

# Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

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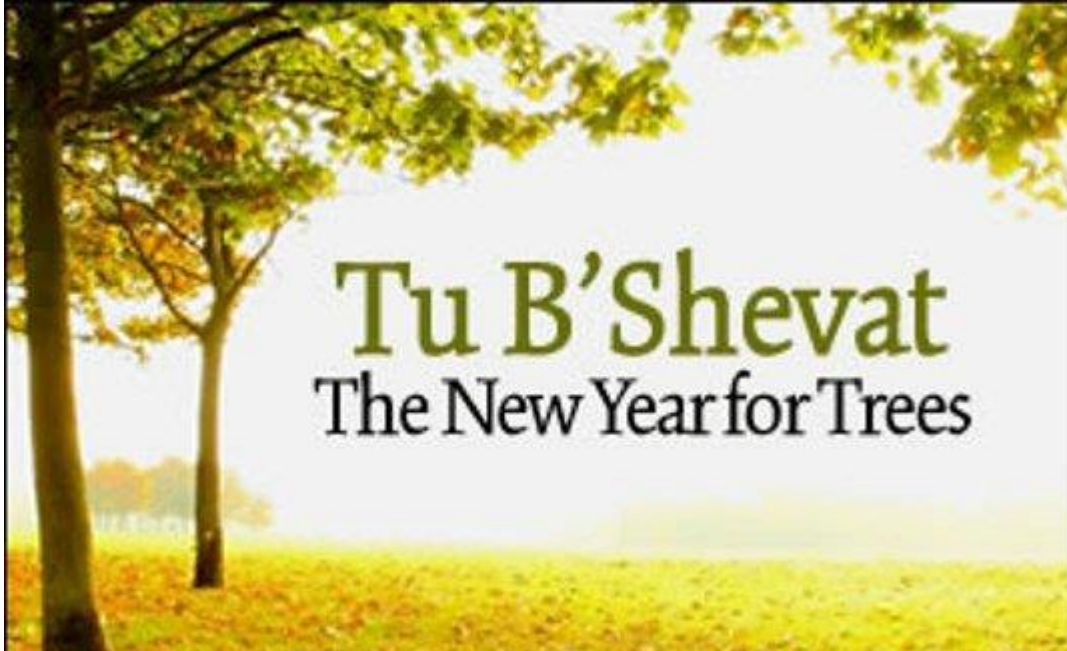
Volume 20 Issue 3  
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Tevet/Shevat/Adar (5783)

# The Rising Star

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## 5/6 February 2023

This is a holiday occurring on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Hebrew month of *Shevat*. It is also called *Rosh HaShanah La'lianot*, "New Year of Trees." In contemporary Israel, the day is celebrated as an ecological awareness day, and trees are planted in celebration.

Some people have a *seder* that includes the 7 species mentioned in *Torah*: wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates.

## From the President



President Richard

As the new year begins, I can't help but reflect on the last one. We came back to temple after 11 months of "ZOOMing." We were vaccinated and "boosted." We said good-bye to Reb Cantor Lisa Levine and were soon introduced to Rabbi Scott Weiner.

After two years, we were able to revive our Passover *seder*. We had new prayer books for the High Holy Days. We began to see and hear more of Robin Shuler. And we were continually increasing security for the temple and the congregation. It was because of increased security measures that we adjusted the starting time of *Shabbat* services (6:30 p.m.). This will increase the number of uniformed City of Georgetown police officers who will be available to patrol outside while services and other activities are taking place inside.

May we all be blessed with good health and peace in this New

Year, 2023! *B'shalom*, Richard



Rabbi Scott Weiner is prepared to teach a lesson on *Hanukkah*. Saturday morning 12/17/2022

# Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar  
Suzan

*Rosh Chodesh* – which literally means “head of the month” – is a minor holiday that marks the beginning of every Hebrew month. The beginning of the Hebrew calendar is established in the Book of Exodus, just before the Israelites leave Egypt, and it is tied to the appearance of the new moon. In the *Torah*, *Rosh Chodesh* is mentioned in the same context as more important festivals and, as on other festivals, the people are commanded to be joyous, offer sacrifices, and be reminded of God’s divinity (Numbers 10:10).

Originally, there was not a set calendar for Jewish months. Instead, the Sanhedrin (an ancient court) would declare a new month after receiving testimony from two reliable witnesses reporting that they had seen the new moon. When a new moon was announced, someone would go to the top of the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem with a long pole of wood. He would set the end of the pole on fire and wave it around until he could see someone on another hilltop waving his own pole. The second person waved his pole until he could see a third person waving, and so on until the message reached Babylonia.

Eventually, the Samaritans began lighting fires on hilltops in order to mislead the Jews, and so instead

of fires, messengers were sent out from Jerusalem. By the later Talmudic period, a fixed calendar was set, and there was no longer any need for witnesses or messengers.

It’s an interesting history, but *Rosh Chodesh* doesn’t get a lot of attention in Reform congregations. I had my first introduction to *Rosh Chodesh* many years ago at the *bar mitzvah* of a cousin that took place at a very conservative synagogue. While trying to follow along during the *Torah* reading, my eye drifted to notes at the bottom of the page that offered a detailed explanation of all the sacrifices that would be offered if only we still had the Temple for offering sacrifices.

Continued on p. 5 [*Rosh Chodesh*]

*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**

**Richard Horowitz**

**Dick Rosen**



## Holocaust Remembrance Day

27 January 2023



The United Nations Holocaust memorial ceremony will be held on 27 January 2023 in the United Nations General Assembly Hall under the theme “Home and Belonging.”

## Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

**President: Richard Dimentstein**

(rdimentstein@gmail.com)

**Vice President: Joy Birnbaum**

(joyandseymour@gmail.com)

**Secretary: Tish Richter** (tish227@yahoo.com)

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**Ariane Lieberman** (rundoc13@gmail.com), **Andy**

**Friedman** (andy.friedman@hotmail.com); **Seymour**

**Birnbaum** ([joyandsey@ethanrand.com](mailto:joyandsey@ethanrand.com)); **Butch**

**Miceli** (cody.miceli@gmail.com)

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)



**Rabbi Scott Weiner**  
 The rabbi is scheduled to lead another *Shabbat* service and morning class, Friday evening, 02/03 and Saturday morning 02/04.

Arrangements for Rabbi Weiner are made possible through THE ALWYN O. GOLDSTEIN MEMORIAL SHABBAT FUND.

**T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP**  
 Brenda & Benedict Rosen  
 Richard Dimentstein



*Tree of Life*

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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



**BIRTHDAYS**

**JANUARY**

4 Ruth Farb  
 15 Debbie Corcoran

**FEBRUARY**

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



**ANNIVERSARIES**

**JANUARY**

29 Nancy & Gary  
 Koppel

**FEBRUARY**

25 Marilyn & Richard  
 Horowitz



Let us pray for the restoration of health of

**SHANE FINKEL**

grandson of Carrol Sallas

## DONATIONS

**Joy & Seymour Birnbaum** to the General Fund in memory of Florence Kaspin  
**Richard Dimentstein** to the General Fund in memory of Herbert Dimentstein  
**Ruth Farb** to the General Fund  
**H&R Feinberg Family Foundation** to the General Fund  
**Andy Friedman** to the General Fund in memory of Helen Friedman  
**Jana Hletko** to the General Fund in memory of Sally Dube  
**Craig Lieberman** to the General Fund in memory of Charles Zelesnick  
**Butch Miceli** to the General Fund in memory of Sandy Rasnake  
**Mischelle & Gerald Napoleone** to the General Fund in memory of Shelly Gershman  
**Tish Richter** to the General Fund in honor of Temple Beth Elohim Lay Leaders  
**Helaine & Charlie Rotgin** (Rotgin Family Fund) to the General Fund  
**Carrol Sallas** to the General Fund in memory of Jerome Sallas  
**Janet Solomon** to the General Fund in memory of Herbert Solomon



Joy Birnbaum

## *Oneg Shabbat*

by Joy Birnbaum

It wasn't until we joined Temple Beth Elohim that I learned what it meant to attend an *Oneg Shabbat*, a social time that follows a Friday night service. I learned that *oneg* meant "delight" or

"joy" and, according to the prophet Isaiah, *Shabbat* shall be a delight. I continued to attend services and began looking forward to the monthly *Oneg Shabbats*. As time went on, I experienced a variety of salads, from fruit to tuna to white fish. There were dips, cheeses, sometimes veggies, cookies, cakes, and a host of creative light fare for our small congregation to sample while we chatted and schmoozed.

It became obvious that service attendance increased on the Sabbaths that announced an *Oneg*. In an effort to capitalize on this observation, the Board agreed to expand *Onegs* to include both the second and fourth Friday of each month. *Voilà!* It brought more people to services and provided an opportunity to build our temple family.

When I offered to write an article about *Onegs*, I had written the above paragraphs, but then something occurred to me: why don't I google the word '*oneg*' and see what's there? To my surprise, I learned there's much more to the words *Oneg Shabbat* than I ever imagined.

"The Underground Archive of the Warsaw Ghetto, the so-called Ringelblum Archive, listed on the Memory of



Emanuel Ringelblum

21 November 1900 – 10 March 1944

the World Register by UNESCO, is a unique collection of documents constituting one of the most important testimonies about the extermination of Polish Jews.

"It was created in November of 1940 at the initiative of historian Dr. Emanuel Ringelblum and with the involvement of the *Oneg Shabbat* (Joy of the Sabbath - their Saturday meetings) because of their Saturday meetings) Organization created by him. The group numbered several people and undertook the task of gathering and developing documentation – broadly defined – on the fates of Jews under the German occupation. The activity of the *Oneg Shabbat* was completely secret. The inhabitants of the ghetto did not know about it. As a cover for their activities, *Oneg Shabbat* used the Jewish Social Self-Help (ZSS), a social-service organization tolerated by the Nazis, but also leading considerable underground activity. The ZSS office was located in the building of the Main Judaic Library, next to the Great Synagogue at Tlomackie Street. That building, since 1947, has been the Jewish Historical Institute headquarters and the storage site of the Ringelblum Archive."

I hope you take time to read about the incredible work and risks taken by Dr. Emanuel Ringelblum and his creation of the first *Oneg Shabbat*.

*JB*

## Rosh Chodesh

[Continued from p. 2]

I was at first surprised to see that until I reminded myself that the ritual for offering sacrifices is a central theme in many places in the five books of the *Torah*, and more traditional faith communities tend to be more focused on that.

If, however, we expand our reading to the whole of the *Tanakh*, you will find that in the writings of the prophets, the focus was more on obedience to the word of God. For example, Hosea (6:6) explicitly tells the people, “For I desire goodness, not sacrifice; obedience to God, rather than burnt offerings.”

Another theme in prophetic literature is that adhering to ritual is not enough if the person does not also seek to live righteously and seek justice, as it is said

in the book of Amos (5:22-24): “If you offer Me burnt offerings – or your meal offerings – I will not accept them; I will pay no heed to your gifts of fatlings. Spare Me the sound of your hymns and let Me not hear the music of your lutes. But let justice well up like water, righteousness like an unfailing stream.”

There are many passages that I could quote that echo these themes, and prophetic literature in general supports the Jewish ethic of prayer, *zedakah*, and social justice that is so central to liberal Judaism.

se



## RICHARD KNIGHT (DICK) CHARLTON

26 November 1935 - 16 DECEMBER 2022

Dick suffered from Ramsay Hunt Syndrome and cancer. He passed with family at his side in Venice, Florida. Dick and his wife, **RUTH FARB**, were living at Seaside Springs in Osprey.

A life-long golfer, he was proudest of achieving six holes in one and shooting his age or lower numerous times during a career which started at age 7 and continued until poor health forced him to stop at age 80. He played courses in many states and over a dozen foreign countries.

Dick was born in Milwaukee, WI, 26 November 1935, the oldest son of Knight and Dorry Charlton. He graduated from South Milwaukee High School, Northwestern University and University of Chicago's Booth Graduate School of Business. His business career included: The First National Bank of Chicago (now Chase), Vice President, Corporate Banking and Daiwa Bank, Ltd. (Chicago), Vice President, Risk Management.

