



# Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

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

Volume 18 Issue 5  
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Iyar/Sivan/Tammuz (5781)

# The Rising Star

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843 325-0389

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## The Gradual Return



President Richard

On Friday evening, 16 April 2021, Temple Beth Elohim held *Shabbat* services in the sanctuary. It had been thirteen months since we were able to do that. After all those ZOOM services, it was especially nice to see “whole persons” again and to hear voices recite prayers and sing in unison.

On the “down” side was the sight of seeing things that need to be repaired. There is some ceiling damage that has to be addressed as well as lighting fixtures that could not function because of

wiring issues. Congregants kept their distance from each other and wore masks. To minimize crowding, the Social Hall was not open. Therefore, there was no *oneg* and *kiddish* was carried out by the lay leader in the sanctuary away from the *bima*.

There were two initiations. The first was using our new prayer books, *Mishkan Tfilah*, which were a parting gift from Ruth Farb & Dick Charlton, who moved to Sarasota, Florida. The second was the presentation of our *Torah* in its new mantle. This, too, was a gift to the temple from members Michele & Jim Bennett.

We also received an anonymous gift of flowers for the *bima* to celebrate our return. *Today*, Anonymous!

## New Memberships

While we were away staying safe by quarantining, ZOOMing and practicing other safety precautions, Temple Beth Elohim gained two new members. We are pleased to welcome to our Temple Beth Elohim family

**DEBBIE HART**  
and  
**DAN MATHLESS**

Debbie comes to us from Massachusetts and is now residing in Pawleys Island.

Dan joins us from Illinois and is also currently a resident of Pawleys Island.

Debbie, Dan, we look forward to worshipping with you!



# Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar  
Suzan

The second of our three pilgrimage festivals, *Shavuot*, this year begins at sunset on Sunday, May 16 and ends at sundown on Tuesday, May 18. *Shavuot*, the Feast of Weeks, is celebrated seven weeks after the second Passover *seder*. Although

*Shavuot* began as an ancient grain harvest festival, the holiday has been identified since biblical times with the giving of the *Torah* on Mount Sinai.

Coming seven weeks after the Passover *seder*, one of the most widely observed Jewish rituals, *Shavuot* is the least-observed major Jewish holiday. Various reasons have been suggested for this. Perhaps the most compelling is that, unlike Passover or *Rosh Hashanah*, *Shavuot* is comparatively lacking in any specific dramatic rituals.

## What are some customs and practices for *Shavuot*?

-To commemorate the giving of the *Torah* at Sinai, there is a tradition of staying up all night studying Jew-

ish texts in what is known as *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*. The custom originated among the mystics of Safed as compensation for the fact that according to the *Midrash*, the ancient Israelites slept in on the day of the giving of the *Torah*. To make up for that ancient mistake and to show our eagerness to receive the *Torah*, the custom emerged of staying up all night to study.

-On *Shavuot*, the Book of Ruth is read. The book tells the story of Ruth, a Moabite woman who returns to Israel with her mother-in-law after the death of her husband. Though Ruth is encouraged to stay with her own people, Ruth refuses, speaking the lines for which she would become known: "For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God." Ruth's embrace of Judaism took place around the time of *Shavuot* and her acceptance of the Jewish faith is seen as analogous to the Jewish acceptance of God's *Torah*.

-Traditionally, dairy foods are eaten on *Shavuot*. Eating meat and fish are signs of celebration in Jewish tradition, which is why many people eat beef or chicken

[continued on p. 4 – Wisdom from afar]



9 May 2021



20 June 2021

## 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)**

**Treasurer: Michele Gershman Bennett**

(mbennett1150@gmail.com)

**Trustees: Carrol Sallas (sallas2@sccoast.net),**

**AJ Giegerich (thegiegie@gmail.com) Shirley**

**Giegerich (shirleygiegerich@gmail.com), Andy**

**Friedman (andy.friedman@hotmail.com), Craig**

**Lieberman ([heartdocks@aol.com](mailto:heartdocks@aol.com)); Seymour**

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

## *Dressing Up for the Return*



Michele & Jim Bennett

On 16 April 2021, we were able to hold *Shabbat* services in our sanctuary after more than a year. It was good to be back home.

One of the highlights of the evening was seeing, up close, our *Torah's* new mantle. At the appropriate time, lay leader Richard Dimentstein marched the decorated scrolls up the center aisle for all to get a good look. It's beautiful!

The mantle is a gift from members Michele & Jim Bennett.

## *Tree of Life*

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



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

Leaf 1 \_\_\_\_\_

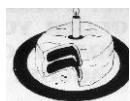
Leaf 2 \_\_\_\_\_

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



### **BIRTHDAYS**

#### **MAY**

- 1 Stan Earnhart
- 2 Elzbieta Sobolewska
- 4 Debbi Jones
- 7 Gerald Beckman
- 7 Noreen Davis
- 13 Joy Birnbaum
- 13 Ariane Lieberman
- 16 Brenda Rosen
- 21 Richard Horowitz
- 24 Ruth Feinberg

#### **JUNE**

- 3 Shirley Giegerich
- 3 Eric Heiden
- 26 Jana Hletko
- 29 Donna Llewellyn
- 30 Kathryn Kossove



### **ANNIVERSARIES**



#### **MAY**

- 5 Ruth & Herb  
Feinberg
- 18 Roberta & Steve  
Schwartz
- 20 Randy & Tony  
Cavaliere

#### **JUNE**

- 10 Myla & Michael  
Specht
- 18 Susan & Brian  
Berry

*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    Dr. Eric & Rosa Lee Heiden**

**Richard Horowitz    David Kossove**

**Donna & Tom Llewellyn    Dick Rosen**



## Wisdom From Afar....

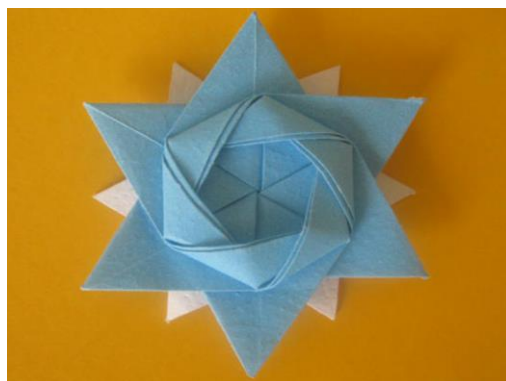
[continued from p. 2]

on *Shabbat* and other Jewish holidays. *Shavuot* is the one Jewish observance where the opposite is true – dairy foods like cheesecake and blintzes are customary. Various reasons for this tradition have been offered, but many link it to the fact that the kosher laws were handed down on *Shavuot*, and the ancient Israelites, finding that their meat was no longer kosher, ate dairy foods instead.

-In order to mark the agricultural history of *Shavuot*, some decorate their house and synagogue with a floral theme. One Jewish legend recounts that Mount Sinai

burst into flower with the giving of the *Torah*. In ancient times, *Shavuot* was also the time of *bikkurim*, when Jewish farmers would bring the first fruits of their crops as an offering to God in the temple. For these reasons, many synagogues have the custom of decorating their sanctuaries with flowers and greenery. But some rabbis were uncomfortable with this, fearing that it too closely resembled Christian traditions, which in turn led to the custom of using a papercut instead called a *shavuosl*.

Many thanks to <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/> for helping me to educate myself about this holiday!



Papercut for *Shavuot*

## WHILE WE WERE AWAY...

At the very end of March 2020, our heating and cooling system suffered a breakdown. Seymour Birnbaum, who takes charge of all matters relating to the building, had several specialists evaluate the situation and presented the findings to the Temple Board. The expense to correct the problems was quite large (\$17,000) but very necessary. We now have a very modern and efficient system.

Our expenses did not end there. We had to have repairs done on the roof before a small leak became more serious. This was linked to some painting that had to be done in the name of routine maintenance that is part of the upkeep of any structure. This was not inexpensive.

Due to the troubled times in which we are living and the multiple incidents caused by antisemitism in various parts of the country, we have installed a security system in our temple and have police protection during every service. None of this comes free of charge.

And then there is the unexpected. We returned to our sanctuary to find that one or more of nature's critters managed to get into our attic and bore two gaping holes

In diagonally opposite corners of the sanctuary's ceiling. When the temple's lights were turned on, one ceiling fixture remained unlit. It was not simply a need for bulb replacement. Wires had fused. Again, experts had to be called in. The consensus is that all eight of our lamps need to be rewired, have their sockets replaced and be given new, 150-watt LED bulbs -- another expense.

Why discuss this now? Very soon, our Membership Committee will be sending out renewal notices. There are no immediate plans to raise dues. What we are asking is that you not ignore the portion of the form that allows for a voluntary contribution above the required fees. Our 2020-21 expenses have been enormous and not for anything decorative or luxurious. All of it has been necessary. Temple funds need to be restored.

As always, we thank you for the loyalty and support we have come to count on and appreciate.

Stay healthy. Stay safe. *Shalom*,  
The Executive Board and Trustees of  
**Temple Beth Elohim**

# DONATIONS



**Gerald Berkman** to the General Fund in memory of Theodore Berkman  
**Randy & Tony Cavaliere** to the General Fund in memory of Christopher Cavaliere  
**Noreen Davis and Alan Gramet** to the General Fund in memory of John Davis  
**Richard Dimentstein** to the General Fund in memory of Anthony Gennarelli  
**Edwina & Andy Friedman** to the General Fund in memory of Sonya A. Friedman  
**Shirley & AJ Giegerich** to the General Fund in memory of Peter Giegerich  
**Debbie Hart** to the General Fund  
**Marilyn & Richard Horowitz** to the General Fund in memory of Shirley Horowitz  
**Kathryn & David Kossove** to the General Fund in memory of Harold Joseph Kossove and Irene L. Kossove  
**Ariane & Craig Lieberman** to the General Fund in memory of Marie Barish and Augusta Lefkov  
**Linda & Butch Miceli** to the General Fund in memory of Shirley Marks  
**Tish Richter** to the General Fund in memory of Charles Richter and Pearl Richter  
**Ruth & Leonard Schooler** to the General Fund



## RENEW – JOIN - DONATE AT TEMPLE WEBSITE



If you haven't looked at our website recently, you don't know that there have been some changes!

1. [www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net) is a certified, secure website. You can safely use Pay Pal or your credit card.
2. You can JOIN or RENEW your membership with a few clicks; if you prefer, you can still download and print the membership forms and mail a check to us.
3. You can make a DONATION to the General Fund, Temple Security or Other. You can designate Other for *Tzedakah*, or in memory of (*Yahrzeit*), in honor of, for a birthday or anniversary.

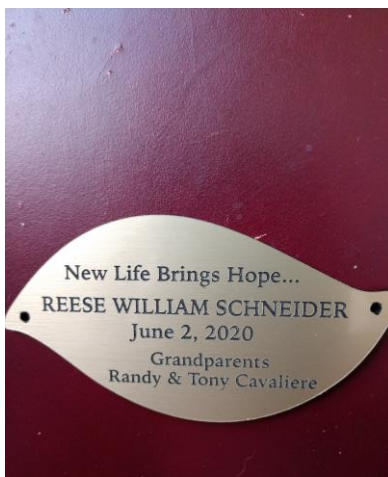
The Temple Beth Elohim website and Facebook page provide information about weekly *Shabbat* services, holidays, events, and important announcements.

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of

**SHANE FINKEL**

grandson of Carrol Sallas

**Tony & Randy Cavaliere**  
have added a new leaf to our  
Tree of Life



## T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP

Brenda & Benedict Rosen

Richard Dimentstein





## Yahrzeits



### MAY

- 2 Sylvan Rosen father of Dick Rosen
- 3 Rebecca Logan Baker grandmother of Debbi Jones
- 3 Anne Drucker mother of Louis Drucker
- 3 Thelma Engel Goldstein member Temple Beth Elohim
- 5 Arlene Sturm friend of Temple Beth Elohim
- 10 Rosie G. Goldstein member Temple Beth Elohim
- 11 Debby Baruch Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
- 11 Beatrice Solomon mother-in-law of Janet Solomon
- 12 Rick Richter husband of Tish Richter
- 12 Harry Rosen father of Marilyn Horowitz
- 13 Leon Blum father of Debbie Hart
- 14 Jacob M. Ringel member Temple Beth Elohim
- 16 Alfred Lefkow uncle of Ariane Lieberman and Myla Specht
- 17 Laura Chaplin Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
- 19 Morris Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
- 19 Samuel Kolsky great grandfather of Craig Lieberman
- 20 Alfred Dube father of Jana Hletko
- 20 Pauline Koppel mother of Gary Koppel
- 20 Jennie Surasky Levkoff grandmother of Dick Rosen
- 21 John Cavaliere father of Tony Cavaliere
- 22 Patricia Giegerich mother of AJ Giegerich
- 26 Paul Levine brother of Nancy Koppel
- 26 Audrey Rowe Smith member Temple Beth Elohim
- 28 Hyman Kaufman member Temple Beth Elohim
- 29 Clara Fogel member Temple Beth Elohim
- 29 Morris Ader father of Shirley Giegerich
- 30 Naomi Specht mother of Michael Specht
- 30 Constance Karesh Franzblau mother of Adele Franzblau
- 30 Bernard Meyer member Temple Beth Elohim

### JUNE

- 2 Carol Gottlieb member Temple Beth Elohim
- 3 Estelle Smith mother of Johanna Goldman
- 3 Kathleen Gramet wife of Alan Gramet
- 5 Charlotte Goldman mother of Eileen Kramer
- 6 Henry "Mel" Brown friend of Richard Dimentstein
- 10 Ed King father-in-law of Eric Heiden
- 14 Philip Schneider father of Susan Berry
- 15 Frank Danzig member Temple Beth Elohim
- 17 Alan Baslaw friend of Temple Beth Elohim
- 17 Morris Salles father-in-law of Carrol Sallas
- 20 Helmar Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
- 20 Russell Hughes father of Linda Miceli
- 21 Esther Zelesnick great grandmother of Craig Lieberman
- 22 Edith Pockell mother of Sheila Borash
- 22 Ricky James Fenner friend of Adele Franzblau
- 22 Izzy Marks grandfather of Butch Miceli
- 23 Henry L. Levkoff uncle of Susan Berry
- 24 Rae Zelesnick grandmother of Craig Lieberman
- 26 Louis Bodian member Temple Beth Elohim
- 29 Maurice Emanuel 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.

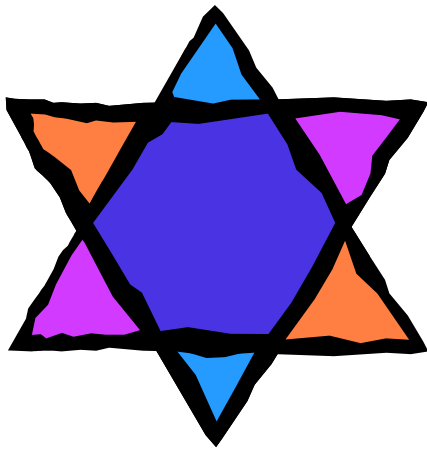
### *New Memorial Plaques*

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.



First Class  
Postage

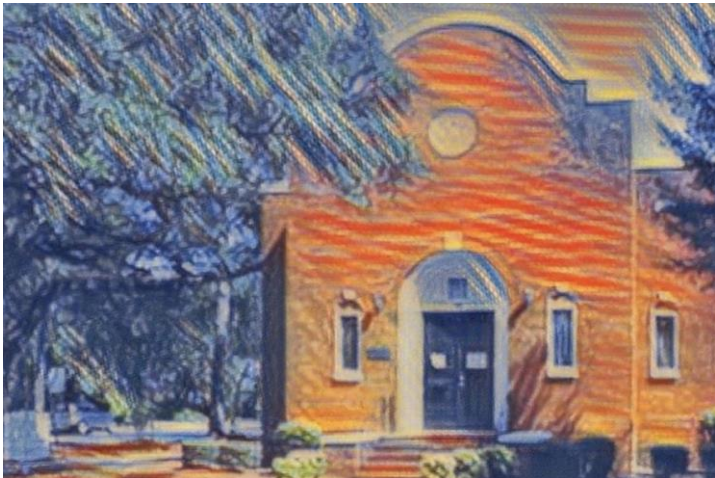
# ***SHALOM***

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

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

## **Temple Beth Elohim**

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years



### **Committee Members**

Ritual Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (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, Jana Hletko  
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