



THE WINDOW

VETERAN'S DAY SHABBAT

On November 11th TBS honors all who served



November 2016
Tishrei/Cheshvan 5777

Temple Beth Shalom
New Albany, Ohio

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LOUIE'S LEGO RALLY

TBS and the Religious School will be collecting *new, boxed* LEGOS to benefit the kids at Nationwide Children's Hospital in memory of LOUIE BECKER

Collection Dates:

Fridays or **Sundays**

October 28th

October 30th

November 4th


November 6th

November 11th

November 13th

November 18th

November 20th



The class with the most Legos collected will win a Pizza and Ice Cream Party! There are also various gift cards, donated by the Beckers, that will be randomly drawn for students who bring in Legos!

Upcoming Events

Week of 10/30

Sunday, Oct. 30	KT Religious School, 9:00 am; Library Mtg, 10:00 am
Tuesday, Nov. 1	Sharyonim Practice, 7:30-9:00 pm
Wednesday, Nov. 2	Mah Jongg at TBS, 1:00 pm
Friday, Nov. 4	3rd Grade Camp Shabbat with Dinner, 6:30 pm
Saturday, Nov. 5	First Aliyah of Alyssa Mason, 10:00 am

Week of 11/6

Sunday, Nov. 6	KT Religious School, 9:00 am; Men's Club Poker Night, 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 8	Volunteering at Colum- bus Community Kitchen, 4:00 pm; Sharyonim Practice, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Nov. 9	Mah Jongg at TBS, 1:00 pm
Thursday, Nov. 10	Finance Mtg., 11:30 am; WBS Torah Study in the TBS Library, 1:30 pm
Friday, Nov. 11	Veteran's Day Shabbat, 6:30 pm
Saturday, Nov. 12	Tot Shabbat Services, 10:00 am

Week of 11/13

Sunday, Nov. 13	KT Religious School, 9:00 am; WBS Mah Jongg at TBS, 9:30 am Board Meeting, 4:00 pm; Intro to Judaism, 10:30 am
Monday, Nov. 14	B.R.E.A.D. Annual Assembly, 7:00 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 15	WBS Lunch & Learn, 12:00 pm
Wednesday, Nov. 16	Mah Jongg at TBS, 1:00 pm
Thursday, Nov. 17	WBS Turkey & Mahj, 7:00 pm
Friday, Nov. 18	Shabbat Chai, 6:30 pm
Saturday, Nov. 19	Simchat Shabbat Services, 10:00 am

Week of 11/20

Sunday, Nov. 20	KT Religious School, 9:00 am; Library Mtg., 10:00 am; Thanksgiv- ing Program w/ All Saints, 3:00 pm
Wednesday, Nov. 23	Mah Jongg at TBS, 1:00 pm
Friday, Nov. 25	Erev Shabbat Services, <u>7:30 pm</u>
Saturday, Nov. 26	First Aliyah of Zoe Meizlish, 10:00 am
Sunday, Nov. 27	NO KT Religious School
Wednesday, Nov. 30	Mah Jongg at TBS, 1:00 pm

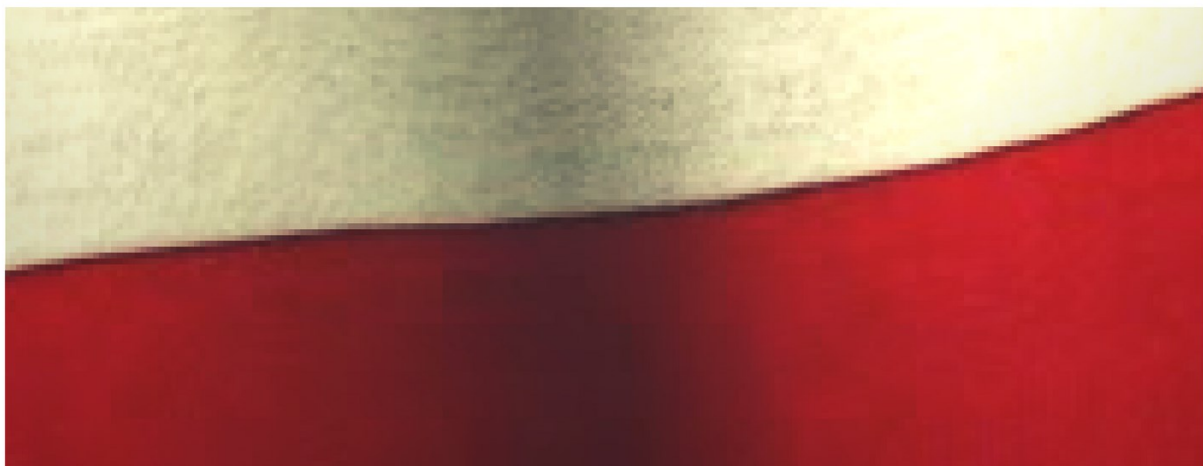


TEMPLE BETH SHALOM INVITES YOU TO HONOR
THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED THEIR COUNTRY

VETERAN'S DAY SHABBAT

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE BRAVE
MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 11, 2016 AT 6:30 PM



6 Reflections from Rabbi A



Backfire Effect — 5777

A test: Nobel Prize winning psychologist Daniel Kahneman and his colleague, Amos Tversky had people read the following personality sketch for a woman named Linda: “Linda is 31 years old, single, outspoken and very bright. She majored in philosophy. As a student, she was deeply concerned with issues of discrimination and social justice, and also participated in antinuclear demonstrations.” Then they asked the subjects which was more probable: (A) Linda is a bank teller or (B) Linda is a bank teller and is active in the feminist movement.

Eighty-five percent of the subjects chose B, even though logically speaking, A is more probable. (All feminist bank tellers are bank tellers, though some bank tellers may not be feminists.)

In the Linda problem, we ignore information about the prevalence of events when judging their likelihood. We evaluate evidence in a manner consistent with our prior beliefs. And so on. Humans, it seems, are fundamentally irrational.

I checked with researchers in social psychology at OSU and they sent to me evidence – on the whole and in study after study – show that such a belief is unlikely to be altered in the short term and, depending on the choices the believer makes difficult on the whole to dislodge in the middle- or long-term.

We shall be reading the Akedah in a few minutes. And in that story, as we near we the end, we shall see that an angel calls off the slaying of Isaac, and instead Abraham kills a ram caught in the thicket, such that, afterwards, just as Abraham and Isaac went “*yachdav*,” “together,” up the mountain, so they went “*yachdav*,” “together,” as, after all was said and done, they set out for Beer Sheba.

That version of the story did not fit well with the Jewish writer of a New Testament book, the Letter to the Hebrews. He wanted a story suggestive of the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection. And so in the generation or two after Jesus died in the first century, he summarizes the story: “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and [Abraham] who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, ‘In Isaac your seed shall be called,’ concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead....”

But, hold it a second! Isaac has not been sacrificed. He doesn’t die, so there is no reason to raise him from the death. But the facts really don’t matter when they don’t exactly fit your worldview. And when this contravening evidence is presented, defenders who already have a stake in their version, hedge and hold, and affirm nonetheless, and in some cases become even more resolute.

(1) Some people will defend the false belief based on Scripture’s inerrancy. (2) Others will say: Look how many people believe it! That must mean something! (3) Either the (1)’s or the (2)’s might further defend by claiming: “There is a secret conspiracy to hide the REAL facts. ”

It is this kind of rant that we hear in the media and see daily on line, that caused me to turn to the research experts at OSU ... and who have worked in this field of decision-making for their entire careers. Why do people simply not change despite rather than retrench when learning new information?

In 2006, researchers created fake newspaper articles about polarizing political issues. The articles were written in a way that would confirm a widespread misconception about certain ideas in American politics. As soon as a person read a fake article, experimenters then handed over a true article that corrected the first. For example one article suggested that the US had found WMD in Iraq. The same readers were then shown what they were told was a corrected version of the report. It stated that, while Iraq had stockpiled chemicals in a single location, chemicals that could have been used for a variety of industrial applications, they were not in the form of weapons, no more than water pipes in your house are mortars. It said therefore that there was nothing in Iraq that could definitely be deemed WMD – not biological, not chemical and certainly not nuclear.

How did a vast percentage of those being tested, and, by the way, a large percentage of Americans, react to the correction? After reading that, no, there were no WMDs in Iraq, they reported being even MORE CERTAIN than before that there actually were WMDs and that their original beliefs were correct.

The researchers repeated the experiment with other wedge issues, such as stem cell research and tax reform, and once again they found that corrections tended to increase the strength of the participants’ misconceptions if those corrections contradicted their preset worldview. People on opposing sides of the political spectrum read the same articles and then the same corrections, and when they realized that the new evidence was interpreted as threatening to their previous beliefs, many became even more adamant and doubled down.

It turns out that once something is added to your collections of beliefs, you protect it from harm. The backfire effect defends you when the countervailing information hits you in the face. You withdraw instructively and unconsciously when confronted with attitude-inconsistent information. When someone tries to correct you, tries to dilute your misconceptions with facts, you hold right. [Linda is not who you think she is.]

Now I am going to offend some of you who have held certain ideas about the relationship between Israel and the US so dearly, that new information will be marginalized, or the whole topic will go through the slip slide. So here is it.

The initial funding and development of the Iron Dome system was provided and undertaken by Israel. Subsequently, in May 2010, Barack Obama sought \$205 million from Congress in his 2011 budget, to spur the production and deployment of additional Iron Dome batteries, the first direct U.S. investment in the project. I knew the political situation for Israel in the ME would change drastically for the better..

In January 2014, Mr. Obama signed an Act which provided \$235 million for Israel to procure the Iron Dome system and associated systems and armaments and, unlike all other military grants to foreign nations who have to spend their defense dollars with US firms, the Administration allowed Israel uniquely to continue to spend about half the funds the United States provides for the Iron Dome system in Israel.

That’s when the private contractors jumped in. In July 2014 it was announced That Raytheon would be the major U.S. partner with Israel’s Defense contractor, Rafael, in co-production of major components for the Iron Dome’s Tamir intercepting missile.

As soon as I heard that, I knew that Israel would eventually supply its technologies to its purported enemies in the Gulf States. This new situation would be at least as big as Anwar Sadat coming to Jerusalem in 1977.

And so, Britain's conservative Sky News reported on in October 2015 the following: "Bahrain and other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC/Gulf States) are in negotiations to buy the Israeli-developed Iron Dome anti-missile system to defend against "a growing arsenal of Iranian missiles"; that the weaponry would be bought through Raytheon and other American contractors who developed the Iron Dome with Israeli arms giant Rafael. A deal for the whole of the GCC, which includes Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Kuwait, would be worth tens, perhaps hundreds, of billions of dollars. It would also include longer range interceptor missiles such as David's Sling, and the Arrow I and Arrow II which are capable of intercepting supersonic intercontinental ballistic missiles - also a joint venture between Israel and the US. Bahrain's foreign minister said on the visit to London: "The Israelis have their small Iron Dome. We'll have a much bigger one in the GCC."

People refuse to believe what largesse – even if self-interested largesse- was being provided by the Administration, and that the Israeli arms industry was funded with tax dollars signed over by the Obama Administration.

And so it was pleasing to note, this report by the Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister, and member of Mr. Netanyahu's Likud Party concede in January: "Israel is not isolated," Minister Hotovely said. Israel enjoys flourishing commerce and active diplomatic relations w/ 80% of the world's nations. "Today, Israel is holding the US's hand on one side ... and on the other side the hands of India, China and Japan.... There is a lot of warmth coming in Israel's direction from countries that, for years, were aligned w/ the Arab world. These countries have become fans of Israel..."

Or this July 2016 report by Israeli Ambassador to the United States, Ron Dermer in the Israeli Daily: *Times of Israel*. "Israel is less isolated today than at any time in its history w/ major improvements in ties w/ powerful countries: China, India, Japan and Russia, and w/ dozens of smaller countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and E. Europe who see Israel as a partner for developing their own countries.... [T]he US has helped Israel shoulder our enormous defense burden w/ generous military assistance; has also enabled Israel to fund and develop one of the world's finest missile defense systems; is committed to maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge so that Israel can defend itself by itself against any threat."

Last month, Israel and the US administration agreed on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for a military aid package for the next 10 years which would raise annual aid from \$3.1 billion to \$3.3 billion starting in 2018. The US has no comparable arrangement w/ another country." It is also about half the entire American military financing budget for every specific country in the world. And guess what, the large Sunni nations did not peep.

And when I write about such matters, you should see the push back! These are the facts, and I get these, "But what about x," and "What about y." This is what I called the "whaddabout slip." Having nothing to say about the main argument, they change topics, or speak of ticky-tack small fare. Here we have the American Ambassador saying that the US has shown that it is maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge so that Israel can defend itself by itself against any threat," that's a quote, and then they find any and every excuse to deny the testin memory ofny of the spokesperson for the Israeli government.

"Well they're just sayin' that." I say, "But if they were saying the opposite, in accordance with you ill-founded beliefs, then it would be telling the truth."

As some of our public figures have found out, proving them wrong makes them simply more convinced that they are right. When you have shown that they have nothing on you is when they simply claim, against all evidence, that this just proves that you are hiding the real truth. What people really don't want it to have been wrong. So contradictory evidence, says one famous conspiracy debunker, only proves that there is even a deeper cover-up.

Neuroscientist Kevin Dunbar put subjects into a brain scanner and showed them research debunking their own theories. He established which subjects believed about the effectiveness of antidepressants, and then placed the subjects into the machine. He then showed them data that either backed up or disproved what they said they believed. When shown data that agreed with their opinions, Dunbar saw the areas in the subjects' brains associated with learning light up and take in more blood. When the subjects were shown information debunking their preconceived notions, the learning area of their brains did not come online. Instead areas associated with thought suppression increased in activity.

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Compiled and Edited by

Ben Rosen & Bonnie Abramowitz

(Continued on page 17)



100 Daily Blessings – a Tribute to Rabbi Howard L. Apothaker

(From Rabbi B's Erev Yom Kippur Sermon)

There's a classic Jewish story about a man who is determined to leave his town in search of a better life. During his journey one night he left his shoes on the road, pointing in the direction of paradise, so when he awoke the next morning he would be walking in the right direction. As you may have guessed, his shoes get turned around at night, and the next day he walks back to his own town, but thinks he has made it to paradise. The town that before, was crowded now appeared bustling and full of life. His house in paradise was cozy and warm rather than tiny and crowded. He even liked his wife's cooking better when he thought he was in paradise. This begs the question, why we often have such a hard time seeing the beauty in our own lives? It seems to be a human condition that no matter how great our circumstances are, we tend focus on what we don't have rather than what we do have. We focus on our dreams that are not yet realized, on our desires that are yet unfulfilled. It's like we have a built-in success blind-spot. No matter what we do or how much we have, we can't seem to shake the feeling that it's not enough. We are not smart enough or rich enough or thin enough or young enough or we don't make enough money, we haven't found the right partner, we don't have enough friends, we don't communicate with our families, we don't get enough recognition, we don't have enough time, we don't have enough love. And nothing will convince us otherwise. What we have just isn't enough.

Rabbi Sharon Brous teaches us from Pirke Avot, a Jewish Ethical volume, that there was once a famous scholar named Ben Zoma. She says, "Ben Zoma asks, Who is Rich? The One who is happy with what he has – one who is sameach b'chelko – happy with his portion of this world. The rich person isn't rich because of the amount of stuff he has, the rich person is the one who can find happiness even if the cards are stacked against him. It is the person who can find happiness even though. Even though he's not where he wants to be as he is turning 50. Even though the book that she has worked so hard on hasn't yet been published. Even though he has fallen on hard times and can't afford the luxuries he once had. Even though he can't seem to shake those twenty pounds. Even though she is the only one of her friends who is still single."

What would this look like for us to be sameach b'chelko, to be happy with our portion? What we have isn't everything, but what we have is actually pretty good. Perhaps what we have is enough to live a great life.

For Ben Zoma, this clicked for him one day, when he was sitting down to eat. He looked down at his piece of bread and in that moment he realized what had to have happened and how many people had to have worked for that bread to be in front of him. Once he was conscious to what had to happen in order for him to could eat, his perspective completely changed. His shoes were turned in the other direction. Our tradition teaches that we are supposed to say 100 blessings a day to awaken our hearts to the world around us. Think about that for a moment – if we opened our hearts and our minds to gratitude and were thankful 100 times each day, how different would our lives be? Perhaps we would spend less time complaining about the line at Starbucks and more time appreciating our Pumpkin Spice Lattes.

Embracing gratitude can help us add meaning to our lives and give us a new perspective if perhaps we have been stuck. But what if we feel like we have nothing for which to be grateful? What if we happen to be at a low point at the moment? Rabbi Harold Kushner argues in his book *Nine Essential things I've Learned About Life*, that the best way to embrace an attitude of gratitude in our lives, to change our perspective and add meaning to every day, no matter what shape our lives are in, is to start helping others. He tells a story about a woman who came to see him once, when he was still a congregational rabbi. "Rabbi, tell me why I should go on living," the woman asked. She went on, "There are no medical issues; my health is good. There are no financial problems. We put our boys through college at a state school and we can pay our bills. I had a job until a couple of years ago when I was laid off. It's just that I feel that most of the nice things that will ever happen to me have already happened and I have nothing to look forward to. Kushner responded, "The thing that is concerning me about what you said, **was that it was all about what other people were or were not doing for you**, and that is something you do not have a lot of control over. I didn't hear anything about what you were doing with or for other people. That might be the exact thing to start changing, and the easiest way to feel better about your life. When you volunteer and help someone, you are not only helping that person, but you will help yourself as well. Helping another person is empowering.

Perhaps this is the ultimate secret to unlocking life's 100 blessings a day. When we reach out to someone in need, when we serve food at the YWCA, when we are there to listen to a friend in crisis, when we take care of an aging parent, when we teach a child, when we fight for causes in which we believe, we are linking our daily existence to helping someone else, and becoming someone else's blessing.

You may know that the formal name for the holiday we observed a couple weeks ago is Yom HaKippurim. We often hear it translated as the day of Atonement. Have you ever noticed that within the name of Yom HaKippurim is the name of another Jewish holiday, Purim. There two holidays are classically so different from one another. On Purim we drink a lot, on Yom Kippur we drink nothing at all. On Purim we are joyful and loud, and on Yom Kippur we are solemn and reflective. But what they do have in common is the Hebrew word Pur – which is a "lot". Like a straw, or lot that you draw – it's where the term lottery comes from. **Perhaps what both Purim and Yom Kippur teach us is that so much of our lives are out of our control.** So much of our lives is left up to chance. Life's lottery. But what we can control is what we do with the life we're given. How we respond to the ups and downs of daily living. How we reach out to help others who are in need. How we develop an attitude of gratitude. How we act and react in this world is completely in our control. Our reactions, waking up to the blessings in our lives and focusing on those rather than our shortcomings, can add meaning even in the darkest hours.

One person for whom all of us have so much gratitude, is Rabbi Howard Apothaker. There are few people in our world who care about others and their well-being as much as Rabbi Apothaker does. Many of you know that this is Rabbi A's last High Holy Days as senior rabbi of our congregation. That doesn't mean you won't still see him on the bima from time to time as our emeritus rabbi, but still, this is a milestone.

In 1980 when Rabbi Apothaker came to Columbus to serve as what would become the congregation's first full time rabbi, he was 28 years old. Some in the room tonight remember this time in our congregation's history, when TBS was in its infancy. In 1980 there were 44 households registered in the congregation. No building, no staff, no multiple High Holy Day services to fit everyone in the room. Our temple shared space with the Eastminster Presbyterian Church on Broad Street, where Rabbi A shared an 8x8 office with boxes of prayerbooks, choir robes, and office supplies. From the very beginning, Rabbi A taught by example about gratitude, by helping many people, some of whom had previously had negative experiences with rabbis. Rabbi A led TBS to do community service, to collect food for the hungry, to serve Meals on Wheels, to make our community stronger. From the very first year he was here, he officiated at interfaith weddings, welcoming couples into the Jewish fold, and widely opening the door to a Jewish life. Very few rabbis were doing interfaith weddings at the time, but Rabbi A knew that openness and kindness would draw interfaith couples into the community rather than shutting them out. True to TBS' inclusive mission, Rabbi Apothaker was also conducting gay and lesbian weddings or commitment ceremonies way before it was cool to do them. Accessibility. It was all about providing everyone access to the Jewish community. And from there, he and our leadership built this congregation from the ground up. As the congregation grew and occasionally struggled, it could have been easy for Rabbi A to focus on what we didn't have – a building, technology, any money at all, but he chose instead to develop an attitude of gratitude for our congregation, always looking toward the next Shabbat, the next holiday, the next counseling session, the next lifecycle event, the next year.

How do we show our gratitude to someone who has dedicated his entire adult life to helping us become better people and better Jews? We can show our gratitude to Rabbi Apothaker by, as he says, living our lives as blessings to one another. Rabbi A has said on a few occasions, "we strive to be each other's blessings, to look out for one another, to take care of one another, to take care of our holy congregation. We can show him our gratitude by doing just that.

I can't even begin to express my own personal gratitude toward Rabbi Apothaker. You taught me how to be a rabbi. You taught me how to care for other people. You showed me how to be a better person. And rabbi don't think that's going to end – remember you promised me free consultations! We have studied together, problem solved together, counseled together, taught together, sermonized together, cut down branches for the sukkah together, set up crazy kids activities together, even dressed up as superheroes together on Purim. I have been and will continue to be honored to call you my rabbi, my teacher.

There is a prayer in our liturgy called Elu D'varim – these are the duties, these are the actions we take, the daily things that we do because doing them is what's right. Rabbi A likes to call these the other ten commandments. Here is the prayer:

These are duties whose worth cannot be measured: Honoring one's Parents, Acts of Love and Kindness, Diligent Pursuit of Knowledge and Wisdom, Hospitality to Strangers, Visiting the Sick, Celebrating with Bride and Groom, Consoling the Bereaved, Being Devoted in Prayer, And Making Peace where There is Strife. And the Study of Torah Leads to Them All.

Our rabbi, You have encouraged us to honor our parents. You have demonstrated daily how to act intentionally, with love and kindness. You have diligently pursued Jewish study and inspired us to do the same. You have welcomed the stranger, teaching the rest of us how to open our arms. You have spent countless hours at the bedside of those in need of healing, holding our hands when we have been weak. You have stood joyfully with us in our greatest celebrations and quietly comforted us in our darkest moments. You have closed your eyes and offered prayers, helping the rest of us to reach new spiritual heights. You reminded us how to communicate with one another when we forgot how to speak.

And the Study of Torah Leads to Them All.

And Rabbi Apothaker Leads us to Them All.

Your Years of Dedication to Us, Your Love of this Congregation and the Jewish People

Your Life's Work...

You are Our Torah.

May the example that you have set for us, teaching us daily to appreciate all the blessings in our lives, always shine in each of us whom you have so significantly impacted.

Can we follow in Rabbi Apothaker's example and develop our gratitude by helping others? Can we have a Ben Zoma moment when we awaken to the many blessings that surround us every day? The holiday of Yom Kippur reminds us of our own mortality, that we are not going to be around forever. We can't assure our life's quantity, but we can assure its quality.

During this year, may we work to focus on the many blessings in our lives. May we endeavor to help someone in need and connect in meaningful ways. And when we take off our shoes, may we turn them back toward what is most important, enabling us to say, thank you God, for the marvelous blessing that is my life.



Join us for TBS Veterans Day Shabbat, Friday, November 11th

Veteran's Day will be celebrated at Temple Beth Shalom on Friday, November 11th. During this 6:30 PM Shabbat Service, we will join together in prayer and song to pay tribute to the American and Israeli men and women who have given their service to the cause of peace and freedom throughout the world. The **Sharyonim Choir**, directed by **Debbie Costa**, will be leading us in patriotic songs that will inspire us to strengthen our bonds with our Nation and the people who have contributed so much to preserve our liberties.

Neta Ben Ezra will be our keynote speaker. Neta is our beloved Shaliach from Israel.

She works tirelessly to unite American students and young adults with people and culture from the State of Israel. Neta will be talking about her role and women's roles in general in the Israeli military.

We are asking veterans to bring to the temple or e-mail our marketing director, Brosen@tbsohio.org, a picture of themselves in uniform for our living tribute table and slide show. Also, if you have a picture of a deceased beloved relative who was a veteran please provide a picture for our Memorial Table. These photos are due by November 7th.

Thank you to **Steve Seeskin** for chairing this event and to Joy and Steve Seeskin for sponsoring the oneg that will be directly following the service.

If you are a veteran...please join us to be recognized. If you are not a veteran...please join us to recognize our veterans.

Shabbat Services Featuring our Kehillat Torah Students

Our children's services are held on the first Friday of each month. The music that is played at this 6:30 PM service is taught to our students during our Kehillat Torah Service and music classes each Sunday. The fun, interactive story (instead of a sermon) is always a highlight of the service. This service is immediately followed by a delicious dinner and children's activities. Our First Friday Family Shabbat Services are a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and feel connected to the Temple Beth Shalom Community. Please mark your calendars so that your family can participate with your child in our future Kehillat Torah Friday Shabbat Services:

November 4th	3rd Grade Camp Shabbat
December 2nd	Consecration
February 3rd	First Grade Shabbat
April 7th	4th Grade Hag HaSiddur (prayer book)
May 5th	2nd Grade Gesher Ceremony (bridge to Hebrew)

תודה רבה

Thank you to all who made TBS High Holy Days 5777
A GREAT SUCCESS!

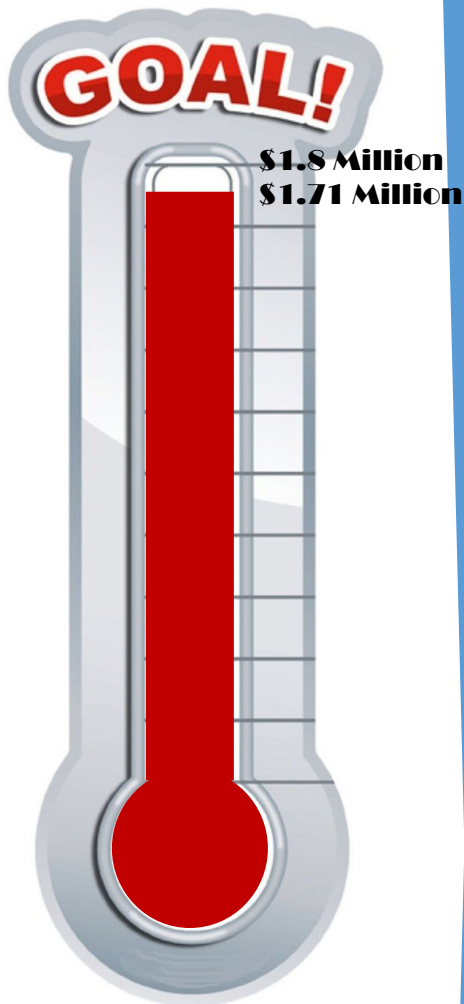




Help us burn the Temple's mortgage!

Over the last eight years your generous donations have paid down the mortgage from \$ 1.8 million to less than \$100,000 today. This a huge (yuge!) accomplishment! But we are not quite there...yet.

We want to pay off the mortgage, so we can focus on other projects (like renovating the kitchen and social hall, fixing the parking lot and driveway, landscape improvements and additional exterior lighting).



Here's how you can help:

- If you have not previously participated, support the campaign
- If you currently have an outstanding pledge, plan to accelerate your giving
- For those who already participated, consider an additional contribution

You can donate by:

- Transferring appreciated stock
- Writing a check
- Sending a check from your donor advised fund

If you can help, just call the Temple office and Bonnie Abramowitz will assist you.

What does paying off the mortgage mean for TBS?

Temple Beth Shalom was founded to serve the Jewish Community as a warm, inclusive, and personal congregation. During Rabbi Apothaker's sermon on Yom Kippur Day, he talked about the temple's humble beginnings and the struggles TBS faced as a new congregation. Rabbi A talked about the "Hoda A"-living not by our fears but by our hopes.

Our hope, our goal our dream is to retire the mortgage before Rabbi Apothaker becomes Emeritus, and Rabbi Benjy steps in as Senior Rabbi. Think about how significant and meaningful that would be to our founders, previous donors, and clergy.



Make A Contribution to Temple Beth Shalom

In Memory Of: In Honor Of: On The Occasion Of:

Amount: \$ _____

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Clip this form and send it to:

Temple Beth Shalom, ATTN: Contributions, 5089 Johnstown Road, New Albany OH 43054

12 Celebrations

November Birthdays

- November 1st — Marc Becker, Shira Ehrenberg,
Jo Valentine-Cooper, Juliann Zeidman
- November 2nd — Alexandria Klodell, Micah Harr,
- November 3rd — Philip Barnett, Hannah Smith
- November 4th — Larke Paul
- November 5th — Susan Bader, Scott Kleinman
- November 6th — Kathryn Adler, Richard Sherman,
Michele Flickinger
- November 7th — Adlai Neubauer, Melissa Mansur
- November 8th — Leah Walkowski, Karen Miner-Romanoff,
Kathy Worly, Susan Wolkow
- November 9th — Carolyn Michael, Cyd Goodman-McCray
- November 10th — Richard Rathkopf, Angelo Dunlap
- November 11th — Melanie Butter, Amy Stone
- November 12th — Carolyn Harding, Jill Fortney
- November 13th — Elianna Apothaker, Edwin Radin,
Nicole Berg
- November 14th — Emily Fox, Judith Ankerman,
Alan Klodell, Michelle Waltman
- November 15th — Jimmy Steinberg, Amy Tenzer
- November 16th — Jodi Bering, Andy Patterson, Nancy Krasa,
Andrea Searfos, Bobbie Weiler,
Jonathan Schaffir
- November 17th — Wesley Ryan, Joyce Bronstein,
Susan Korn, Bill Valentine-Cooper,
Jay Hirsh, Rachel Hirsh
- November 18th — Betty Hersch
- November 19th — Tamara Malkoff, Gary Smith
- November 20th — Patricia Pinto
- November 21st — Greg Fortney, Sandi Dubin, Bonnie Katz
- November 22nd — Tera Kauffman, Pamela Beeler, Nancy Lazar,
Meredith Paul, Brad Eckes, Dawn Schneir
- November 23rd — Barry Chapman
- November 25th — Gil Feiertag, Mark Feinknopf, Orlay Alonso,
Lindsay Brillson, David Bronstein
- November 26th — Larry Levine, Kriss Galloway
- November 27th — Martin Torch
- November 28th — Sean Silver

November 29th — Ben Schulte, Patty Tumen, Beth Goldstein

November 30th — Marcia Meizlish, Adam Brandt

November Anniversaries

- November 1st — Steve & Shani Bank
- November 3rd — Scott & Allison Kleinman
- November 5th — Larry & Katy Cowan
- November 6th — Jason & Alison Van Hulse
- November 10th — David & Andrea Kleppel,
Ami & Boris Sherman,
Lesley & Chris Thompson
- November 12th — Neal & Alisa Becker, Alex & Sandi Dubin
- November 14th — Michael & Amber Bloch,
Kenneth Goldberg & Holly Hobzek
- November 15th — Becca & Jacob Foskuhl
- November 16th — Sheri & Richard Sherman
- November 21st — Amy & Michael Gillespie
- November 22nd — Marla & Larry Levine, Sarah & Brian Phillips
- November 23rd — Adam & Hannah Smith
- November 25th — Chris & Osi Zimmer
- November 27th — David & Jan Singer
- November 28th — David & Catherine Cantor,
Steven & Wendy Cohen
- November 29th — Timothy & Deborah Leasure,
David & Kathy Segal
- November 30th — Howard & Diane Slutsky



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High Holy Days @ TBS!





MEMBERS NEEDED FOR CEMETERY, PRISON, ETC.

As soon as a person walks through the doors off of our parking lot, he or she can tell that Temple Beth Shalom is infused with the spirit of Tikkun Olam, the Jewish concept of healing the world. There is a Tzedakah donation box on a table outside the office, clippings on bulletin boards of members' good deeds, a collection spot for clothing, bags of groceries, used eyeglasses and cellphones, etc. As individual congregants or in small groups TBS members visit Jewish prisoners, participate in B.R.E.A.D., help feed families at the YWCA center, lead Shabbat services at an independent living facility, drive meals to the homes of the elderly and on and on.

For at least 30 years one benefit of TBS membership has been the opportunity to be buried in a cemetery consecrated for Jewish burials (Section 116 of historic Green Lawn Cemetery which is located just west of I-71 at the Greenlawn Ave. exit). We share that right with Congregation Beth Tikvah. Each congregation has equal input on the committee which represents the temples' interests in the contractual relationship with the cemetery. The current extension of this contract expires in 2017. Because TBS needs to develop a knowledge base on this important issue for the future, we are looking for a few younger members who might be interested in joining TBS's "more seasoned" members on this committee. Please contact Bonnie Abramowitz at BAbramowitz@tbsohio.org 614/8554882 or David Neubauer at kruj2@aol.com 614/2712430 for additional information. Another activity engaged in by TBS congregants Howard Byer, Geno Shifrin, Susie Frank Blank and others is to visit Jewish inmates at Marion Correctional Institution and North Central Correctional Institution in Marion, Ohio. This engagement involves providing a caring ear to our "inside brothers" to assure them that just because they are out of most people's sight they are not forgotten. On occasion we assist the inmates' observation of Shabbat and Jewish holidays with religious and food items. When one of these Jewish men is released to the Columbus area, our volunteers individually decide what, if any, reintegration assistance they wish to furnish our Jewish brethren. Each "outside brother/sister" will tell you that they get more out of this experience than the prisoners do! These weekday visits occur every 4 weeks for about 5 hours and usually include a group meal on the way up to Marion. To learn more, please contact David as above.

Finally, a couple of our members assist a local URJ-trained rabbi in leading Friday afternoon Shabbat services for Jewish residents at Kensington, a senior independent living facility located just north of Bexley on Cassady Ave. Many of the 6-12 Jewish residents who regularly attend are unable to worship at a local congregation due to a lack of mobility. They so appreciate being able to communally worship in their building. The services begin at 1:30 p.m. and last only 1 hour. If you have any interest in volunteering for this activity, please email Bonnie Cram at bonnieprawer@yahoo.com P.S. It is not necessary to be a Talmudic scholar or able to read Hebrew in order to conduct the service!

With our High Holidays just behind us and Thanksgiving just ahead of us, it is the mission of Temple Beth Shalom and its individual members to do whatever we can to make this world a better place as a result of our being here. The two of us thank you for the healing you have performed in the past and encourage you to continue your efforts in 5777 and 2017.



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The Youth Team at TBS has been hard at work preparing amazing events and activities for the upcoming school year! Please be sure to add the following dates to your calendar:

BeSTY (9th-12th)

⇒ November 6, High School Program

JuBeSTY (7th-8th)

⇒ November 20, 7th/8th Grade Program

Club 56 (5th-6th)

⇒ Club 56 Goes ICE SKATING!

On **November 13th**, immediately following Sunday School, bundle up and join Club 56 as we go ice skating at The Chiller at Easton! The cost is \$15 per skater. Please RSVP to the Temple Office at (614) 855-4882!

Chaverim (3rd-4th)

⇒ Glow Putt Mini Golf!

On **November 20th**, immediately following Sunday School, join us as we head to Glow Putt Mini Golf in Gahanna! The cost is \$10 per player. Please RSVP to the Temple Office at (614) 855-4882.



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16 Donations (as of October 25th, 2016)

CAMPERSHIP FUND

- ◆ Lynn & Eric Emerman, in memory of Elaine Jaffy

GENERAL FUND

- ◆ Drs. Carl L. Tishler & Bonnie L. Katz, in memory of Todd Rosen
- ◆ Bob & Nancy Brown, in honor of Temple Beth Shalom
- ◆ Evan & Caroline Cohn, in memory of Rose Barton
- ◆ Alan & Beatrice Weiler, in honor of Jim & Babette Feibel's 60th wedding anniversary, with love
- ◆ John & Jeri Bowman, in honor of Jim & Babette Feibel's 60th wedding anniversary
- ◆ Madalyn & Roger Benjamin, in memory of Fern Fiegel and in honor of Barbara Schuster's recovery
- ◆ Joel & Gerry Kent, in memory of of Jean Stepp

LIBRARY FUND

- ◆ Connie Freundlich, in honor of Nancy & Bob Brown for their service to Temple Beth Shalom

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S FUND

- ◆ Judy & Edwin Radin, in memory of the anniversary of the passing of Mrs. JoAnne Feldman

RABBI APOTHAKE'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- ◆ Neal & Maureen Handler, in memory of Howard Cooperman
- ◆ John & Laurel Zulliger, in appreciation for honoring Nancy & Bob Brown
- ◆ Steven & Victoria Loewengart, in memory of Michael R. Loewengart
- ◆ Sherrie Kass-Roth, in memory of Sara & Stanley Liebert & David Kass
- ◆ Barbara Schuster, in honor of the Rabbis' get-well visits

RABBI BAR-LEV'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- ◆ Sheila & Martin Torch, in honor of Leslie Aronoff & Bob Sanford's recent marriage
- ◆ Paul Been, in honor of Rabbi Benjy Bar-Lev, Thank You!
- ◆ Michael & Amber Bloch, on the occasion of helping out with the Yom Kippur Family Service
- ◆ John & Laurel Zulliger, in appreciation for honoring Nancy & Bob Brown
- ◆ Marc & Judy Ankerman, in honor of Rabbi Benjy Bar-Lev for the High Holy Days
- ◆ Barbara Schuster, in honor of the Rabbis' get-well visits

ROLF KAUFMAN MEMORIAL FUND

- ◆ Jodi Meizlish & Keith Golden, in memory of Arthur J. Meizlish who is dearly and truly missed

STEIN-GLAZER FUND

- ◆ Rabbi Howard Apothaker, in honor of David Stein for leading the Yom Kippur literature discussion

תודה רבה

(Rabbi A continued from page 7)

And with the Internet, strange and kooky beliefs can always be confirmed by those trolling the Internet. So we have those who say that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's walk on the lunar surface was staged in a desert in the US Southwest and plenty of anti-vaccine folks today who can heap up the information and then have folks have their kids suffer – and potentially infect others. So when Bin Laden was killed and buried at sea, those inclined not to trust the administration began to show forth on social media. When photographic proof was denied, conspiracy theories, oozing in the Internet ocean, grew legs and evolved into undebunkable life forms.

I am one of the worst. I think that I can convince folks with evidence, with pointing out that certain economic theories do not work out in reality. For those who know about the Kansas economic experiment in tickle-down economics, which failed miserably, I would think they'd have to rethink their position. But they won't. If you get into an argument with true believers on many social and economic issues, you will find that, no, the opponent will not thank you for changing his mind, will not say, "You know, I have been wrong about this, and you have finally edified me."

And now let me share the Rosh HaShanah point. It is not simply that we deny the facts because we have some pride to maintain. It that were all it was, I wouldn't be mentioning it here. Because to change your mind means to change who you are ... and that is the toughest of all. We don't want to change. And changing with new facts is not an intellectual issue. It is a personal issue. I am afraid to change because I don't know who that person who changed – who that person is. Like the author of the Letter to the Hebrews and all who read into our Akedah story a story that was not there, they would have to change. And so those who ever believe that version – even when the facts did not bear it out, became ever more tenacious. We double down to protect ourselves!

When you get a negative comment, when someone defiles what you love, when your beliefs are challenged, you pore over the data, picking it apart in search of weakness. The cognitive dissonance locks up the gears of your mind until you form more neural connections, build new memories and new neural connections that further strengthen our original convictions.

There is a blessing when we see something in nature that is out-of-whack. And while this is usually used to recognize the blessing of alternative physical forms, let us say it when, also, we have managed to pull ourselves back from the precipice of being in the clutches of the backfire effect, to desperately hold on to ideas that we may be inclined to refuse to alter.

Hanukkah 2016/5777

SAVE THE DATE!

TBS Hanukkah Party!

Join us **December 16th**
for Hanukkah fun with the
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Menorah Lighting Shabbat!

Bring your menorah and
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18 Women of Beth Shalom & Men's Club



Women of Beth Shalom

Upcoming Events

Turkey and Mahj

Join us for some pre-Thanksgiving fun on Thursday, November 17th from 7-9 PM. We'll play mahj, relax with friends, and enjoy Thanksgiving themed snacks. More information to follow!

Hanukkah Potluck Dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange

Get into the holiday spirit at our Hanukkah potluck dinner on Thursday, December 8th at 6:30 PM. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange at the event. Food, friends, and presents — what could be more fun? More information to follow!



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 Raymond Cohen
 Ronald Cohn
 Clara Davidson
 Walter Deutsch
 Burton Fogelman
 Leonard Goldman
 Rubin Halperin
 Elizabeth Harm
 Milton Herskowitz
 Sara Kanter
 Ira Klein
 Isadore Lefkowitz
 Mary Partridge
 Milton Pinsky
 Joseph Shapiro
 Carl Strauhs
 Shirley Weisenberg
 Louis Wine
 Pauline Wurmbrand

November 11th

David Barton
 Ronald Benjamin
 Doris Bonfield
 Herbert Byer
 Ella Ciranni
 Sanna Deutchman
 David Dobres
 Edith Feibel
 Sanford Heyman
 Eva Moss
 Edwin Pearlman
 Bernard Phillips
 Herman Rogovin
 Gussie Seiden
 Gitlia Shteingolts
 Helen Valentine
 Hilda Waltman
 Mark Weisbaum

November 18th

Newman Baum
 Walter Bugenstein
 Herbert Cantor
 Arthur Cohen
 Marsha Froelich
 Louis Garfield
 Rochelle Goldman
 Sadie Gurevitz
 Eric Hirschfeld
 Jean Herritt
 Gertrude Herskovitz
 Gail Hollander
 Maria Johnson
 Yelizaveta Kamenetskaya
 Fannie Kessler
 Barbara Krum
 Larry Levine
 Isabelle Meyers
 Diane Olsen
 Janice Pearlstein
 Jonas Rosenthal
 Sheldon Rossio
 Gilbert Seiden
 Stephen Solomon
 Helen Wright
 Mike Young

November 25th

Paul Blumenthal
 Sandra DuBro
 Roy Lazarus
 Thomas Leasure
 Gertrude Oppenheimer
 Rachael Pollock
 Anne Reed
 Solomon Sacks
 Nathan Salon
 Alvin Solove
 Jack Tamarkin
 Molly Tannenbaum
 Elene Weiler

SCRIP Anyone?

Did you know that TBS members may purchase Scrip cards (similar to gift cards) through the Temple, and TBS earns an average of about 4% of each dollar spent? There are more than 400 participating merchants, including Giant Eagle, Meijer, CVS, Lowes, Home Depot, and Staples, as well as restaurants and even cruises. For more info and to download an order form, visit TBS website's Scrip page at www.tbsohio.org/scrip.html. When you're ready to order, contact Bonnie Abramowitz at (614) 855-4882 or email her at babramowitz@tbsohio.org.



TBS collected \$500 in FREE MONEY last year!



Thank you to all our Kroger shoppers!

Did you know you can support Temple Beth Shalom just by shopping at Kroger? The Kroger Community Rewards program was designed to make fund-raising for TBS the easiest in town...and all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! In fact, TBS averages \$2,000 per year from Kroger through this program.

To get started, sign up with your Plus Card at www.kroger.com/communityrewards, and select TBS as the organization you wish to support. (You can find us on the list under Temple Beth Shalom on Johnstown Road, or use the organization code 81105.) Once you're enrolled, you'll earn rewards for TBS every time you shop and use your Plus Card! Remember—all participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for their chosen organization.

20 Mitzvah Corp Central



Featured Event: Louie's LEGO Rally to benefit Nationwide Children's Hospital

When: Month of November

Many of you are aware that near the end of August we lost a shining light in the community, Louie Becker, to cancer. Louie was 11 years old, and would have been in 6th grade Religious School. One of the things he enjoyed most was building with Legos. We would like to honor his memory by helping other kids who are in the hospital for various reasons. Legos are the second-most requested toy at Nationwide Children's, and they're always in need of more of them.

Religious School Students should bring Legos (The Hospital only accepts NEW Legos in boxes) to Religious School on **Sunday, October 23, October 30, November 6, November 13, or November 20.** Our 6th graders will bring all the Legos to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Louie's memory.

The class with the most Legos collected will win a Pizza and Ice Cream Party. There are also various gift cards donated by the Beckers that will be randomly drawn for students who bring in Legos.

Let's all work to do a great mitzvah and help kids in need!

****Again, please note that because of various bacteria, etc, the hospital only accepts new Legos that are still in their original box. ****

Upcoming Social Action Activities

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 - Volunteering at Columbus Community Kitchen — Great stress reliever on Election Day!

4:00 pm — Crafts with kids

5:30 pm — Serve dinner (should be done around 6:30 pm)

Members of TBS will be helping out during the Tuesday family program at the Columbus Community Kitchen. Anyone over the age of 13 is invited to help with activities for the children or serving the dinner meal. Contact Laurel Zulliger 614-323-6419 or Lzulliger@gmail.com, if you would like to help.

Monday, November 14th @ 7pm - B.R.E.A.D. Annual Assembly

It's time to select the issue that B.R.E.A.D. will work on over the next year. You can help determine that issue by attending the Annual Assembly. Please contact Karen Cohn (614)288-8063 (text or call) or kcohn1@columbus.rr.com if you are interested in attending or would like more information.

Friday, December 16, 2016 - serving lunch at YWCA Family Center

The YWCA Family Center provides shelter and meals for homeless families. We make and serve lunch four times a year at the center. Contact Sue Lazerwitz 614-252-3554 or sjlazerwitz@gmail.com if you would like to help.

Friday, December 30, 2016 - Family Hanukkah Service, Dinner, and Social Action Project

Teach your kids the importance of giving back and join us to create Bags of Sunshine for members of our congregation.

TBS members will take part in a short Family Hannukah service, dinner and social action group project for the 7th night of Hanukkah. On Hanukkah, we light candles and perform Mitzvot. There is a movement in the Jewish religion encouraging families to donate the value of the gifts they would ordinarily exchange on one night of Hanukkah to local or national organizations assisting those in need. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Rachel Murray at rachel.murray26@gmail.com. More details to come!



The Caring Circle Needs YOU!

Did you know the Temple Beth Shalom Caring Circle helps congregational members with everything from organizing rides for those who are unable to drive to doctors' and other appointments to meals for families with new babies. The Circle would love to have more volunteers! There is no obligation.

Interested members can add their name to the Circle's email list and volunteer if and when they are able to. Please send an email with your contact information to the tbscaringcircle@gmail.com.



On November 11 we will celebrate the national holiday of Veterans Day. In 1938 Armistice Day was made a legal holiday to be celebrated on every November 11 honoring World War I veterans.

In 1954, after World War II and the Korean Action, public law was modified to change the holiday's name to Veterans Day and to make it a celebration of all veterans, without regard to when they may have served.

Temple Beth Shalom has a tradition of honoring and celebrating our congregant US veterans and Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) veterans at an Erev Shabbat Service near Veterans Day. This year, Veterans Day falls on a Friday with that evening's service being when we will honor the US and IDF veterans among our community and render taps for our deceased veteran members and family members, as part of the Mourners Kaddish recitation ceremony.

