



# Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

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Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet (5781)

Visit our website: [www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net)

# The Rising Star

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## What Is and What Is Not Going On



President Richard

It has been **thirty-three weeks** since a *Shabbat* service has taken place inside of our sanctuary. What a sad thing for a house of worship that has served its community for 116 years.

houses of worship. They are asking for volunteers who will help them package the food at the church. If you would like to be a "packer," please call Ms Roz Watkins (704)713-7207.



Fortunately, we are blessed to have Trustee Andy Friedman who was able to introduce us to ZOOM and make it possible to welcome the Sabbath each Friday evening. Service Leaders have redesigned the format of their worship rituals in order to accommodate this high tech venue. During these odd times we have gained three new leaders for our roster and three new memberships as well.

In our absence from the Temple Beth Elohim sanctuary, much work has been done. Thanks to the research and supervision of Trustee Seymour Birnbaum and Treasurer Michele Gershman Bennett the air conditioning system has been re-structured and the crawl space below the building has been cleaned and sanitized; our security system has been upgraded. All we need is a congregation to come in and enjoy the benefits of these improvements. At this point, all that we can do is wait.



Shabbat

I received a telephone call from Ms Roz Watkins of Soul Saving Station, a Christian church located on Hawkes Street here in Georgetown. Like us, their members have not been inside the sanctuary in months. However, they have a large parking lot and are able to hold Sunday services while complying with with masking and social distancing guidelines.

The church has an extensive food distribution program which has expanded over these past months as the needy population has grown because of issues of unemployment and childcare. The COVID-19 guidelines do not allow for these people to line up at the church to pick up their food packages. Volunteers have been delivering the goods to these people. This is causing a manpower shortage at the church where volunteers assemble the food packages. Soul Saving Station is calling out to the community through the



November is a quiet time for Jewish holidays, but it is an important time in our secular American lives. As you read this newsletter, think about whether or not you adjusted your timepieces to standard time. Make sure that if you have not already voted that you make time on 3 November 2020 to take care of that duty. And whatever adjustments have to be made in these strange times, take a moment or more to give thanks for all of the people and memories that you cherish.

Happy Thanksgiving, *Richard*

# Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar  
Suzan

Who could have imagined all those months ago, while we watched spring become summer and summer become fall, that we would still be coping with the threat of the pandemic? Whatever measures we have taken to keep ourselves safe

are measures that we still must take. It seems that social distancing is now the new normal, and so many things that we used to do, like shopping, going to services, and celebrating holidays, if they are done at all, must be done differently.

*Chanukah* is a perfect holiday for these times. If we have a menorah and a few candles, we can make a proper observance of the holiday. With a *dreidl* and a few pennies, we can play the same game that so many

generations of Jewish families before us have played. While big parties are nice, small, intimate gatherings can be even better venue for the quiet reflection that the holiday and these times deserve. How long has it been since you last revisited the story of the Maccabean revolt that *Chanukah* commemorates? The Maccabees fought a long, hard battle against the Seleucids (Syrian Greeks/Romans) to regain control of the Temple in Jerusalem. It took courage, yes, but also a tough perseverance.

It's true that *Chanukah* is not strictly a holy day (as it's not mentioned in the *Tanakh*), but it is a holiday that we cherish and not just because it's the "Jewish Christmas." The story of the Maccabees, with its fight for religious freedom, is a piece of our proud Jewish history and heritage. In many ways, it's a fight that we still fight today. That's an important message to remember, even if the way in which we celebrate *Chanukah* must be different this year.



*The Executive Board and Trustees of Temple Beth Elohim would like to wish all of the readers and their loved ones a happy, healthy and safe Chanukah.*

*Yom tov!*

## **Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors**

**President: Richard Dimentstein**  
(rdimentstein@gmail.com)  
**Vice President: Joy Birnbaum**  
(joyandseymour@gmail.com)  
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TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to [www.chaitrack.com](http://www.chaitrack.com). If you need a user name and password, contact Andy Friedman, [andy.friedman@hotmail.com](mailto:andy.friedman@hotmail.com).