Dick was active in numerous civic activities including Director and Treasurer, Illinois Chamber of Commerce; Treasurer, Northfield, IL Park District; President, Northfield United Way; Director, Metropolitan Chicagoland United Way; and Trustee, The Chicago Academy of Science (now Notebaert

Nature Museum). He was also President, Robert Morris Association, Chicago Chapter. Dick most enjoyed coaching his sons' Little League. He was proud to have lived long enough to see his Northwestern play in the NCAA basketball tournament and to see the Chicago Cubs win the World Series

In 1998, Dick and Ruth retired to Pawleys Island, SC where he served as Chair of the Architectural Review Boards of both Pawleys Plantation and then The Reserve in Litchfield. They moved to Southwest, FL in 2020.

Dick is survived by his beloved wife, Ruth, who cared for his every need in his last years, sons Knight (Marie), Westmont, IL and Andy (Liz), Granada Hills, CA, grandchildren Katie, Nick, Maddie Charlton, Bryan (Sarah) Farrington and brother David (Jody), Hudson, OH, two great grandchildren and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

The family thanks the staffs at Tideland (Murrells Inlet, SC), Medical University of SC, Dr. Scott Lindhorst team (Charleston, SC), Sarasota Memorial Hospital, and Tidewell Hospice. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Gary Sinise Foundation, P.O. Box 407726, Nashville, TN 37204; or Song of the Mountain, The Lincoln Theater, 117 E. Main St., Marion, VA 24354.



## Yahrzeits



### JANUARY

3 Jody-Ann Wollman sister of Randi Wollman  
 4 B. Albert Friedman father of Andy Friedman and  
 and Gary Friedman  
 7 Albert L. Kurtz member Temple Beth Elohim  
 7 Beverlie D. Hudson mother of Rosa Lee Heiden  
 8 Eli Fishbein uncle of Ariane Lieberman  
 8 Carrol Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim  
 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 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  
 30 Nettie Franzblau grandmother of Adele Franzblau  
 31 Rabbi Deborah Slavitt Teacher at Temple Beth Elohim

### FEBRUARY

3 Irving Schwartz member Temple Beth Elohim  
 3 Ralph Gold friend Temple Beth Elohim  
 4 Helen Marks grandmother of Butch Miceli  
 4 Dorothy B. Lichtenstein aunt of Michele Bennett  
 6 Alma Berne mother of Randy Cavaliere  
 7 Morris Ulrich grandfather of Myla Specht  
 and Ariane Lieberman  
 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 Randi Wollman  
 9 Julia 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 Lillian Apfel mother of Cindy Danzek  
 12 Morris Horowitz father of Richard Horowitz  
 and Roberta Schwartz  
 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  
 18 Herbert Feinberg husband of Ruth Feinberg  
 21 Edward Wollman grandfather of Randi Wollman  
 22 J. J. Heiden father of Eric Heiden  
 23 Gloria Richman (first) wife of Lonnie Richman  
 26 Ida E. Danzig member Temple Beth Elohim



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.

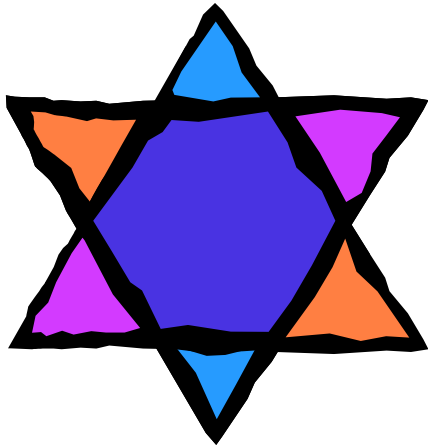
### *New Memorial Plaques*

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.



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## ***SHALOM***

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

**Temple Beth Elohim**

**P. O. Box 571**

**Georgetown, SC 29442**

### **Temple Beth Elohim**

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years



#### **Committee Members**

Ritual Chair: Andy Friedman (Richard Dimentstein)  
Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum  
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum  
Communications: Andy Friedman  
Finance Chair: Michele Gershman Bennett  
Sunshine Committee Chair: Tish Richter  
Building & Grounds Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Craig Lieberman)  
Newsletter Editors: Richard Dimentstein, Joy Birnbaum  
Library Chair: Richard Dimentstein (Tish Richter)  
*Oneg Shabbats*: Joy Birnbaum  
Web Page: Joy Birnbaum  
Website ([www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net)): Joy Birnbaum  
Photography: Randy Cavaliere (Joy Birnbaum)