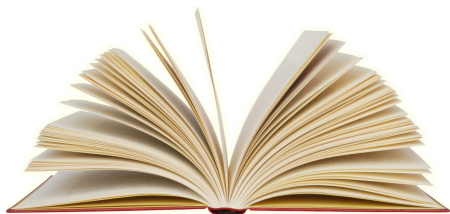
Here are just some of the TBS Library books of Veterans Day interest, with their shelf tag numbers:

- 672SAN - Honor: Uriah P. Levy Center and Jewish Chapel.
- 770.7FRE - Jews in American wars.
- 798.7NMA - The Hall of Heroes: American Jewish Recipients of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross & Air Force Cross.
- 799.77ABA - The commodore.
- 799.7MAN - Unlikely warrior: a pacifist rabbi's journey from the pulpit to Iwo Jima.
- 799.7NMA - An American, a Sailor, and a Jew: The Life and Career of Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy, USN (1792-1862).
- 799.7SPI - A Jewish colonel in the Civil War: Marcus M. Spiegel of the Ohio Volunteers.
- 799.8BER - Cast a giant shadow: the story of Mickey Marcus; a soldier for all humanity.
- 799.8NET - The letters of Jonathan Netanyahu: the commander of the Entebbe rescue force
- 828.23DAY - Diary of the Sinai Campaign.
- 828.3SHAI - The Seventh day: soldiers' talk about the Six-Day War.

On September 30, the congregation said a goodbye shalom and best wishes to Nancy and Bob Brown, as they move to the Boston Area to be close to their family. For several years, the Browns have hosted The Temple Beth Shalom Readers Circle, a chavurah dedicated to reading and discussing books of Jewish content and / or authorship. The Kosher Bookworm is very grateful for the several books the chavurah members donated to the Library in honor of the Browns.

Miriam Siegfried, a chavurah member, compiled an annotated list of 59 books they had read. Please visit the TBS Library section of our webpage for the unedited list!

The Kosher Bookworm wished the TBS Readers circle continued good reading and good fellowship.



Book Club Chavurot!

The library Committee Welcomes all TBS Book Clubs to join together and utilize available resources!

The Library Committee is available to bring guest speakers, provide space for book club meetings, and can provide outreach for book club membership!

Contact Steve Seeskin(steve.seeskin@gmail.com)

For a complete look at our library's catalog please visit: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/TempleBethShalom>

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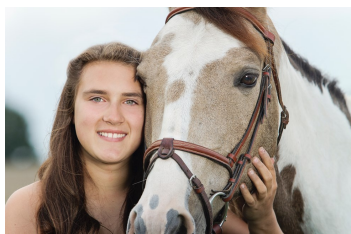
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Bat Mitzvah, Alyssa Michelle Mason, is called to the Torah for her first Aliyah on November 5, 2016 at Temple Beth Shalom at 10:00 a.m. Alyssa is the daughter of Brian and Dana Mason, and sister to Jenna and Megan of Dublin; granddaughter to Charles and Janet Anderson of Greenfield, OH, and Renett Mason and Howard Mason, of beloved memory.

Alyssa is a seventh grader at Weaver Middle School in Hilliard where she enjoys running cross country. She is also an avid skier and enjoys playing soccer, bicycle riding, and participating in her school's theatrical productions. Alyssa is a student at Temple Beth Shalom's Kehillat Torah Religious School and would like to thank her tutor, Gail Rose for helping prepare her for her Bat Mitzvah.



Bat Mitzvah, Zoe Sofia Harding Meizlish is called to the Torah for her first Aliyah on November 26, 2016 at 10:00 am. Zoe is the daughter of Carolyn Harding and Steven Meizlish and sister to Max Meizlish. Zoe's Bubbie Marcia Meizlish and her Grandma Jo and Grandpa George Harding will be here to celebrate with her, along with her mom, dad, brother and extended family. She attends Bexley Middle School, where she enjoyed playing volleyball and has a wonderful group of new and old friends from her years at Maryland Elementary, Bexley Parks & Rec., and TBS Hebrew School.

Zoe is devoted to all things Horse. She started riding at her Aunt's farm when she was very young and is now part of the Interscholastic Equestrian Association team at Fairy Tale Farms. She is the designated music set creator for road trips w/ friends and her equine music videos get a lot of likes on instagram. She loves airplanes, front row seats on the Dragster, Action movies, and jumping any horse. She loves Lakeside on Lake Erie with all her cousins and friends, and talks about the decked out barn that she and her cousin Katie will one day own.

Zoe is the youngest of two, and as her brother Max just left for college, she is completely in charge, and quite comfortable with this role.

Zoe helped her Aunt Belinda with a summer horse camp for children with disabilities and participated in Volley for a Cure as mitzvahs. She thanks JoAnne Grossman, Rabbi Benji, and Rabbi Howard for helping her prepare for this day.

~ A special message from Brett Weisman ~

I could tell you about the city bus and the coffee cups that say "Chag Sameach." I could tell you about the streets of Jerusalem on Yom Kippur: wide, empty and holy. The Days of Awe are truly awesome in this city. To tell you is to invite you, because words will never do the story justice. To merely mention the intention and intensity of such a remarkable experience, would deny you of your experience. The sermon delivered at HUC-JIR's Erev Yom Kippur service, was a sermon I will never forget and I will cherish the words I heard for a lifetime. As I checked my watch and counted the remaining pages of the Machzor, the rabbi reminded the congregation that page counting and watch checking was common place. Letting the significant number of remaining pages gently fall back into place, I set the Machzor down on my lap and listened.

The rabbi told us about another way to interpret the verse in Vayikra prescribing Yom Ha'Kippur. He told us that Yom Kippur is, alternatively, the day "The Day" mourns. How does a Day mourn? A Day wishes to be remembered. A Day wishes, impossibly, to last for ever. Impressed and confounded, I went back to counting the pages in my Machzor, consumed with the idea that still twenty two hours remained in my fast. Consumed with the idea that tomorrow, I had to spend the second day of *my* fall break in Yom Kippur services.

Twenty seven Yamei Kippur and one Erev Yom Kippur and I understood why the day mourned. During Yizkor service, remembering those who time, chance and circumstance had taken from us, we, the congregation read of Hana Senesh: Para-Trooper and Jewish Hero. She was 23 years old when she was captured, tortured and executed by the Nazis. In her final months she proclaimed:

*My God, My God
I pray that these things never end...
The Sand and the sea
The rustle of the waters
The lightning of the heavens
The Prayer of man*

In the final hours of Yom Kippur, 5777, twilight called forth the brilliance of the Jerusalem stone of the Old City Walls; begging to be remembered, begging for just a little more time. As twilight loomed, one tear caressed the fold of my cheek. I did not want the day to end. I did not want to wait another year. I took a deep breath and watched as the gates closed. I closed my eyes and I mourned the death of another day.

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Mark Your Calendar for the Next Tot Shabbat...

Tot Shabbat Thanksgiving Celebration!

Join Jewish Music Superstar Marc Rossio, Rabbi B, and Mindy Agin for a fun-filled Tot Shabbat experience, where we celebrate all the things in our lives for which we are thankful! You won't want to miss this event!

Where: Temple Beth Shalom

When: Sat, November 12

Time: 10:00 am



The Window 

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