

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 _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Temple Beth Abraham
25 Leroy Avenue, Tarrytown, NY 10591