



Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

Volume 18 Issue 3
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Tevet/Shevat/Adar (5781)

Visit our website: www.templebethelohim.net

The Rising Star

P.O. Box 571 Georgetown, SC 29442

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Facing Forward with Lots of Hope



President Richard

A new year is beginning and still the shadows from 2020 hang over us. How nice it would have been to announce that our doors are open and *Shabbat* services will start at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The reality is NOT YET! But alternative plans are being discussed. What if the leaders led from the *bima* of our temple while being recorded for YouTube? What if members were invited to reserve space and come to the synagogue, socially distance and participate in the service? This is just one idea that the committee is exploring. We will report as our research continues.

T B E 1772 Legacy Group



I am pleased to announce that we proudly welcome our first member to this munificent group. DICK ROSEN will head the list. This is very fitting since Dick was Temple Beth Elohim's first *bar mitzvah* in its new sanctuary. Brenda & Dick, we are grateful for your loyalty.

Chanukah Comes to Wedgefield Plantation

The Georgetown community of Wedgefield Plantation is located southeast of Temple Beth Elohim. Every year the Homeowners Association adorns the common area with Christmas decorations. Temple member Eileen Kramer asked why there was no recognition of *Chanukah* and was told that "a long time ago" there was a *menorah* displayed but no one could remember exactly what happened to it. Eileen volunteered her husband, Stan Earnhardt, to erect one. The results are pictured below.



Thanks, Stan, for expanding the holiday celebrations. May they continue for many years to come.

A FRUIT AND NUTS *SEDER*?

Yes! *Tu B'Shevat* occurs in January and is celebrated at home with a special kind of *seder*.

During the Middle Ages or possibly a little before that, this day started to be celebrated with a minor ceremony of eating fruits.

In 16th century Israel, Rabbi Yitzchak Luria of Safed and his disciples created a *Tu B'Shevat seder*, somewhat like the Passover *seder*, that celebrated the Tree of Life. The earliest published version of this *seder* is called the *P'ri Eitz Hadar*, which means "The Fruit of the Beautiful Tree." The aim is to strengthen and repair the Tree of Life. [continued on p. 4 – *Seder*]

Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar
Suzan

Welcome to 2021, a year that we hope will be better than 2020. But making this year better than last year isn't going to magically happen with the purchase of a new calendar. There's a lot of work to be done to repair the damage that has been

done to our world – in many spheres besides fighting the pandemic. While trying to stay safe from a deadly virus, we have also been dealing with civil disorder, a teetering economy, a contentious presidential election, and rising racism and antisemitism.

This makes for a rather awkward segue to our next Jewish holiday: *Purim*, which begins at sunset on Thursday, February 25th. Given that it may take a few months before we all are vaccinated against COVID, it seems likely that we will be celebrating another holy day as remote participants. But maybe that's okay. Maybe it's for the better that we have to skip the noise and frivolity of the typical *Purim* observance in favor of

some quiet, personal reflection. Can the story of Esther provide insight into the problems we're still experiencing today?

Even the name of Esther can give us some insight into the Jewish experience. Her birth name was Hadassah. Hadassah assumed the name Esther (which is a Persian name meaning "star") as a means of hiding her Jewish identity when she was to be presented to the king. Downplaying your Jewish identity to get ahead has not much changed in modern times. And are people who attack synagogues so very different from Haman (cursed be his name) who extrapolated his anger at Mordechai into an excuse to exterminate all Jews?

Is there truly nothing new under the sun? Is homo sapiens a doomed species incapable of ever doing better? I have no answers. This past year has been trying on so many levels, with so many people refusing to think of the greater good. But there also are many people who have shown so much goodness that I think there's a chance for our species. But only if we keep it together in 2021.



Tu B'Shvat

15 Shevat 5781 – 27 January 2021

Tu B'Shvat is a Jewish holiday occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of *Shevat*. It is also called *Rosh HaShanah La'llanot*, literally 'New Year of the Trees'. In contemporary Israel, the day is celebrated as an ecological awareness day, and trees are planted in celebration.

Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

President: Richard Dimentstein
(rdimentstein@gmail.com)

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TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to www.chairtrack.com. If you need a user name and password, contact Andy Friedman, andy.friedman@hotmail.com



The Triumph of Mordecai
by Pieter Pietersz Lastman



13/14 Adar 5781 – 25/26 February 2021

Tree of Life

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____



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

Leaf 1 _____

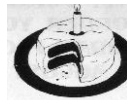
Leaf 2 _____

Leaf 3 _____

A check for \$ _____ (\$36 per leaf) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.
Thanks for your support.
Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of
SHANE FINKEL
grandson of Carrol Sallas

BIRTHDAYS



ANNIVERSARIES



JANUARY

4 Ruth Farb

FEBRUARY

2 Adele Franzblau
19 Janet Solomon
20 Tish Richter
26 Alan Gramet

JANUARY

17 Ruth Farb &
Dick Charlton
29 Nancy & Gary
Koppel

FEBRUARY

2 Brenda & Dick
Rosen
25 Marilyn & Richard
Horowitz



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



Jim & Michele Bennett gift of *Torah* mantle

Richard Dimentstein to the General Fund in memory of Herbert Dimentstein

Roslyn G. Greenspon to the General Fund in memory of Alwyn, Thelma and Frances Goldstein for their lifetime devotion to Temple Beth Elohim

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

Ariane & Craig Lieberman to the General Fund in memory of Myrna Fishbein and Joseph A. Zelesnick

Estelle Lieberman to the General Fund

Ann Palmer to the General Fund in memory of Myles Derison

Carrol Sallas to the General Fund in memory of Jerome Sallas

Julie Ilene Weiner to the General Fund

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. 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.

SEDER

[continued from p. 1]

The seder ended with a prayer which states, "May all the sparks scattered by our hands, or by the hands of our ancestors, or by the sin of the first human against the fruit of the tree, be returned and included in the majestic might of the Tree of Life."

It is generally customary to eat dried fruits and nuts. Figs, dates, raisins, carob, and almonds are especially popular. Many people also incorporate into their seders the Seven Species associated with the Land of Israel. *Torah* describes them in Deuteronomy 8:8 as wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates.

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.

T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP

Brenda & Benedict Rosen





Yahrzeits



JANUARY

3 Jodi-Ann Wollman	sister of Randi Wollman
4 B. Albert Friedman	father of Andy Friedman
7 Albert Kurtz	member Temple Beth Elohim
7 Beverlie D. Hudson	mother of Rosa Lee Heiden
8 Carrol Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
8 Eli Fishbein	uncle of Ariane Lieberman
12 Harry Rosen	grandfather of Dick Rosen
15 Cerna Cornis	aunt of Ruth Farb
16 Ned Cohen	husband of Suzan Cohen
20 Milton Ross	father of Lynn Davidson
21 Milton Rosenfeld	uncle of Michele Bennett
21 Bernice Young	mother of Suzan Cohen
22 Evelyn Poaster	mother of Tish Richter
23 Morris Cohen	father-in-law of Suzan Cohen
24 Pearl Davidson	mother of Michael Davidson
25 Sam R. Berne	father of Randy Cavaliere
25 Maurice S. Lumiansky	grandfather of Debbie Smith
26 Bonnie Linado	member Temple Beth Elohim
26 Evelyn Nitzberg	mother of Susan Richman
26 Nettie T. Stern	member Temple Beth Elohim
26 Irene Hurwitz	member Temple Beth Elohim
27 Evelyn Levine	mother of Nancy Koppel
28 Albert A. Kossove	father of David Kossove
29 Rita Fogel	member Temple Beth Elohim
30 Tillye King	mother-in-law of Eric Heiden
31 Rabbi Deborah Slavitt	teacher Temple Beth Elohim

FEBRUARY

3 Irving Schwartz	member Temple Beth Elohim
3 Ralph Gold	friend of Temple Beth Elohim
4 Dorothy B. Lichtenstein	aunt of Michele Bennett
6 Alma Berne	mother of Randy Cavaliere
7 Morris Ulrich	grandfather of Ariane Lieberman and Myla Specht
7 Ida L. Sisser	member Temple Beth Elohim
8 Barnet Levine	father of Carrol Sallas
8 Jacob Sisser	member Temple Beth Elohim
8 Ruth Wollman	grandmother of Randy Wollman
9 Julie Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
9 Kitty Jacoby	grandmother of Marty Kleinrock
10 Dorothy Schneider	mother of Susan Berry
12 Gail Jacoby Anderman	mother of Marty Kleinrock
12 Morris Horowitz	father of Richard Horowitz and Roberta Schwartz
12 Lillian Apfel	mother of Cindy Danzek
13 Harold Schneider	uncle of Susan Berry
16 Blossom Rand	mother of Joy Birnbaum
16 Jules Nitzberg	father of Susan Richman
17 Ruth Ader	mother of Shirley Giegerich
21 Edward Wollman	grandfather of Randi Wollman
22 J. J. Heiden	father of Eric Heiden
23 Gloria Richman	wife of Lonnie Richman
26 Ida E. Danzig	member Temple Beth Elohim



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

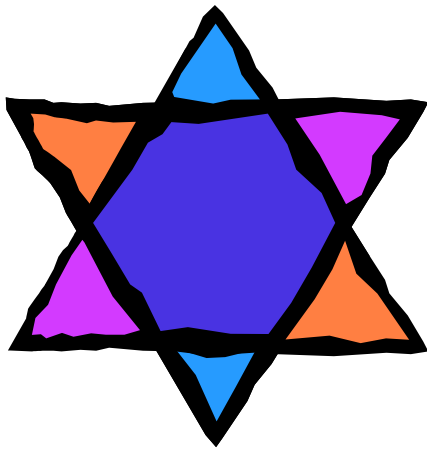
New Memorial Plaques

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

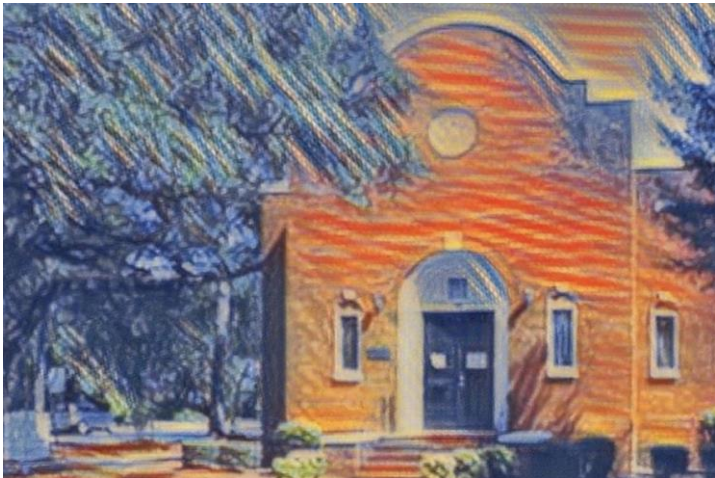
SHALOM

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Committee Members

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Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum
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Finance Chair: Michele Gershman Bennett
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Web Page: Joy Birnbaum
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn
Website (www.templebethelohim.net): Joy Birnbaum
Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden