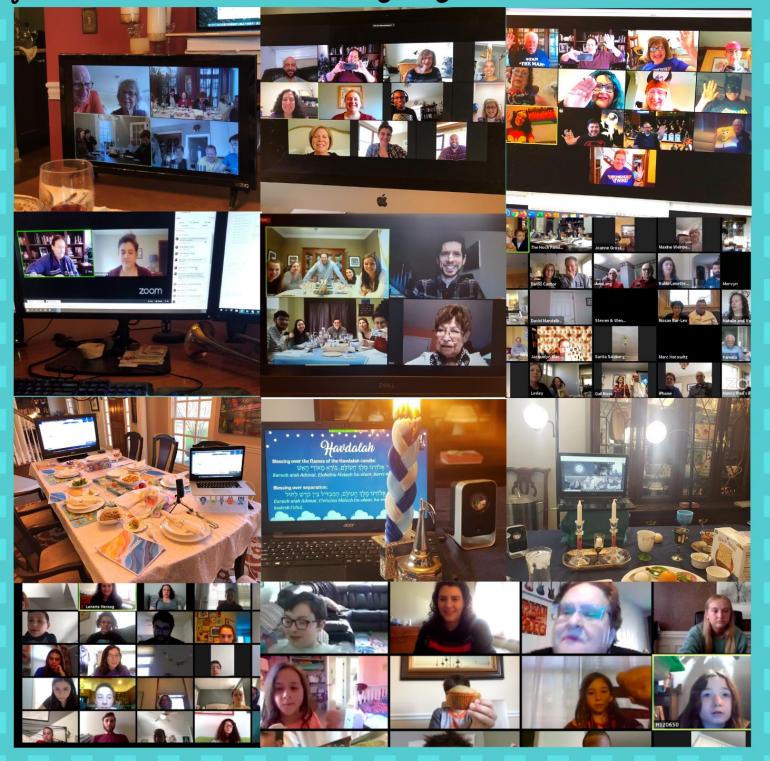


# The Window

May 2020 Iyar-Sivan 5780

# Staying Connected



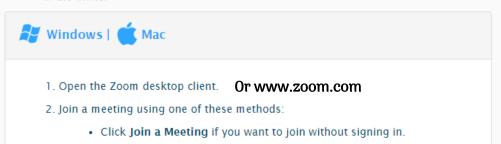
- 4 Upcoming Events
- 6 The Buzz
- 7 Chai-er Learning
- 8 The Game Plan
- 9 Cantorial Corner
- 10 Simcha Station
  - II Yahrzeits
- 12 Presidential Address
- 14 Donations

### Announcements!

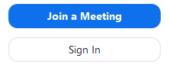
♦ While the temple building is closed, you can still reach all of our staff members. Call the temple line and it will ring through to our cell phones.

## Zoom Instructions

- Each meeting has a unique 9, 10, or 11-digit number called a meeting ID that will be required to join a Zoom meeting
- If you are joining via telephone, you will need the teleconferencing number provided in the invite.







· Sign in to Zoom then click Join.



Join

- 3. Enter the meeting ID number and your display name.
  - If you're signed in, change your name if you don't want your default name to appear.
  - · If you're not signed in, enter a display name.

#### Join a Meeting

Meeting ID or Person	al Link Nam	e <b>~</b>
Grant MacLaren		
Do not connect to auc     Turn off my video	dio	
	Join	Cancel

4. Select if you would like to connect audio and/or video and click Join.

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# 4 May Events - Everything's Online!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	ALL ZOOM LINKS AND PASSWORDS WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL!				9:30am— Shabbat Songs w/ Marc 3pm— Parents: 6th-8th 3:30pm— Parents: 9th-12th 6:30pm— Shabbat Services	<b>2</b> 6pm— Havdalah w/ the Bar-Lev Family
9am— Virtual Religious School 2:30pm— Drs & Nurses 3pm— Essential Workers 4pm— Healing Service	4 10:30am— Yoga w/ Rachel 3pm— What are you reading?	5 10:30am— Songs w/ Rabbi B 3pm— Self Defense 2 7:30pm— Foodies	6 11am— Circle Time w/ Emily 3pm— Book Folding 8:30pm— Trivia Night	7 10:30am— Superheros II w/ Rabbi L 3pm— Check-In with the Rabbis	9:30am— Shabbat Songs w/ Marc 11am— Parents: Pre-K 11:30am— Parents: 1st-5th 6:30pm— Shabbat Services	<b>9</b> 6pm— Havdalah w/ the Bar-Lev Family
10 9am— Virtual Religious School 4pm— Healing Service	11 10:30am— Yoga w/ Rachel 8pm— Lag B'Omer Campfire w/ Rabbi B	12 10:30am— Songs w/ Rabbi B 3pm— Making a Family Tree w/ Amanda	13 10:30am— Nerd Round Table w/ Rabbi L & Bobby 3pm— Pictionary!	3pm— Check-In with the Rabbis 7:30pm— Gail Rose in Song!	9:30am— Shabbat Songs w/ Marc 6:30pm— Shabbat Services	<b>16</b> 6pm— Havdalah w/ the Bar-Lev Family
9am— Virtual Religious School 4pm— Healing Service	18 10:30am— Yoga w/ Rachel 3pm— Singing the '60s w/ Nick	19 10:30am— Songs w/ Rabbi B 3pm— Cooking w/ Kids	20 10:30am— Pet Meet-Up 3pm— TBS Building History & Tour 7:30pm— Pastels & Pinot W/ Jodi	21 10:30am— Unorthodox Discussion 3pm— Check-In with the Rabbis	9:30am— Shabbat Songs w/ Marc 6:30pm— Shabbat Services	23 6pm— Havdalah w/ the Bar-Lev Family
24 4pm— Healing Service 31 4pm— Healing Service	25 10:30am— Yoga w/ Rachel 3pm— Veteran Stories w/ Rabbi B	26 10:30am— Songs w/ Rabbi B 2pm— Shavuot Ruth Text Study	27 10:30am— Disney Movie Reviews 3pm— Mask Making w/ Judy	28 3pm— Check-In with the Rabbis 6:30pm— Erev Shavuot Services	29 10am— Shavuot Morning Service 11:30am— Shabbat Songs w/ Marc 6:30pm— Shabbat Services	<b>30</b> 6pm— Havdalah w/ the Bar-Lev Family

#### TBS CONNECT DESCRIPTIONS

Welcoming Shabbat in Song with Marc, The Marvelous Toy! - Join Marc for some uplifting songs to welcome in Shabbat.

**Affinity Group: Quarantine Parents of Middle Schoolers (6th-8th Grade) -** Join other Middle School parents from our congregation on Zoom to connect and recharge

Affinity Group: Quarantine Parents of High Schoolers (9th-12th Grade) - Join other High School parents from our congregation on Zoom to connect and recharge

Erev Shabbat Services - Shabbat Services via Facebook Live

Havdalah with the Bar-Lev Family - Join the chaos as we say goodbye to Shabbat and welcome in the coming week.

Affinity Group: Doctors & Nurses - Join other healthcare professionals in our congregation on Zoom to connect and recharge

Affinity Group: Essential Workers During Corona - Join other essential workers in our congregation on Zoom to connect

Congregational Healing Service - A brief healing service on Zoom! We will sing our way into healing and comfort.

Yoga with Rachel Murray - Join Yoga instructor Rachel Murray for a mind-clearing Yoga session

What Are You Reading Zoom Meeting - Join us on Zoom to discuss what you have been reading during quarantine

Morning Song Session with Rabbi Benjy - A window into the Bar-Lev craziness as we sing songs and tell stories.

Self Defense 102 with Jill Will - Learn self defense with retired NA Police Officer Jill Will! Clear some space to move around and follow along.

Affinity Group: Foodies in the Time of Corona - Join other foodie congregants on Zoom and connect over food!

Circle Time with Emily Hartman - Emily will be leading songs for our youngest friends

The Art of Book Folding - Follow along with Rhona Jacobson, Gail's sister, to learn the art of book folding!

TBS Trivia Night - Join us for a fun night of Virtual Trivia!

Jewish Superheroes Part 2 with Rabbi Lenette - Join Rabbi Lenette as she talks more about the world of Jewish Superheroes!

**Weekly Check-In with the Rabbis -** Join Rabbi B and Rabbi Lenette for a good old fashioned hang out session. We can discuss what's happening and support one another!

Affinity Group: Quarantine Parents of Pre-K - Join other Pre-K parents from our congregation on Zoom to recharge

**Affinity Group: Quarantine Parents of Elementary Schoolers (1st-5th Grade) -** Join other Elementary School parents from our congregation on Zoom to connect and recharge

Lag B'Omer Campfire with Rabbi B - Join Rabbi B around a virtual campfire as we learn about Lag B'Omer

Intro to Making a Family Tree with Amanda - Interested in Genealogy but don't know where to start? Join Amanda as she helps you get started with resources and tips for both beginners and experienced family historians

**Nerd Round Table with Rabbi Lenette and Bobby -** Join the nerdiest of the TBS staff in a discussion of comic books, Star Wars, and all things nerd culture!

**Zoom Pictionary** - Join us on Zoom for a fun and silly game of Pictionary!

Gail Rose in Song - Come listen to Gail Rose put on a show!

Singing the '60s with Nick - Join Nick Ciranni for a great sing-a-long with some groovy tunes!

**Cooking with Kids** - Learn how to get your kids (safely) involved in the kitchen!

Pet Meet-Up on Zoom - Join us on Zoom and show us your fur-kids!

**TBS Building History & Tour** - Join Rabbi B as he takes you on a behind the scenes tour of our building ... who knows, you might get to see the view from the roof!

Pastels & Pinot with Jodi - Jodi Benningfield will teach us how to blend and work with pastels...grab a glass of wine and join in!

Unorthodox Discussion - Have you watched Unorthodox on Netflix? Come join in the discussion.

**Veteran Stories** - Rabbi B will share some inspiring stories of Veterans

**Shavuot Ruth Text Study** - Join Rabbi Lenette for a great text study and lighthearted complaining about lactose intolerance

Disney Movie Reviews - Find out what's hot on Disney+!

Mask Making with Judu - Mask Maker, Mask Maker, make me a mask! Judu Ankerman will teach how to sew our own masks!

**Erev Shavuot Services** 

**Shavuot Morning Service** 

# 6 The Buzz with Rabbi B



#### Running (or walking) the Omer Marathon

A few days ago, during his daily press conference, I heard Governor DeWine yesterday remind us that right now we are in a marathon, not in a sprint. Things aren't going to magically be all better when the first businesses are allowed to open during the beginning of May. And just because we are showing good results so far, it doesn't mean we should ease up and go back to how we've always done things. I have never run a marathon. I would probably make it a mile or so and then be searching for La Croix. But Lauren has run many half-marathons, as have my

brother and sister in law. And from them I've learned some important lessons. When you're beginning a marathon, it's much better to focus on a couple miles at a time. Think about your breathing. Focus on your stride. If there's any way to enjoy the journey, now's the time to do it. That is the same in this pandemic. We can't focus only on when things will be back to normal, because we have likely a long road ahead. But we can focus on here and now. We can focus on the good that we can do even from inside our homes.

Just as this time should be thought of as a marathon, Jewishly, we are in a marathon as well. You have likely heard us talk about the Omer period, the time between the second day of Passover, and the holiday of Shavuot, where we celebrate receiving the Torah, there are 49 days. We are instructed to count each of those 49 days and acknowledge them. An Omer is a measurement of grain that was brought to the Temple after the second day of Passover. The Torah instructs us to count each day from the Omer offering to Shavuot. The big question is why? Why do we specifically mark this time? There is a great explanation from Rabbi Jacob Milgrom who writes the answer lies in the number of days that the Torah tells us to count. Shavu'ot is observed on the fiftieth day. The Hebrew word for fifty: Hamishim. The Arabic Word for fifty: Hamsin.

In Israel, a Hamsin is also a weather pattern. It is a rapid drop in the humidity, followed by a ferociously hot desert wind, so destructive that it can wipe out a crop overnight. Nowadays, meteorologists can predict a hamsin before it arrives. Now imagine a time when there were no meteorologists, and the dreaded hamsin could not be predicted. Farmers held their breath for the entire hamsin season, counting each day as a blessing if the hamsin did not come and their crops were not suddenly destroyed. That is why you had the counting, says Dr. Milgrom, and that is why you had the dread and the fear. "The Omer time was a period of fear and trepidation and a period of good behavior, lest God think us so cavalier about the great blessings of rain and dew and harvest that God gives us that divine punishment like hamsin, the hellish dry wind. That is why the Israelite farmer counted, and that is why the Israelite farmer was in semi-mourning, or, to be more exact, in fear and dread during these days." It makes sense. Each day that there is a chance your livelihood could be ruined and it's not, should be counted and acknowledged. We thank God for our blessings during the Omer.

There's another interpretation too. During these seven weeks, we run a spiritual marathon of cleansing our souls. We aim to be all-around better people at the end of the Omer than we were at the beginning. But that doesn't happen all at once. You can't cram for the Omer final the night before Shavuot. But what we do each day, when we can stop and offer our prayers of gratitude, when day by day we act in ways big and small to make a difference to other people, when we really learn to count our blessings and count our days and make our days count, that's how we run this spiritual marathon. We know that when we are trying to make changes in our lives that it's not always a steady path, sometimes it's two steps forward one step back. But that's why the Omer is 49 days long. We have seven weeks to turn it around. And guess what, if it doesn't happen before Shavuot, in a couple months we'll be at Elul, the month before the High Holy Days, and we'll have time to improve then as well.

So as we enter the third month of this pandemic, we are now about half-way through the Omer period (Shavuot is on May 29) let us take a deep breath. Some businesses are beginning to open, but the Stay-at-Home order still stands, and we can't gather in groups of more than ten people. But we can still be together virtually, and support one another as we run our way through this marathon. It was so touching to see the many pictures of people experiencing Passover with family and friends on Zoom, and we had a record number of participants at the Temple zoom seder. We have seen the kind acts of people buying groceries for one another, people checking in on neighbors, celebrating birthdays with socially-distanced parades. The Omer period reminds that even though the days feel like they blend together, it's important to stop and count each one, fill each day the best way we can; observe the mile-markers around us. If we can endeavor to mark each day in gratitude, to turn ourselves around, perhaps we will finish this Omer period, this pandemic marathon in better shape than when it started.

#### Unorthodox: A beautifully told miniseries that's also perfect for Shavuot

Shalom TBS family, I hope you are all feeling healthy and taking good care of yourselves and each other.

One small silver lining to the COVID-19 pandemic and our stay at home orders, is that staying in every night has given us an opportunity to catch up on our respective queues of movies, TV shows, and books. It's also helped boost shows like *Tiger King* to become a worldwide phenomenon! But after the crazy world of Joe Exotic and Carol Baskin, I was looking forward to a new show with more substance and hope - enter Netflix's miniseries, *Unorthodox*.

Unorthodox follows Esty, a nineteen year old woman living in the Satmar Hasidic community in Brooklyn. Esty chooses to leave her family, husband, and entire life, flying to Berlin and finding

inspiration and new friends at a music academy. We learn more about Esty's marriage and reasons for leaving as her husband goes searching for her, while at the same time Esty finds a new beginning in Berlin. Esty's story is loosely based on Deborah Feldman's 2012 autobiography, called *Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots*, where she details her own choice to leave Hasidism. Feldman is still living in Berlin today, and was involved in the creation and production of the miniseries.

*Unorthodox* accomplishes a series of daunting tasks in only four episodes: it accurately portrays a complicated minority culture of which most folks have no knowledge of, with a majority of dialogue in Yiddish, and splits its time between New York and Germany, while telling a gripping, emotional story about a young women finding her place in the world.

The Hasidic world (especially Satmar, the particular group Deborah left) doesn't often find itself at the center of television shows, which makes *Unorthodox* unique. Satmar Hasidism originated in Hungary, but was largely decimated during the Holocaust. Their largest communities are now in New York and the Mea She'arim neighborhood in Jerusalem. Hasidic communities generally adhere to a strict interpretation of religious observance, while rejecting modern culture and technology, Satmar Hasids also speak Yiddish as their primary language. The show relied on several experts, such as Deborah Feldman, Yiddish expert Eli Rosen, and Jeff Wilbusch, one of the actors also from the Satmar community, to ensure their portrayal was as accurate as possible. This is highlighted in a fascinating "making of" bonus episode that I highly recommend after finishing the show.

The show wisely doesn't explain most of the rituals and culture, which would have been overwhelming. Even for Jewish viewers, the Hasidic world is so different that it can feel like another religion altogether! Instead, *Unorthodox* focuses on Esty's journey and her relationships with family and new friends. Because of this focus, the show successfully portrays the Satmar community, but most importantly, does so without judgment. While the viewers learn why Esty chooses to leave, it also compassionately focuses on other community members, like her husband Yanky.

At its core, *Unorthodox* is the journey of a young woman in search of herself and her place in the world. Israeli actor Shira Haas gives a phenomenal performance as Esty, who struggles to adjust to her new surroundings in Berlin, discovers huge revelations about her family, and tries to follow a dream never made available to her growing up. Esty's personal decision to move to Berlin is revealed later, but it also allows her to return to the source of her community's trauma, as Satmar's founders are Holocaust survivors. At this intersection of current and generational trauma, Esty begins to process her own life and who she wants to be moving forward.

As Esty gets to know the students in the musical academy, she meets Yael, a gifted violinist who was raised secular in Israel. I found their relationship fascinating and becomes one of Esty's main relationships in her new life in Berlin. Esty and Yael are both young Jewish women who grew up in communities largely built by Holocaust survivors. And yet, not only are the two drastically different from each other, but their communities are also generally known to be at odds with one another. The two are quickly bonded by their Jewish religion and culture - at times Yael has to translate Esty's world to their other friends - but they also clash with preconceived judgments and expectations of each other. Yael and Esty's relationship is an interesting commentary on their respective Jewish communities at large, and speaks to the opportunities and challenges of sisterhood between Jewish streams.

Unorthodox, and Esty and Yael in particular, could not come at a better time in our Jewish calendar. Later this month we'll celebrate Shavuot, where we celebrate the gift of Torah, the foundational stories and values that bind together the entire Jewish people, even if our practices, theologies and rituals might seem worlds apart. It is traditional on Shavuot to read the story of Ruth and Naomi, two women from different cultures who are still one family, and support one another through grief and trauma, not unlike Esty and Yael.

During this time - especially when the pandemic has disproportionately impacted ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities - *Unorthodox* serves as a reminder of unity and compassion for all members of our Jewish family, no matter how different we might be.

I would love to hear your thoughts on *Unorthodox*, and join me for a Facebook Live discussion on the series May 21st at 10:30am.

All episodes of Unorthodox are streaming on Netflix; Deborah Feldman's memoir is available online, and interviews with Feldman and the Unorthodox creators are on YouTube.

## 8 The Game Plan with Bobby Covitz



#### The Importance of Sustaining our Community

Since the start of the daily "TBS Connect" programs in mid-March, there has been a burst of creativity and fun that has united the TBS community during this challenging time. You play an instrumental role in helping TBS fulfill its mission of being Joyful, Personal, and Accessible. By early June, you will receive your 2021-21 membership packet, and it is important for you to know how critical membership dues are to TBS's finances. TBS's budget is about \$1.1 million a year, and it can be broken down as follows:

TBS's Budget Broken Down By Revenue Area				
Revenue Area	Amount (\$)			
Membership Dues	\$750,000			
Religious School/Lifecycle Fees	\$200,000			
Fundraising	\$150,000			
Total	\$1,100,000			

TBS has always been respectful of one's ability to pay their dues, and throughout our history – now, more than ever -- we have been sensitive to our congregants' financial situations. Dues are not being increased for the 2020/2021 year.

TBS is fortunate to have generous congregants who voluntarily pay more than the standard membership dues/facility fees. This is referred to as Above & Beyond (A&B) dues. Along with TBS's ongoing fundraising efforts like the Annual Appeal, the A&B congregants who contribute \$2,800 or more have a major impact on the \$150,000 fundraising gap illustrated above. Additionally, there is a \$5,000 Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) level. These membership levels are but two strategies that TBS utilizes to ensure that it is financially strong, but any amount of dues contribution helps TBS meet its fundraising targets and balance the budget.

If you'd like to learn more about increasing your dues contribution for the 2020-21 year, or have any questions about the membership renewal process, please be in touch at bobby@tbsohio.org.

"Community" has never been more important, so thank you for making TBS your Jewish home.



#### Why Do We Sing During the COVID-19 Pandemic?

Last week a friend of mine asked me to play a few songs for her husband's birthday. After I had a list of his favorite songs, I secured the music and practiced them for this outdoor celebration. When I arrived, a group of people were gathered, I mean were socially distanced, on this South Bexley front lawn. With guitar in hand, I led the group in a roaring version of "This Land is Your Land" and "Happy Birthday" and then performed "My Favorite Things" in a COVID-19 parody style. People were so happy to celebrate Michael in song. They also were glad to have a reason to exercise their lungs

and interact with other human beings.

Our congregant, active TBS Men's Club member, trumpet player in our famous Temple Beth Shalom Klezmer Band, accountant and nice guy, Larry Remer, has made several outdoor appearances with his NaCHO (Nationwide Children's Hospital Orchestra) Street Band. This fantastic volunteer group of musicians have switched their venues to outdoor spaces only during this pandemic. Some of these gigs have included: the Ronald McDonald House, retirement homes, outside of Children's Hospital and Larry's front yard. All gigs are live-streamed and videoed in order to bring the joy of music to a wider community. Larry is performing a mitzvah every time he participates in a concert. He experiences great satisfaction and fulfillment while watching the hospital workers, patients, kids, neighbors, nursing home residents etc. come outside or look through their windows as they clap, dance, sing and genuinely enjoy these powerful vibrations.

Facebook has shown us countless parades of cars blasting music, honking horns, and/or singing songs to celebrate a birthday or just to make someone's day special. We have heard arias drifting from balconies in Italy and driveways and cul-de-sacs becoming amphitheaters for socially distanced renditions of Queen, Bon Jovi etc.

Disney hosted a sing-along and You Tube has aired some wonderful programming such as "Seder Night Live" and "Take Me to the World: A Sondheim 90th Birthday Celebration" which featured professional singers. I am sure you can add to this list.

Temple Beth Shalom offers at least 5 Facebook Musical Livestreams weekly. These weekly offerings are: Erev Shabbat Service, Congregational Healing Service, Havdalah with the Bar-Lev family, Welcoming Shabbat with Marc Rossio and Rabbi Bar-Lev's children's song sessions, In addition to these weekly episodes, we have featured performances by our own talented musicians: Nick Ciranni, Angela Dunlap, Arkadiy Gips, Emily Hartman, and Hannah Rossio. I also have participated! Our two musical affinity groups, The Sharyonim Choir and Purim Spiel Performers have shared friendship and song using zoom.

Why do we sing during COVID-19 pandemic? Music creates a sense of belonging and participation. It is medicine for our alienation in society in general and it is needed even more so now as we participate in social distancing and isolation. Music can help us sooth anxiety, share common emotions and connect us to our innermost thoughts, feelings and spirit. It is a vehicle for creativity and humor plus it is fantastic exercise for our lungs.

Music also helps us to express gratitude to other people, our country and to God. This tried and true art form is once again being used today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to keep spirits up and communities pulling together.

So, for these reasons (plus it is just fun), we sing in a pandemic.

Stay healthy and keep singing!

### 10 Simcha Station

#### **May Birthdays**

May 1st — Hesh Green

May 3rd — Dan Dolsky, Michael Rothstein

May 5th — Arlene Setnar, Lindsey Shapiro

May 6th — Alison Kleinman, Darrin Resnick, Steve Seeskin

May 7th — Susie Blank, Shayna Levi May 8th — Linda Rubin, Randy Siegel

May 9th — Sheri Benson, Michael Berman

May 12th — Neil Carron, Mark Epstein, Greg Feldman-Hill, Connie Freundlich

May 13th — Arnie Alpert

May 14th — Ian Blackstone

May 15th — Sheryl Heit

May 16th — Dan Phalen

May 17th — Michael Popa

May 18th — Connie Cantor, David Cohen

May 19th — Brad Goldman, Robin Hammond

May 20th — Jim DeBold, Carolyn Mendel, Fred Merchant

May 21st — David Cohen, Todd Goldman, Cathe Kobacker, Bruce Wylie

May 22nd — Sue Lazerwitz, Suzanne Segal

May 23rd — Evan Cohn, Larry Mendel, Jennifer Richardson, Marlene Richardson, Marlene Robbins,

Brian Voronkov

May 24th — Katie Carroll, Lindsay Popa, Ginna Rinkov

May 25th - Jeremy Rycus, Allan Scheiner

May 26th — Billy Murray, Carol Neubauer

May 27th - Jean Krum

May 28th — Gary Dicker, Jordan Finegold, Pam Lippy, Sherry Solomon, Nancy Tannenbaum

May 30th — Davora Beatty

May 31st — Lori Feibel, Mark Glazman, David Kleppel, Becky Scherzer

#### **May Anniversaries**

April 20th − Bob Schwartz & Nancy Krasa

May 7th — Robert & Rose Berky

May 8th − Rabbi Benjy & Lauren Bar-Lev

May 14th — Marc & Lori Rossio, David & Josefina Taylor

May 15th — Gary & Elaine Barnett, James & Susan Bugenstein

May 16th — Melissa & Amiel Mansur

May 19th − Jonathan & Yassamin Bleiweiss

May 20th − Lynn & Eric Emerman

May 21st — Kim & Joe Dorrian, Todd & Sarah Odess,

Raul & Gabriela Weiss

May 23rd − Marty & Heather Oppenheimer

May 24th − Pamela & Gregory Feldman-Hill

May 25th — Jenna & Randolph Schultz, Sean & Jennifer Silver

May 26th — Hesh & Leslie Green, Nathan & Valerie Robbins

May 27th − Michael & Melanie Berman,

Herschel & Faye Sigall, Zach & Lisa Singer

May 28th — Martin & Sally Daner, Jonathan & Lori Feibel,

Jon & Julie Handler,

Michael & Christine Hecht,

Steven & Dawn Schneir

May 29th — Rob & Naomi Cohen, Craig & Lindsey Shapiro

May 30th — Jan & Cindy Cohen, Lori & Patrick Elwood,

David & Jaime Goldach

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# May Yahrzeits II

May 1st **Erwin Barnett** Tina Cohen Aaron Feldman Abraham Golin Nancy Greenspan Jacob Handler Murray Itkoff Anne Margolis Lisa Mccaan J. Kerry Rothstein Lillian Senser Margaret Sindlinger Terry Tucker Libby Turner Jack Warner

Margo Young

Mau 8th Hy Ankerman Helen Brody Hortense Cobeu Adell Coleman Lillian Daner Bart Epstein Elsie Goldmann Irvina Goldmann John Goldstick Marc Klunn Mildred Kutell Gilbert Levu Louis Lewis Selma Pollock Harold Resnick Irvin Roth Julius Silverman **Evelun Smith** Relda Teitel Domer Fred Thompson Robert Weinberg Lucy Weisel

May 15th Rosette Benzakein Ellis Finkelstein Louise Glazer Florence Gordon Lillian Herold George Kates Jean Katz Rita Miller Wenceslas Neuwirth Dorothy Offenberg Milton Prystowsky Harry Raab Herman Ringelheim Henry Rozanczyk Ruth Siegfried Alan Slutsku Nathan Staman Raumond Tannenbaum Audrey Wolpa Stanley Wolpa

May 22nd Jerry Beery Marcel Benzakein Jack Feinstein Herman Friedberg Pavel Glazman Elaine Haidt Julia Lewis Nancy Markle Robert Mellman Jean Nedelman Samuel Opperman Lillian Pies Agnes Requeiro Sidney Rocker Frances Rosenblum Henry Schulte Helen Shulman **Ethel Solomon** Morris Treger George Zahn

May 29th Amy Blumental Ida Borovetz Aaron Braveman Jack Cohen Carol Davia Ruth Fiske **Ethel Garfield** Rose Kaplan Ross Knill Helen Krantz Larry Kun Lenore Loewengart Yetta Mart Leroy Matve Carol Pavlofsky Joseph Pravda **Arnold Sachs** Sarah Scheiner Carul Solove Louis Yaillen



#### Affinity Groups: A Note from Lesley Thompson

Some of you may have heard and seen information about our Affinity Groups on the TBS Connect schedule on the TBS Facebook page or the e-window email. Have you wondered what exactly is a TBS Affinity Group? Affinity groups are the best way to get to know a small group of people well. They are formed around interests, needs, geography, demographic or profession.

For now, affinity groups are connecting virtually, but hopefully soon we will all be together physically. They can be done in the home, in an office, or anywhere in the city. The groups can consist of anywhere between 3 or more people. They meet regularly

with the frequency, dates and location of the meetings determined by the group. TBS Affinity groups are designed to inspire us and transform our lives and those around us with deeper relationships and a greater experience of joy and meaning.

To form an Affinity group you must have a volunteer host. The role of the host is to choose a place to meet and work with the Engagement Coordinator to find others to join the group. Once the group meets they can decide on how often and where they will meet. If you don't want to be a group host the Engagement Coordinator will match you with a group to enable you to expand your circle of friends by learning, listening, and speaking together.

TBS has many groups that are active such as the Veterans group, ASD Parents group, Biking Group, Green Team, 20's/30's Yalla group, Yiddush Club, Jewdies and the Pet Lovers Group just to name a few. There are plenty of groups who need a host, like the Hiking group, Babies and Bagels, Book Club and the Recently Retired groups. Check out all the Affinity Groups being offered at www.tbsohio.org/affinity-groups.html, If you don't see a group listed that is the right fit, you could make a suggestion or even start a new group. If you would like more information on any of the groups please reach out to Lesley Thompson, Engagement Coordinator, at Ithompson@tbsohio.org.

### 12 Presidential Address



#### When the Going Gets Tough, TBS Gets Going

The last six weeks have been life changing for everyone, bringing on challenges that no one had anticipated. As it became apparent that our Temple building would not be able to be utilized into the foreseeable future, TBS has rallied to remain relevant and available.

Rabbi Benjy, on very short notice, provided virtual Shabbat services on the first Friday when we could not congregate in the temple and has continued to do Shabbat services adding Havdalah and healing services as well. The traditional Temple Passover seder was converted into the first (and hopefully last) virtual seder. In addition, Rabbi Benjy has organized and made available through social

media various programs for the enjoyment and education of the Congregation with the able assistance of many content providers such as Amanda Cohen, Gail Rose, Rabbi Lenette, Rachel Murray, Marc Rossio, and Jill Will.

Rabbi Lenette, with the assistance of Angelo Dunlap, the teachers, and Madrichim, has kept religious school functioning with virtual programs starting on the first Sunday in which actual religious school could not be held. They have continued to expand the program each week by including a virtual all-school Tefilah and Zoom breakout rooms for each grade level.

Kathy McGee and Leslie Thompson have been calling TBS families to ask how they are doing and to see if TBS can be of assistance. They have also moved the affinity groups from in-person meetings to virtual sessions.

We were fortunate to have completed our search for a new executive director and hired Bobby Covitz shortly before the start of our social distancing restrictions. Even before officially starting in the position, Bobby had begun actively learning the intricacies of TBS operations. Since being thrust into the fire, he and Penny Williams (and before she left, Bonnie Abramowitz) have been able to keep the administrative functions operating and have quickly moved forward with obtaining assistance through government programs which have recently become available.

On April 25, TBS was able to come together and connect for an evening of good vibes and fabulous entertainment for our first ever Stay at Home Ball. We know that many of you participated and hope you enjoyed the evening.

As you can see, while the physical doors of our building remain closed, our virtual and personal doors remain open. Through the efforts of many, TBS remains joyful, personal and as accessible as it can be. If you need assistance or to otherwise utilize temple services, TBS has remained, and will remain, open for you.

For those in a position to provide extra support to continue our ongoing virtual programs and our regular programs when restrictions are reduced or eliminated, it is greatly appreciated. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

#### **OUR TIME AS CO-PRESIDENTS**

Our time as your Co-Presidents is nearing its end. Our term began with the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting and has ended with the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. Our members may be glad to see us go.

Nonetheless, in looking back over the past two years, we believe that there were many positive developments for TBS beyond just addressing the security and social distancing crises that were thrust upon TBS by outside forces.

The five-year strategic plan was completed and we began its implementation. This included the roll out of Rabbi Benjy's engagement program, which is off to a great start, and TBS has found creative ways to still "meet" in these groups. Our religious school has remained strong. Rabbi Lenette has continued to innovate and added new dimensions to a previously successful program.

The social action programs have also been creative in continuing existing programs and developing new projects. Though major spring programs were forced to be cancelled by the social distancing restrictions, they will return next year. Likewise, plans for recognizing TBS members who have volunteered their time in various forms had to be postponed as well.

Financially, we have made some great progress. The stale Chanukah raffle was replaced by the Reverse Raffle, which filled a gap in our fundraising, and continues to hold promise to develop further. Per the strategic plan,

we launched the Above and Beyond Campaign which has had some initial success and is continuing its ongoing efforts. We also have an active committee working as part of the overall Jewish community Life and Legacy Drive to establish an endowment to assure the long term future of TBS.

Quick action to fill the opening in the executive director position has brought on board Bobby Covitz just in time to help us deal with the various issues related to the COVID-19 virus and the virtual environment in which we find ourselves. Had that position not been filled prior to the virus restrictions, it would have been a long and difficult process to fill it during the period of these restrictions.

We appreciate the help that we have received from many people, specifically including Pam Scheer and David Neubauer for their guidance and help from their experience, Phil Goldstein for his tireless efforts to complete the Strategic Plan and to launch the Above and Beyond Campaign, Julie Alpert for heading up the executive director search, Brian Phillip's work to drive the Reverse Raffle, and the TBS Board of Trustees with providing lots of support during our presidency.

We are honored to have been selected to serve as leaders of TBS and follow those who have gone before us. We know that they faced other challenges, anticipated or not, during their terms and hope that we did as well overcoming ours as they did with theirs.

While we will be transferring the presidency of TBS to Michael Griffaton and Mindy Agin during a difficult time, we think we have left TBS in a good position for them to begin and look forward to providing them with the same support that we received from our predecessors. Thank you for giving us the honor to serve as your TBS co-presidents these past two years!

#### Temple Beth Shalom

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Has any of your information changed?

Keep us in the loop!

Email tbs@tbsohio.org with any changes to your family or personal information so we can update your membership profile!



# Congregational Healing Service Sundays at 4pm

Please join us for a brief Healing Service on Zoom.

We will sing our way into healing and gratitude during quarantine.

### 14 Donations (as of April 23rd)

#### **ART & FURNISHINGS FUND**

• Joyce & Herb Bronstein, in memory of Ida & Morris Madorsky & Shirley & Ben Bronstein

#### **BUILDING FUND (CAPITAL CAMPAIGN)**

• Pam & Ira Scheer

#### **CARING CIRCLE FUND**

- Laurel & John Zulliger, donation for the YWCA Family Center Luncheon
- ◆ Madalyn & Roger Benjamin, donation for the YWCA Family Center Luncheon
- Miriam & Ken Siegfried, donation for the YWCA Family Center Luncheon
- Sheryl & Philip Heit, donation for the YWCA Family Center Luncheon
- Carol Rich, donation for the YWCA Family Center Luncheon

#### **FOUNDATION MAINTENANCE RESERVE**

• Seth Becker & Janet Meltzer

#### **GENERAL FUND**

- Susan M. Bader
- Toni Lattimer, in memory of her loving father David Feuer
- Ann Holsinger, in honor of Irving Perelstein

#### **GREEN FUND**

Seth Becker & Janet Meltzer

#### MARYN SCHWEBEL BEEN CAMPERSHIP FUND

- ◆ Paul, Ryan & Izaak Been, in memory of Dr. Stuart Wertheimer
- Paul M. Been, in memory of your brother Bernie Krentzin

#### **MUSIC DIRECTOR'S FUND**

- Pam & Ira Scheer
- Jacky Philips, in honor of Marlene Levine & Philip Edelsberg's Anniversary

#### RABBI APOTHAKER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Neal & Maureen Handler, in memory of Stanley Handler & Rose Cooperman

#### RABBI BAR-LEV'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- Richard & Mary Loochtan, in honor of the great online weekly services
- Boris Rudkevich, in memory of Fanya Rudkevich
- Pam & Ira Scheer
- ♦ Adelaide Mentser & Barry Mentser, in memory of Ruth Mellman

#### RABBI HERZOG'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Pam & Ira Scheer

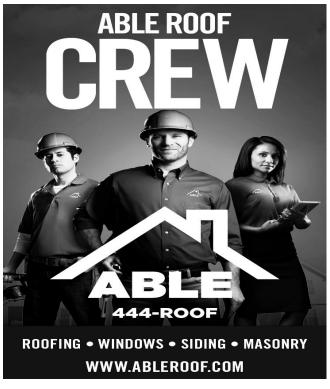
#### SPRING FUNDRAISER

Laurel Zulliger

#### **WISH LIST FUND**

Karen Faydenko for the Estate of Jeanne Grossman

Thank You!



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### Have a question or concern?

Get in touch with us!

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Compiled and Edited by Amanda Cohen & Bobby Covitz

### Join us for Erev Shabbat Services!

Friday	Time	Theme
First Friday	6:30pm	Family oriented service with music & story followed by dinner in the social hall.
Second Friday	6:30pm	Focus on Life-long learning with text study. Standard TBS music.
Third Friday	6:30pm	Shabbat Chai - All music service with the Shabband!
Fourth Friday	6:30pm	Traditional Shabbat Service with a sermon and traditional TBS music.
Fifth Friday	6:30pm	Traditional Shabbat Service with a sermon and traditional TBS music.





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**Dated Material** 

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