*Tree of Life*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



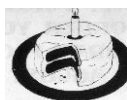
Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

Leaf 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Leaf 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Leaf 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
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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

**BIRTHDAYS**



**ANNIVERSARIES**



**NOVEMBER**

2 Donna & Tom  
 Llewellyn  
 6 Dyan & Alex  
 Cohen

**DECEMBER**

21 Debbi & Webster  
 Jones

**NOVEMBER**

15 Debbie Hart  
 22 Mike Specht  
 28 Dyan Cohen

**DECEMBER**

16 Carol Willey  
 17 Nancy Koppel  
 19 Herb Feinberg  
 20 Roberta Schwartz  
 24 Steven Schwartz  
 25 Jim Bennett



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

**Susan & Brian Berry Michael Davidson**

**Dr. Eric & Rosa Lee Heiden**



**Richard Horowitz Donna & Tom Llewellyn Dick Rosen**

# DONATIONS

**Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet** to the General Fund in memory of Selma S. Weiss

**Ariane & Craig Lieberman** to the General Fund

**Tish Richter** to the General Fund in memory of Larry Poaster

**Morton Rosen** to the General Fund in memory of Dora & Henry Rosen; Erma & Sylvan Rosen; and Jean & Harry Rosen



## RENEW, JOIN OR DONATE AT OUR WEBSITE!

It is now possible for you to renew, join or make a donation at our temple website, [www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net). The website is secure, so you can pay using PayPal or your credit card.

If you prefer, there is still a link to download the forms, and yes, we are happy to accept a check for your donation, dues or membership.

When you click on DONATION, you can donate toward the General Fund, Security or Other. If you choose 'Other,' you can designate your contribution as *Tzedakah*, used to help our local communities or make it in memory of, in honor of, or for the recovery of a loved one. And, you can always make a donation to acknowledge a life cycle event, such as a birthday or anniversary.

The TBE website and Face Book page provide information about weekly *Shabbat* Services, holidays, events, and important announcements. Please check us out online and give us a "thumbs up" on our Face Book page.

## CELEBRATING THE LIGHT

by Suzan Cohen

In the story of *Chanukah*, the Maccabees defeated the Seleucids (aka The Romans) in 165 BCE and took control of Jerusalem and the Temple. By that time, the Temple had been defiled by statues of Roman gods and pagan sacrifices to those gods. The first order of business was to destroy the statues and cleanse the building of all remnants of those sacrifices. When they were finished, it was time to rededicate the Temple by lighting the *menorah*. But as story goes, all of the oil for the lamp had been defiled except for one cruse – only enough for one night. It would take at least a week to prepare more oil.

So, why didn't they just wait a week? After three years of fighting, why couldn't they wait a week to finish the

rededication? We know that they didn't, and miraculously the oil lasted eight days – just long enough for a new supply of oil to be produced. But the priests couldn't have known that at the moment they kindled the first light. It was a true act of faith to light that light, trusting that somehow it all would work out. I can just imagine the sense of wonder they must have felt when on the second day, the light still burned, and then on the third day, and the fourth day, and so on.

That's really what acts of faith are. It's the willingness to take that first step when there is no assurance of success or having the courage to act when there's no assurance of safety, but doing it anyway, and trusting that it eventually will be okay.

## ♪ *Attention Vocalists* ♪

At each *Shabbat* service since 13 March 2020, Temple Beth Elohim worshipers have been fortunate to hear the voice of **Eileen Kramer** when she sings Debbie Friedman's "MiShebeirach," the prayer for relief and healing of the troubled and infirm. Eileen has stated that if there is anyone in the congregation who would like to sing this beautiful prayer, she is encouraging you to do so. Please contact President Richard, [rdimentstein@gmail.com](mailto:rdimentstein@gmail.com).





## *Yahrzeits*



### **NOVEMBER**

Tillie Drucker Gershman grandmother of Michele Bennett  
 1 Ruby Fogel Levkoff member Temple Beth Elohim  
 1 Sophie S. Levkoff grandmother of Susan Berry  
 2 Sarah C. Weiss member Temple Beth Elohim  
 2 Bernard Goldman father of Eileen Kramer  
 3 Bella Gramet mother of Alan Gramet  
 5 Herman Gold member Temple Beth Elohim  
 7 Charles Zelesnick great grandfather of  
     Craig Lieberman  
 9 Beatrice B. Gershman mother of Michele Bennett  
 13 Arnold H. Franzblau father of Adele Franzblau  
 14 Irving Snyder member Temple Beth Elohim  
 15 Anne L. Schneider mother of Debbie Smith  
 15 Joan Davidson sister of Michael Davidson  
 16 Charlotte B. Rosenfeld aunt of Michele Bennett  
 17 Arnold Kane friend to Temple Beth Elohim  
 18 Thelma Barson sister of Ruth Feinberg  
 18 Herbert Dimentstein father of Richard Dimentstein  
 18 Kate T. Johnston friend of Adele Franzblau &  
     Marty Kleinrock  
 19 Sylvia Charen Hirsch grandmother of Debby Jones  
 22 Milton Levkoff uncle of Dick Rosen  
 25 Sanford Levkoff uncle of Susan Berry  
 26 Charles Chaplin member Temple Beth Elohim  
 28 Bernard Levine father of Nancy Koppel  
 29 Rose H. Weinberg mother of Eric Heiden  
 29 Mort Weinberg step-father of Eric Heiden

### **DECEMBER**

6 Bari King Heiden wife of Eric Heiden  
 10 Philip Lewenthal great grandfather of Susan Berry  
     great grandfather of Dick Rosen  
 11 Albert M. Schneider grandfather of Susan Berry  
     grandfather of Debbie Smith  
 11 Jennie Lewenthal member Temple Beth Elohim  
 13 Irving Simon brother of Ruth Feinberg  
 14 Lavene R. Gause father of Miriam Drucker  
 15 Sally Dube mother of Jana Hletko  
 18 David A. Cohen, Jr. father of Alex Cohen  
 20 Frances Gauss mother of Miriam Drucker  
 21 Lois R. Levkoff aunt of Dick Rosen  
 22 Nettie Rosen mother of Marilyn Horowitz  
 23 Sarah Ross mother of Lynn Davidson  
 24 Gertrude Green grandmother of Marsha Green  
 26 Samuel Green grandfather of Marsha Green  
 26 Fannie L. Schneider grandmother of Debbie Smith  
     grandmother of Susan Berry  
 27 Gertrude O. Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim  
 29 Meg Giegerich Irving sister of AJ Giegerich  
 31 Arthur Giegerich father of AJ Giegerich  
 31 Mickey Linado friend of Temple Beth Elohim  
 31 Morris Lieberman grandfather of Craig Lieberman



**Any corrections or additions please contact Richard Dimentstein [rdimentstein@gmail.com](mailto:rdimentstein@gmail.com) or at [membership.tbe@gmail.com](mailto:membership.tbe@gmail.com) .  
 Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* of the upcoming week.**

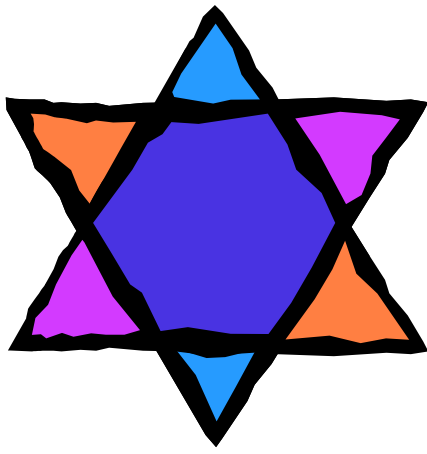
### *New Memorial Plaques*

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 (843 325-0389) and request copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care. Plots are only available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to their families.



First Class  
Postage

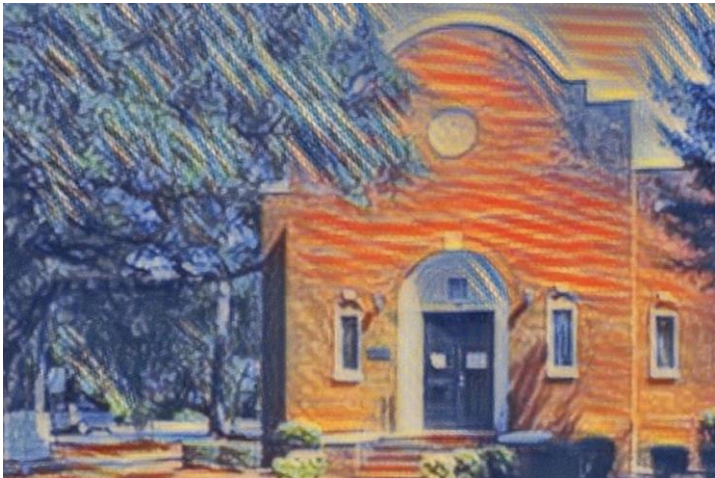
# SHALOM

*A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years*

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

## Temple Beth Elohim

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### Committee Members

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Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum  
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum  
Communications: Andy Friedman  
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Library Chair: Richard Dimentstein  
*Oneg Shabbats*: Joy Birnbaum  
Web Page: Joy Birnbaum  
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn  
Website ([www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net)): Joy Birnbaum  
Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden