



Temple Beth Elohim
A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

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Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet (5783)

Visit our website: www.templebethelohim.net

The Rising Star

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From the President



President Richard

Welcome to the first temple newsletter written in the New Year. *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur* services took place without the threat of hurricanes, although the stormy evening of *Shabbat Shuvah* (30 September) shut us down. This made me grateful for the perfect days we had but reminded me of what could have been.

Joy Birnbaum's article on page 5 describes her lay leadership experience, along with husband Seymour, using our new prayer books. While her article is personal, she is actually speaking

for all the lay leaders. The new books that were given to us by members Nancy & Gary Koppel. The congregants were pleased, and several wanted to purchase personal copies. While we can't sell what we have; we can order copies for those interested.

Temple Beth Elohim has been called upon to participate in some activities that are taking place in Georgetown. The Police Department has organized a Coat Drive. They are "adopting" families in need and giving them the clothing that is collected so that these people are prepared for winter. Members who have clothing to give can bring them to the temple.

Friends of Georgetown Library will host its 20th Annual

Yuletide Home Tour on Saturday, 10 December 2022. (See announcement on next page.) It has been organized by Temple Friend Bob Willey, President of FOGL. The tour includes 11 homes, two houses of worship and 4 museums. This is a fund-raising event that supports reading programs at the library for children and youth. Temple Beth Elohim is proud to be one of the two houses of worship on the tour.

Temple member Randy Cavaliere, along with other members of her community, will be displaying her original crochet designs at the Allston Plantation Artisan Fair in Pawleys Island. The fair will take place on Saturday, 5 November 2022 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

RAD

Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen



Ritual Scholar
Suzan

I just read a little factoid on the internet that the reason people blow out birthday candles is so that the smoke of the extinguished candles can carry the person's birthday wishes up to the heavens. I know this is an odd beginning to an essay on Jewish belief, but that little snippet got me to thinking about the power of candlelight in general and then, of course, to the importance of candles (or oil lamps) to the celebration of *Hanukkah*.

Fire is an element of nature, and it can both destroy and renew. The process of growing human civilization began when prehistoric people discovered the power of fire could be controlled and utilized to light their way, warm their caves, and cook their food. Fire in its many forms could also be put to sacred purposes, for example, making burnt offerings to curry favor or communicate with gods.

We have since moved on to different concepts of the sacred and different modes of worship. But fire, in the form of the candles that we light, still serve a sacred purpose. Candles give heat and light and can help us focus our thoughts. And when we recite the appropriate blessings, candle lighting fulfills a ritual

purpose. But, to circle back to the birthday candles analogy, as our *Hanukkah* candles burn, and the smoke wafts its way to the heavens, we could perhaps add our own wishes and messages to God. I personally want to wish for more kindness in the world (as a first step to solving all our many other problems).

This brings to mind an old Peter, Paul, and Mary song, "Light One Candle." The song as a whole really resonates with me, but two lines in particular, really get to the gist of what we need now:

*Light one candle for all we believe in, let anger not
tear us apart*

*And light one candle to bind us together, with peace
as the song in our heart* *SC*

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



FRIENDS OF THE GEORGETOWN LIBRARY'S

YULETIDE HOME TOUR

20TH YEAR

Tour of historic homes and places of worship

Saturday, December 10th, 2022
1:00 PM - 5:00PM

\$25.00/person Non-Member Price
\$20.00/person Member of any
Georgetown County Library Friends Group

Proceeds support children's reading programs
for the Georgetown Library

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



Rabbi Scott Weiner

The rabbi is scheduled to lead another *Shabbat* service and morning class, Friday evening, 12/16 and Saturday morning 12/17.

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



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Leaf 2 _____

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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



BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

15 Debbie Hart
22 Mike Specht
28 Dyan Cohen

DECEMBER

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

ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

2 Donna & Tom
Llewellyn
6 Dyan & Alex
Cohen

DECEMBER

21 Debbi & Webster
Jones



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 Blossom & Wolfie Rand and Frieda & Max Birnbaum

Randy & Tony Cavaliere to the General Fund in memory of Nancy Cavaliere

Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet to the General Fund in memory of Fred Gramet and Sara Weiss

Kelsi Forrester to the General Fund



Debbie Hart

How to Create a Hanukkah Party

by Debbie Hart

It is getting to be that season again, *Hanukkah*. Although it comes late this year (December 18 through December 26), I will welcome the holiday with the same enthusiasm I do each year. The first thing that happens to me is that the *Hanukkah* songs start playing in my head. “O Hanukkah, O Hanukkah, come light the Menorah. Let’s have a party, we’ll all dance the

Hora”...and then the *dreidel* song, “I have a little *dreidel*, I made it out of clay, and when it’s dry and ready, then *dreidel* we shall play....” I try to remember all the words to Adam Sandler’s “Eight Little Candles” *There’s a lot of Christmas songs out there and uh / not too many Hanukkah songs / So, uh, I wrote a song for all those nice little Jewish kids / who don’t get to hear any Hanukkah songs*. Now I am in a party mood, and I want to share my list of essentials for a proper celebration.

We have the songs, so what is next? The food, of course, with *latkes* being the stars. They should be homemade whenever possible. Everyone has their favorites. Start with the basic recipe which is quite simple and tweak it to your taste. I like onions and always use russet or Yukon Gold potatoes. Thank goodness for the food processor for grating the potatoes. My grandmother told me that I should grate the potatoes by hand and a little blood in the batch was fine. She came to America from Russia during the pogroms and thought a little suffering should be mixed into the *latkes*. Of course, nowadays with COVID, other communicable diseases and expensive manicures, I definitely recommend a food processor. Always serve with applesauce and whole milk sour cream. Food fried in the symbolic “miracle” oil is nonnegotiable. So let yourself enjoy these decadent foods knowing it is a 2000-year-old tradition. You can serve other food, but your guests will only eat it to be polite. They are there for the *latkes*. I recommend saving yourself some trouble and get a store-made rotisserie chicken, some vegetables, and a *challah*. Can you guess what will be leftover? For dessert, you can serve the traditional *Hanukkah* jelly donuts, babka, Mandel bread or *dreidel* cookies. And do not forget to pick up some *gelt*. You know, the chocolate money coins.

Now for the décor. You can opt for basic or go extravagant. Back in Massachusetts, the Dollar Store carried specific *Hanukkah* decorations, but I have not seen any so far in South Carolina. They do carry plates

and such in dark blue, white and silver – the colors of *Hanukkah*. I sprinkle the 6-pointed star confetti on my tables with my *Hanukkah* tablecloth I bought in the Christmas Tree Shop in Boston. Keep it fun. This is one of our informal, family festive holidays.

The entertainment, besides the music, must include The *Dreidel* Game. The Yiddish word for *dreidel* is *sevivon*, which means “to turn around.” *Dreidels* have four Hebrew letters on them, and together they form the saying, “*Nes gadol haya sham*,” meaning “A great miracle occurred there.” The rules are quite simple. Each player starts out with some tokens, such as coins or *gelt*. The letter that is facing up when the *dreidel* comes to rest determines whether the player will contribute tokens to or take tokens from the central pot. It is a wonderful way for everyone to interact with each other.

Gifts at the party. There is a lot of debate about what is appropriate for *Hanukkah* gifts and do we really give a gift for each night? This is a family tradition, or a personal preference and I stay neutral here. I bake granola, cookies and dog biscuits for my guests. These gifts are always appreciated.

The centerpiece of the *Hanukkah* celebration is the lighting of the *menorah* that holds nine candles. Eight candles symbolize the number of days that the Temple lantern blazed, the ninth, the *shamash*, is a helper candle used to light the others. You may want to ask your guests to bring their own *menorahs* so everyone can light them together. This is an opportunity to recant the story of the Maccabees for those adults and children at the party who may not be familiar with *Hanukkah*. The *menorah* is meant to spread light to others and is traditionally placed in a window, or on a table or outside your door. There are two blessings that are recited every night and a third blessing that is said only on the first night. After the candle lighting if you

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Herbert David Feinberg, Esq.
19 December 1926 – 18 February 2022

Herbert David Feinberg passed away at his home in Middlesex County, New Jersey on Friday, February 18, 2022. He was 95 years old.

Son of the late Solomon and Celia Feinberg, Herbert was born December 19, 1926. After serving his country in the US Navy, he went on to earn an Ivy League education, graduating from Yale University and then achieving his professional Law degree from Cornell Law School. He practiced law for almost 50 years.

Herbert was a remarkable man. He was wise, hard-working, and charitable. He enjoyed theatre, art, travel, dining out, old movies, skiing, and golf. It was the perfect meal if it included Chinese food, rainbow sherbet, matzo with butter or simply a steaming hot cup of black coffee.

Herbert will be dearly missed and remembered for his devotion to family and longtime friends. He was the beloved husband of over 70 years to Ruth (Simon) Feinberg and loving father to Nancy Raup, Susan Zimmerman, and Michael Feinberg. He was a proud grandfather, great grandfather and dear uncle.

Ruth & Herb Feinberg were part time residents of Murrells Inlet for many years and were members of Temple Beth Elohim for nearly three decades.

Hanukkah Party

continued from p. 4

want to include a reflective moment, you may want to ask everyone about the miracles in their lives; or how can we “make” a miracle to benefit the world.

And the most important part of a *Hanukkah* celebration is your guests. This is a time to share our holiday with the community and, of course, our family. Share this miraculous holiday with neighbors, colleagues, friends, mahjong friends and family. This is a fun way to share a Jewish tradition with Jews and non-Jews. Can a festive *Hanukkah* party create better harmony among the population of Georgetown and Horry Counties? Who knows? It is worth a try. Enjoy a wonderful *Hanukkah* from the Harts to my family at Temple Beth Elohim.

I would be happy to send you all the song lyrics, recipes, blessings, and other ideas from this article. E-mail me at theharts9@verizon.net DH



Notes from a Lay Leader

by Joy Birnbaum



Lay Leader Joy

I carefully tucked my High Holy Day *Yom Kippur* prayer book away, making sure not to bend

or disturb any of the yellow stickies I had demarking the appropriate pages to read. Last year, my husband, Seymour, and I conducted the *Kol Nidre* service together for the first time. Yup, we thought it would be a breeze to do it again this year. All the pages were marked with stickies, we knew who read next, what the next page would be, and with a little help from the old prayer book, it said when to stand, when to be seated, when to open and close the ark. However, one thing we can always depend on is **change**. Yes, new, updated prayer books for this year!

Having finally adjusted to the new Sabbath prayer books, I understood the format of the new books, but realized there were still choices to be made. These books provide many suggestions, but it's up to you to decide what you will be comfortable presenting. Seymour and I went page by page, choosing what we thought to be the best prayer, then a supporting reading, a creative passage and/or poem, a song,

continued on p.6 – LAY LEADER



Yahrzeits



NOVEMBER

Tillie Drucker Gershman grandmother of Michele Bennett
 1 Ruby Fogel Levkoff Temple Beth Elohim Memorial
 1 Sophie S. Levkoff grandmother of Susan Berry
 2 Sara 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 Gershman
 13 Arnold H. Franzblau father of Adele Franzblau
 14 Irving Snyder member Temple Beth Elohim
 15 Joan Davidson sister of Michael Davidson
 15 Anne L. Schneider mother of Debbie Smith
 16 Charlotte B. Rosenfeld aunt of Michele Bennett
 17 Arnold Kane Temple Beth Elohim Memorial
 18 Thelma Barson sister of Ruth Feinberg
 18 Herbert Dimentstein father of Richard Dimentstein
 18 Kate Tiftickjian Johnston friend of Marty Kleinrock
 step mother of Gary Friedman
 and Andy Friedman
 19 Helen Friedman
 19 Sylvia Charen Hirsch grandmother of Debbi Jones
 19 Jerome Sallas husband of Carrol Sallas
 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 Mort Weinberg step-father of Eric Heiden
 29 Rose H. Weinberg mother of Eric Heiden

DECEMBER

6 Bari King Heiden wife of Eric Heiden
 10 Philip Lewenthal great grandfather of Dick Rosen
 and Susan Berry
 11 Albert M. Schneider grandfather of Susan Berry
 and Dick Rosen
 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 Gause 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
 26 Fanny L. Schneider grandmother of Debbie Smith
 and 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 Sandy Rasnake sister of Butch Miceli
 31 Morris Lieberman grandfather of Craig Lieberman



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.

LAY LEADER

Continued from p. 5

then repeat! Of course, who does what? And, when do we switch leading? And when do we call selected people to the *bimah*? Then comes doubt, did we choose the best passages? Should it be read in Hebrew or English, and more importantly, can we read the Hebrew correctly? So much to decide!

All in all, the *Kol Nidre* service went smoothly. We had talented friends provide song and music for *Kol Nidre* and *Avinu Malkeinu*. All of the people called to the *bimah* read and/or chanted their portions with emotion.

Was the service too long? I think we got lucky. Will we do it again? Seymour and I are looking forward to next year when we won't have to redo all the yellow stickies and we'll have cracked the code for the format of the new book.

Now it's time to get back to Friday nights and the Sabbath Prayer Book...a piece of cake!

JB

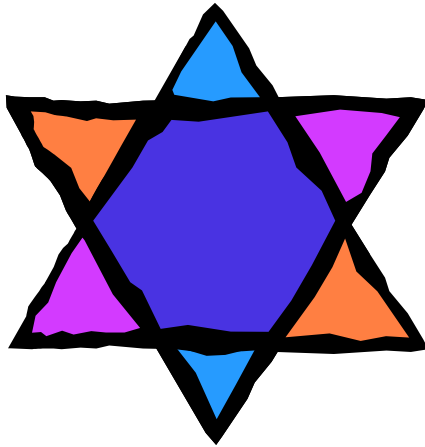
New Memorial Plaques

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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