

Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years

Visit our website: www.templebethelohim.net

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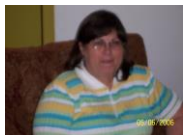
Tevet/ Shevat/Adar (5777)

The Rising Star

P.O. Box 571 Georgetown, SC 29442

843 283-7145

tbe@chaitrack.com



From the Ritual Chair

Suzan Cohen

However we may celebrate the secular New Year, there is a sense of turning a page and starting fresh. While at *Rosh Hashanah*, there is a collective focus on adjusting our moral and spiritual path, at the secular New Year, it is more the cultural norm to make resolutions to improve the more mundane aspects of our lives. But both in our secular and religious lives there are many "New Years," – fiscal year, tax year, or school year, for example – and each has its own focus and purpose.

On our religious calendar, we actually have another new year happening very soon: *Tu B'Shevat*, which literally means the 15th of the month of *Shevat*, starts at sunset on Friday, February 10th.

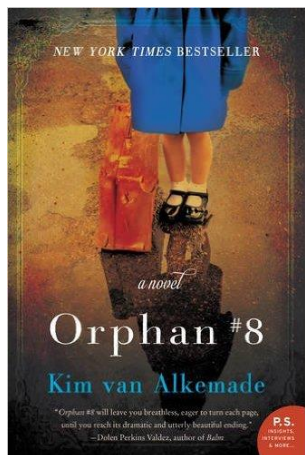
Continued on p. 2 – **Ritual Chair**



Almond tree in blossom on *Tu B'Shavat*



Dried fruit and almonds traditionally eaten on *Tu B'Shavat*



BOOK DISCUSSION

Orphan #8

by Kim van Alkemade

Meeting will take place
at the home of
Elaine Karpel
18 January 2017
12:30 p.m.

rsvp by 15 January 2017
ekarp@aol.com

BOOK CLUB ACTIVITIES

To join, call Susan (843)516-0535

* Watch movie MARJORIE MORNINGSTAR at home of
* Marian Cohen, 1 February 2017, 12:30 p.m.

* Discuss book *Marjorie Morningstar* at home of Marilyn
* Minkoff, 15 February 2017, noon.

* Watch movie A MAN CALLED OVE at Strand Cinema of
* Georgetown, 28 January 2017, 2:30 p.m. (admission \$7)

* Discuss book *Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty,
* 1 March 2017, 12:30 p.m., location to be announced.
*

It is known as the New Year of Trees because it is used to calculate the age of fruit-bearing trees. You see, *Leviticus* 19:23-25 commands us to refrain from eating the fruit of a tree for three years, and to offer the fruit as a tithe in its fourth year. It's not until the tree is five years old that we are allowed to eat any of its fruit. And every tree becomes officially one year older on *Tu B'Shevat*, even if it was planted the day before. (Or since our days start at sunset, if you plant a tree on Friday afternoon, February 10th, it will be one year old by the time we light the *Shabbat* candles.)

We observe *Tu B'Shevat* by planting trees or eating fruit, especially one of the Seven Species (*shivat haminim*), which include wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates. Some communities hold a *Tu B'Shevat seder* which features the Seven Species. One custom that's nice for involving young children is to plant parsley on *Tu B'Shevat*, which is then eaten at the Passover *seder*.

What Do We Tell the Children?



President Richard

Suzan's *Tu B'Shevat* article motivated me to do a little research. I attended Sunday School back in New York City and each year a Rituals class was part of the curriculum. I have no recall of study-

ing anything about this celebration. Today, we are presented with many controversial environmental issues. These have made *Tu B'Shevat* very relevant to our young students. Here is what a rabbi presented to the youngsters in his congregation:

"*Tu B'Shevat* is the day we celebrate one of God's most special creations – the tree – and all of the good we get from them. There is a custom to eat many different types of fruit on this day while thinking about and appreciating where they came from. We can learn a lot from trees. One thing is patience. A tree, which starts from a tiny

seedling, takes many years before it grows tall and produces its delicious fruit. So too, we should try to be patient and know that all good things will eventually 'bear fruit' if we're willing to wait.

"In our story, a child discovers there's much more to trees than branches and leaves.

"The old man watched with a satisfied smile as the cars drove in one by one to the far side of the apple orchard. He loved this time of year when the apples were hanging red and heavy on their branches, waiting to be picked, eaten and enjoyed, and when the folks came from miles around for their yearly outing.

Continued on p. 4 – What Do We Tell the Children?

Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

President: Richard Dimentstein (843/232-1451)
President Emeritus: Gene Vinik (1)843/564-5489
Vice President: Joy Birnbaum (843/520-1528)
Secretary: Susan Richman (843/748-0265)
Treasurer: Art Kaufman (732/329-6002)
Temple Administrator: Annette Vinik
Trustees: Carrol Sallas (843/215-3886), Seymour Birnbaum (843/520-1528), Donna Llewellyn (843/357-2521) Bonnie Linado (843/979-0360), Lonnie Richman (843/748-0265), Andy Friedman (803/974-0023)

TEMPLE BOARD MEETINGS

Check our website for date, time and place. Members are encouraged to be present. [Next meeting will be held on Friday, 3 February 2017, 6 p.m. followed by *Shabbat* services at 7:30 p.m.]

Want to advertise in *The Rising Star*? Call Richard Dimentstein at (843)232-1451. Any life cycle events? Contact Annette Vinik, annettevinik@hotmail.com.

TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to www.chaitrack.com. If you need a user name and password, contact Annette Vinik, (1)(843)564-5489.

Let us fervently pray for the comfort and recovery of our dear temple members and friends and for the continued strength of their caregivers



Mary Ball Brian Berry Miriam Drucker

Sheldon Gershman Dr. Eric Heiden Meyer Rosen

Elaine & Bob Schimek



Tree of Life

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____



Inscriptions may be up to 3 lines with 20-25 characters per line. Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

Leaf 1 _____

Leaf 2 _____

Leaf 3 _____

A check for \$_____ (\$36 per leaf) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.

Thanks for your support.

Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of

SHANE FINKEL

grandson of Carrol Sallas

CHARITY DRIVES

We have set up two receptacles in our social hall. One is for clothing items. The other is for non-perishable food, toiletries and sundries. All that we collect will be donated to a local shelter or food pantry.

Please remember this when you are removing things from your drawers, closets and cabinets.

The Temple Beth Elohim Gift Shop Is Now Open

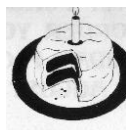
Each and every Friday, before *Shabbat*, we will be selling Judaic items such as *mezuzah*, *yahrzeit* lights, ceramic trivets, Chanukah candles, and an assortment of unique objects d'art. Joy Birnbaum and Carrol Sallas will be on hand to act as customer service representatives.

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

4 Ruth Farb

29 Annette Vinik



FEBRUARY

15 Marlene Rose

19 Janet Solomon

20 Tish Richter

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

17 Ruth Farb &

Dick Charleton



FEBRUARY

02 Brenda & Dick Rosen

21 Annette & Gene Vinik

25 Marilyn & Richard
Horowitz



Sylvia Herman

Sylvia Speaks of Jewish Culture

An Investigation of Origins and Variations

Gefilte fish may be one of the foods most closely associated with Jewish ritual; what would Passover be without it?

3

Gefilte fish probably originated in Eastern Europe as an economical recipe for the locally available fish (carp, pike, mullet, or whitefish). For the general poverty of the Jewish population it provided stretching the expensive fish so that even large, poor families could enjoy fish on *Shabbat* by adding extra ground *matzo* or bread crumbs. By removing the bones from typically very bony fish, it prevented picking bones religiously prohibited on the Sabbath. The preparation of ground fish eggs, onion and bread were probably stuffed into the whole fish and baked.

Today, much of the *gefilte* fish comes out of cans or jars with a gel or sauce. Other can be purchased as loaves to be cooked at home. A better product may be that made of freshly ground fish seasoned to taste.

In Polish Catholic homes, *gefilte* fish is a traditional food on Christmas Eve and Holy Sunday which are traditionally meatless feasts. It is referred to as “Jewish carp.”

continued from p. 2 [What Do We Tell the Children]

“He saw a green SUV, and watched as parents, children, packages, bags, and a baby stroller came tumbling out. One of the children, a girl of around 11, caught his eye, not because of her enthusiasm but rather, her extreme lack of it.

“‘Apple picking. Apple picking. Every year, boring apple picking,’ Nancy huffed. ‘What’s wrong with the apples we buy in the store? They’re perfectly good. Why do we have to make this big trip every year for a few dumb apples?’

“‘Nancy, can you grab this bag please? Be careful, it has a thermos in it,’ said her mom.

“Mrs. Krieger felt bad that her daughter was feeling so impatient and having such a rough time of it today. She had such fond memories of apple picking in this very same orchard back when she was a girl and hoped to share it with her children. But Nancy wanted no part of it.

“It was taking forever for her parents to get everything organized, so Nancy started wandering around the orchard a little. She just wanted to finish fast and go home to join her friends who were at the new ice cream shop that had just opened. Free ice cream as much as you can eat, all day, and here she was, stuck surrounded by these ridiculous apples.

As she was walking, suddenly she came upon a sight that looked strange to her. She went over to take a closer look.

“The old man, the orchard owner, was bending down over a flat of tiny apple tree seedlings, picking up each one lovingly and placing it gently into neatly spaced holes already dug into the ground. Nancy snorted out loud as she watched him tamp the dirt around each sapling, like they were his babies or something. The man looked up at her and smiled.

“‘Beautiful, aren’t they?’ he said.

“‘Maybe,’ replied Nancy. ‘But how long will it be until they’re big enough to make apples?’

“‘Oh to really produce? About 20 years, maybe more.’

“‘Twenty years! Then what are you bothering for? Don’t get offended mister, but let’s face it, at your age,’ she paused as she took in his wrinkled face, ‘it doesn’t really look like you’ll be around to enjoy them, you know?’

“The man smiled warmly again. ‘Right you are about that, young lady. Nothing lasts forever, does it? Even so, all these apples here that everyone is picking and enjoying were planted by my father and grandfather.

Continued on p. 5 – What Do We Tell the Children?

DONATIONS



Richard Dimentstein to the General Fund in memory of Herbert Dimentstein

Ruth & Herb Feinberg to the General Fund

Rosa Lee & Dr. Eric Heiden to the General Fund in memory of Rose H. & Mort Weinberg and in memory of Bari King Heiden

Jana Hletko to the General Fund in memory of Sally Dube

Donna & Tom Llewellyn to the General Fund

Meyer Rosen to the General Fund

Roberta & Steven Schwartz to the General Fund.

From *Hadassah*

Hadassah is now selling certificates for planting trees in Israel. The price is \$18 each. To purchase a Tree Certificate, contact **Carrol Sallas**, (843)215-3886.

Continued from p. 4 [What Do We Tell the Children]

They cared enough back then to plant for the future. And look – with a little patience, the future came quick enough, didn't it? I hope these here saplings will provide lots of good fruit for my kids and grandkids, and whoever else might want to come and enjoy them.'

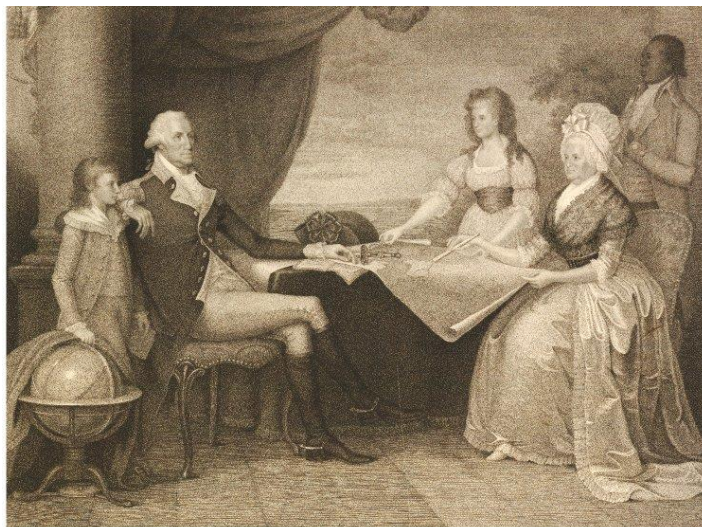
"Nancy was speechless. Nothing in her eleven years of life had prepared her (not counting the care and love of her parents, which she hadn't yet realized was a gift and not a given) for such a patient and unselfish outlook on life.

"Here, how'd you like to plant one, young lady?' the man said as he offered her one of the saplings. 'Maybe one day you'll come back here and your kids can pick apples from **your** tree.'

"Nancy took it and felt surprisingly good as she placed it into the ground.

"Oh Nancy, there you are,' said her mom, walking over. 'I know you're in a rush to get home, so we'll try to hurry things as much as we can.'"

Yom tov!



"The Washington Family" by Edward Savage
Courtesy of the British Museum, London



Yahrzeits



JANUARY

2 Jack Cohan	father of Sylvia Herman
3 Jodi-Ann Wollman	daughter of June Wollman
4 B. Albert Friedman	father of Andy Friedman
7 Beverly Hudson	mother of Rosa Lee Heiden
7 Albert Kurtz	temple member
8 Carrol Abrams	brother-in-law of Debby Abrams
9 Samuel M. Gladstone	uncle of Meyer Rosen
12 Harry Rosen	father of Meyer Rosen grandfather of Dick Rosen
14 Joseph L. Rubin	father-in-law of Meyer Rosen
14 Aaron Freireich	father of Cecile Vinik
15 Cema Cornis	aunt of Ruth Farb
16 Ned Cohen	husband of Suzan Cohen
21 Bernice Young	mother of Suzan Cohen
21 Milton Rosenfeld	brother-in-law of Shelly Gershman
22 Evelyn Poaster	mother of Tish Richter
23 Morris Cohen	father-in-law of Suzan Cohen
25 Maurice S. Lumiansky	temple member
26 Nettie Stern	temple member
26 Irene Hurwitz	temple member
26 Evelyn Nitzberg	mother of Susan Richman
27 George Herman	father of Irv Herman
28 Albert A. Kossove	father of David Kossove
29 Rita Fogel	temple member
30 Tillye King	mother-in-law of Eric Heiden
31 Rabbi Deborah Slavitt	temple leader and teacher

FEBRUARY

3 Irving Schwartz	temple member
3 Ralph Gold	temple member
4 Dorothy Berest Lichtenstein	sister-in-law of Shelly Gershman
5 William Richman	father of Lonnie Richman
7 Morris Ulrich	grandfather of Ariane Lieberman
7 Ida L. Sisser	temple member
8 Jacob Sisser	temple member
8 Ruth Wollman	mother-in-law of June Wollman
8 Barnet Levine	father of Carrol Sallas
9 Julia Abrams	mother-in-law of Debby Abrams
10 Dorothy Schneider	mother of Susan Berry
12 Morris Horowitz	father of Richard Horowitz father of Roberta Schwartz
13 Harold Schneider	uncle of Susan Berry
14 Deborah Herman	mother of Irv Herman
16 Blossom Rand	mother of Joy Birnbaum
16 Jules Nitzberg	father of Susan Richman
17 Ruth Ader	mother of Shirley Giegerich
21 Edward Wollman	father-in-law of June Wollman
21 Samuel M. Gladstone, Jr.	uncle of Meyer Rosen
22 J. J. Heiden	father of Eric Heiden
23 Gloria Richman	first wife of Lonnie Richman
26 Ida E. Danzig	temple member



Any corrections or additions please contact Annette Vinik at (1)(843)564-5489 or at tbe@chaitrack.com . Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* of the upcoming week.

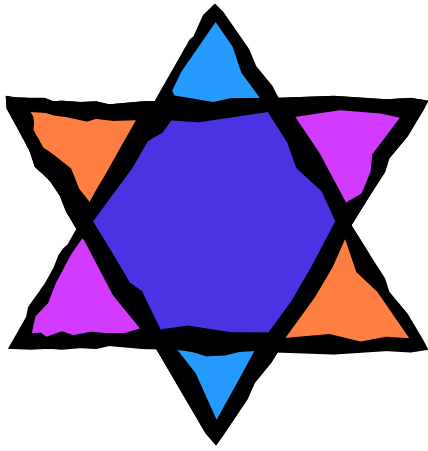
New Memorial Plaques

Plaques are displayed permanently on our *Yahrzeit* Board and are lit on the death anniversary of the honoree. Any member who would like to memorialize a loved one should speak with one of our Board members.

Beth Elohim Cemetery

Cemetery plots are for sale in our unique, historic resting place. The Cemetery Committee, chaired by SEYMOUR BIRNBAUM, has prepared the appropriate documentation for the purchase of gravesites.

Call the temple (843 283-7145) and request for copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care and will be available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to Non-temple members at a higher cost.



First Class
Postage

SHALOM

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years

Temple Beth Elohim
P. O. Box 571
Georgetown, SC 29442

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Committee Members

Temple Administrator: Annette Vinik
Ritual Chair: Suzan Cohen (Richard Dimentstein)
Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum (Annette Vinik)
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Gene Vinik)
Finance Chair: Art Kaufman (Gene Vinik)
Sunshine Committee Chair: Carrol Sallas
Building & Grounds Chair: Gene Vinik (Craig Lieberman, Seymour Birnbaum)
Newsletter Editors: Richard Dimentstein, Joy Birnbaum, Jana Hletko
Library Chair: Richard Dimentstein
Oneg Shabbats: Annette Vinik
Web Page: Joy Birnbaum
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn, Bonnie Linado
Website (www.templebethelohim.net): Joy Birnbaum
Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden