



COME
JOIN
US!

**Temple B'nai Torah's
Family Chanukah Brunch**
Sunday, December 10, 2023

12:00pm - 3:00pm

Hosted by the TBT PTA

Games, Crafts, Food & Raffle Baskets

For more information:

contact Ilene Hellman@ ilenetbt@gmail.com

Happy Chanukah

Light



Peace



Love

MAY LOVE AND LIGHT FILL YOUR
HEART AND HOME



Ritual Calendar - December 2023

Please check the Weekly Scroll and the Temple Calendar for the most up-to-date information!

All services, unless otherwise noted, will be in-person and streamed



Friday, December 1	5:30pm	TOT SHABBAT
	6:00pm	Dinner ^
	7:15pm	Family Shabbat Service celebrating Camp with Guest Camp Song-leader Stacy Kelly
Saturday, December 2	9:30am	Torah Study *
	10:30am	Shabbat Service Bat Mitzvah of Lila Minkowsky
Monday, December 4	12:00pm	Torah Study *
Friday, December 8	7:15pm	Erev Shabbat Service Chanukah Celebration with Choirs & Games
Saturday, December 9	9:30am	Torah Study *
Monday, December 11	12:00pm	Torah Study *
Friday, December 15	7:15pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday, December 16	9:30am	Torah Study *
Monday, December 18	12:00pm	Torah Study *
Friday, December 22	6:30pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday, December 23	9:30am	Torah Study *
Monday, December 25	No Torah Study	
Friday, December 29	6:30pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday, December 30	9:30am	Torah Study *

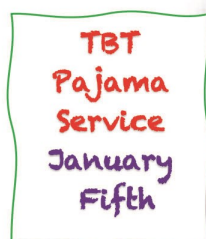


Join us Friday, December 8 for the
TBT Congregation
Chanukah Menorah
Lighting...

Bring your Menorah and Three Candles. We will light them together and sing Chanukah Songs. After Services, we'll have treats and jelly donuts. Kids & grownups can play dreidel and Chanukah games. What a way to celebrate the start of Chanukah!

January 2024 *Happy New Year!*

Monday, January 1	No Torah Study	
Friday, January 5	5:30pm	TOT SHABBAT
	6:00pm	Dinner ^
	7:15pm	Pajama Family Shabbat Service
Saturday, January 6	9:30am	Torah Study *



KEY: * = on Zoom + = Hybrid/In Person and Zoom, a link will be provided ^ = Watch for more information on the Scroll, FB and flyers Details for Services can be found on the Scroll and our Website
Always check the TBT Website\ Calendar prior to Services & Events for the most up-to-date information.

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Rabbi Daniel Bar-Nahum



The Meaning of Chanukah

Chanukah is a joyous time for the Jews: games and fun foods, songs, and candles in the darkness. We all have a great time at our annual PTA Chanukah Brunch (this year on Sunday, December 10). We have focused our attentions in recent years on ways that the messages of this holiday are universalist: dedication, identity, light. This is, in part, due to Chanukah's coincidental closeness to Christmas. There is nothing wrong with seeking broad, feel-good connections to our holidays. It makes them more accessible, and easier to share with those around us.

At the same time, are we doing a disservice to our traditions and history if we don't fully know and understand where they came from? Chanukah isn't really about the oil lasting. That story, like most of our miracle stories, is grounded in myth. The historical Chanukah was really about the right to be a free people in our own land. The historical Chanukah was a battle for Jewish survival. The historical Chanukah shares many parallels with the world as we see it today.

The Maccabees were not perfect heroes. Much has been written specifically to remind us of the ways that the Maccabees, after their victory, leaned into the worst impulses of leadership and power. The rabbis of old were not fans either, which is why the Maccabees story doesn't even make it into the Bible. And yet, the Maccabees remain the heroes of the story for us, and for Jews for generations. We sing about them, we honor their grit and determination, and we hold them up as the saviors of our people and our religion. They defeated the Syrian-Greek King Antiochus in battle.

What was so bad about Antiochus? According to the book of Maccabees, in response to what he incorrectly perceived to be a revolt against his rule, Antiochus outlawed Jewish practice. He forced the Jews to eat pork and to work on Shabbat. He outlawed circumcision and desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem through syncretic worship. Though we cannot be certain that this all happened as written, the Jews were angry enough at whatever was done to begin a revolt against Greek rule. According to Josephus, Antiochus then seized land, erected pagan altars throughout the countryside, and massacred many Judeans.

And this is where the Hasmonean family, later called the Maccabees, come in. It is the family of Mattathias, a priest from Modi'in, who begins to fight back against the oppressive Greek policy.

Mattathias refuses to worship the Greek's idols. He kills both Jews who do participate and the Greeks who are forcing them. He then flees with his family to the hills and begins a guerrilla revolt.

The Maccabees sought to preserve their way of life, their Judaism, on their ancestral homeland. They sought to fight back against those who sought to kill them and end Judaism. They banded the Jewish people together to fight back and to expel the foreign influence from their midst. Chanukah is a story about a war for the homeland. In victory, the Hasmoneans establish an independent monarchy in the land of Israel, lasting for about 100 years.

Hatikvah is not the anthem of Chanukah. When the Israeli anthem speaks about the 2000-year-old hope, it does look back, in part, to the last time the Jews were sovereign on their land before 1948, which was the period of the Hasmonean kingdom. The hymn for Chanukah is, instead, *Maoz Tzur*, Rock of Ages, which was written during the 13th century CE, the time of the Crusades. We often sing one verse in English, praising God's word as breaking the sword of the Greeks. But the hymn in Hebrew has six verses, which go through God's miracles of old. The hymn retells the Jews' redemption from Egypt, Babylonia, Haman, and ultimately, the Greeks. It reminds us of the many times in our history that our existence has been threatened and how each time God came to save us.

Yet, we know from history, that though God was certainly present, it was the Jewish people whose grit and fight helped to redeem themselves from Antiochus. It was the Jewish people who postponed the 8-day festival of Sukkot due to war, celebrating it, instead, in the winter after the Temple was cleansed and rededicated. It was the Jewish people who took matters into their own hands and wrought their own miracles when necessary.

Like the Maccabees of old, as of this writing, we are in a time of fighting for the continuation of the land of Israel. The fight between Israel and Hamas is the fight to maintain the freedom of the Jewish People on our ancestral homeland. This year, as we light the candles of our chanukiah, let us think about the fight and sacrifice of the Maccabees of old, and be grateful for the fight and sacrifice of the IDF of today, which ensures that our millennia-long dream remains a reality.

May the lights of this Chanukah be a harbinger of peaceful days ahead for us all, and may they inspire us to remember all that is needed to sustain the land of Israel.

Rabbi Daniel Bar-Nahum

NOTES FROM OUR CANTOR

Cantor Rica Timman



This has been a very difficult month for all of us. I have tried to comfort others while I am not OK. We are struggling to live our lives while ingesting regular and upsetting news not only in Israel, but also in neighboring towns, college campuses, and even our local schools. Our people are being targeted with antisemitic attacks everywhere. I reluctantly took down my Israeli flag at home so that our family would not be an easy target. Oy! What can we do to protect ourselves and make some kind of a dent in this awful situation?

I encourage all who have means to donate to Israeli causes. Israelis will continue to need our support. Right now, so many are displaced, having lost their homes, jobs, and in so many cases, their loved ones. The hostages' families need our support. The effort to repair and rebuild their lives is going to take a long time. Our donations will not only help them survive this awful period, but show them our solidarity, that we are all together in this fight.

I also encourage all of us to educate ourselves on the issues surrounding Israel and her enemies. Let us be clear about her complicated history and be advocates for truth when confronted by terrorism and antisemitism both here and in Israel.

To that end Eileen Schneymann and I are joining with Reform leaders from around the world in Washington D.C. for the URJ

Gathering this December. Originally planned as a few days of celebrating the Reform Movement's 150th anniversary and exploring the Movement's future, programming will now be focusing on solidarity with Israel and information and tools to effectively lead through this moment.

Dear friends, my heart remains in the East. Both Rabbi Barnahum and I, along with our colleagues from around the country and under the auspices of the CCAR and ACC, are also looking for the right times to go to Israel on short missions over the next few months. We are ready to help when asked. Colleagues who are there right now are consoling those in mourning, counseling those who are in deep distress, supporting our exhausted and overwhelmed Israeli colleagues, and bringing light and comfort wherever possible. Rabbi and I deeply appreciate our Temple family's support as we take short missions to Israel in the next months.

And as we find opportunities for our TBT family to help, we will continue to share timely information through our social media platforms and email. For now, I encourage taking breaks from the news, continuing to send monetary donations when possible, practicing self-care, and praying fervently for our People. Am Yisrael Chai!

May the extra brightness of Chanukah bring light to these dark times,

Cantor Rica Timman

CONGRATULATIONS!

October Winners 2023 Cash Calendar

10/2	812	Micky Alterman Ellen Kraut
10/4	809	Leah Helmick
10/9	630	Gail Rosner
10/16	441	Jodi Suckle
10/24	624	Joni Christie



MAZEL TOV TO OUR BAT MITZVAH AND THEIR FAMILY



December 2

Lila Minkowsky

Jeff & Rachel

My name is Lila Minkowsky. I am in the 8th grade at Clarke Middle School. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, singing, acting, playing with my pets, listening to Taylor Swift and writing short stories. I also love playing tennis and softball. I've been studying for my Bat Mitzvah since March and my favorite part about the process has been writing my speech and dress shopping. I really appreciate all of the help I received from Cantor Timman, Rabbi Bar-Nahum, Mrs. Altman, my peers and my parents.

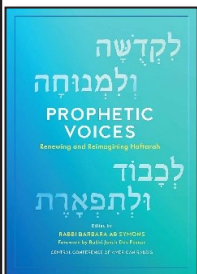
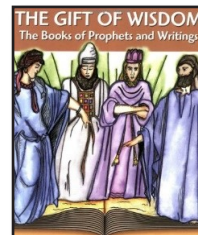
Lifelong Learning for Fall 2023

Hearing God's Voice: The Role of the Prophets

Join Rabbi Bar-Nahum for a study of the role of the Prophetic Voice in Jewish Tradition.

Together, we will explore the variety of biblical prophecies that exist in our tradition and work to understand the varied voices which serve to share with us God's messages. In addition, we'll explore the role of prophesy according to the Rabbis of old and the question of the modern prophetic voice, its roles, and its limitations. All texts will be studied in English and no previous experience is necessary.

Classes will be on the following Sunday mornings; 12/3 and 12/10, from 10:00 to 11:30 am.



Weekly Haftarah Study for 5784:

We have shifted the focus of our Monday Torah Study to a yearlong study of the Haftarah. Our study will focus on the reimagining of the Haftarah as explored in the new volume, Prophetic Voices, edited by Rabbi Barbara Symons, who was with us as a Scholar in Residence in November. Join us on Mondays at noon!

For questions or more information, contact Caryn Suckle at caryn@suckle.net.

SPONSOR AN ONEG

Do you have a special event coming up, like a birthday, anniversary or other simcha you would like to celebrate at Friday Night Shabbat Services?

If so, why not sponsor the ONEG.

For your \$125 donation to Sisterhood, we will buy you a special occasion cake with other yummy goodies in your honor to share with the congregation.

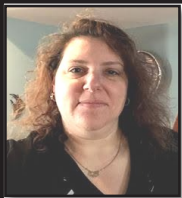
Your name will be read from the bimah and listed on the Temple Scroll.

What a wonderful way to share with your community!

If interested, please email Gail Rosner at grosner25@gmail.com or call her at 516-642-6900 to set this up. We'd appreciate 2 weeks' notice.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE





RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

This month we will celebrate Chanukah, a time to rejoice in the miracle of defeating our enemies, but also it is about the miracle of finding enough light to sustain us through the darkest of moments.

We can sometimes feel like we are in a state of exceedingly pervasive darkness. We are facing a rise in antisemitism, we are watching wars happen all over the globe. We have two options: We can hide our heads in the sand and ignore the problem or we can be a beacon of light to all who need it. (The third option, fighting with strangers on the internet, should never be a viable alternative.) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr is quoted as saying "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that".

That is the essence of Chanukah. With our light, we will squash the darkness. With our candles, with our hope, we will remove the darkness from our days. While we light the Chanukah candles, we proclaim that we will not succumb to the darkness and the evil that surrounds us. The menorah reminds us that we cannot do it alone. We are expected to show the world our lit menorah. We are supposed to place the lights in our windows, to show that we are not alone in expelling the darkness. This holiday, we are reminded that we should shine our light outward, to increase the light in our lives and in our hearts. Darkness can often feel all encompassing, but we can overcome it. Bring light into your life, spread your light around.

While shopping for gifts, try to support Israeli businesses. Donate to organizations that continue to spread the light such as the FIDF, or the ADL. Spend time cultivating the light. Share your time with those around you. If you notice that you cannot find the light. Reach out. We have enough light for everyone.

I wish you a Chanukah filled with light, love, and latkes!

Sheryl Gordon,

Religious School Director

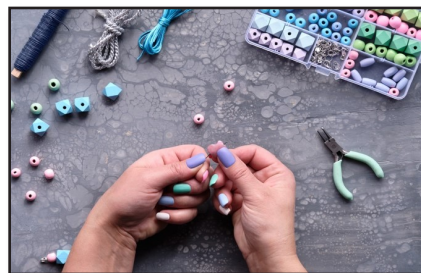
SISTERHOOD Presents

BEAD AWAY YOUR WINTER BLUES



Our very own Carol Meyerson will do a workshop teaching all of us how to create a unique, one-of-a-kind memory wire wrap bracelet! Choose your own colors, style of beads, and make a 2 or 3 strand bracelet.

Date: January 8, 2024
Time: 7 - 9 pm
Temple Kiddush Lounge
Cost: \$5.00 for materials (cash)



Makes a great gift for yourself or for a friend.

Snacks will be provided.

RSVP please by Friday, December 29

Joyce - joycerappaport13@gmail.com

Ronni - rfauci@gmail.com



TBT Junior Players Present



2900 Jerusalem Ave Wantagh, New York 11793
516-221-2370



Ticket Reservations

Advanced Ticket Sales

- Pay by Credit Card
- Purchase tickets online
- Buy Tickets Here



Bring / Send Check to Temple

- Pay by Check
- Complete the form below
- Enclose check payable to

*Temple B'nai Torah
2900 Jerusalem Ave
Wantagh, NY 11793*

Attn: "TBT Junior Show"

Buy Tickets at Door

- Pay by Cash ONLY

Enclosed is check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ for the tickets indicated below:

Saturday,	Dec 9 th @ 7:00 PM	_____	Adults:	\$20 each
		_____	Seniors (65 and older):	\$15 each
		_____	Youth (18 and younger):	\$10 each
Saturday,	Dec 16 th @ 7:00 PM	_____	Adults:	\$20 each
		_____	Seniors (65 and older):	\$15 each
		_____	Youth (18 and younger):	\$10 each
Sunday,	Dec 17 th @ 2:00 PM	_____	Adults:	\$20 each
		_____	Seniors (65 and older):	\$15 each
		_____	Youth (18 and younger):	\$10 each
Sunday,	Dec 17 th @ 6:00 PM	_____	Adults:	\$20 each
		_____	Seniors (65 and older):	\$15 each
		_____	Youth (18 and younger):	\$10 each

Print Name: _____
Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

For questions or information, contact Lori Waiting at TBTjuniorplayers@tbtwantagh.org.



Chai Club Program

Rockin' TV: From Elvis to the Monkees!

Chai Club

Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm on ZOOM



Join us as Brian Rose tells us how beginning in the mid-1950s, rock music found a surprising home on mainstream television. Programs hosted by Milton Berle, Steve Allen, and Ed Sullivan featured a wide variety of musicians including Bill Haley & the Comets, Fats Domino, Buddy Holly, and Elvis Presley, who appeared on all three shows to an electrifying response. Afternoon dance programs like *American Bandstand* played a role as well in bringing rock to large and eager teenage audiences. Then, in 1964, the appearance of the Beatles on *The Ed Sullivan Show* would change the face of pop culture, leading to an explosion of televised rock, from prime-time rock variety shows like *Shindig* and *Hullabaloo*, to the sitcom rock antics of *The Monkees*, and the jubilant renewal of Elvis Presley in the “Comeback Special” of 1968. *This is a 60-minute program.*

We will also celebrate December birthdays.

Delicious desserts will be served (at your own home)!

Questions? Call Jay Schoenberg at (516) 476-0989 or

email him at jaydiane@yahoo.com

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3780366300?pwd=dXVKcE9yRzlhQk5ZVExqeUFnTmgvZz09>

Meeting ID: 378 036 6300 Password: 465021



MAZEL TOV TO...

Joni & Steven Christie on the birth of their grandson, Meyer Wan on October 30. Proud parents, Anna Wan and Brandon Christie. They live in Austin, Texas.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

December is a month that brings to us thoughts of family, gathering and overeating. It is the month that makes us think of the winter holiday Chanukah. I hope to see you at the Chanukah brunch (Dec 10) and the candle lighting service (Dec 8). But it is also the holiday season for many religions. Christians celebrate Christmas. Buddhists celebrate Enlightenment. African Americans celebrate Kwanzaa. British people celebrate Boxing Day. Seinfeld fans celebrate Festivus (for the rest of us). What December reminds me of is that we can all celebrate anyway we like, anything we would like, as long as we do not bother our neighbors. We can live in peace. With what is happening in Israel, I can't understand how neighbors cannot live peacefully with their neighbors. And for the most part in Israel, most neighbors live peacefully regardless of race or religion. But not Hamas terrorists. Hamas attacked, killed, took hostage and harmed innocent people. We cannot stand by and allow this to happen in our homeland. Please support Israel in any way that you can. Put on your growing to do list reaching out to others and seeing how they are doing and how they are dealing with what is happening in the world around us. Let us live in peace!

As President, I am asked a lot of questions, and I'd like to use my articles to answer some of them when I can. One of the questions that I am asked on a regular basis is how is the Presidency treating you? And I have to say that it is difficult and time consuming, but it is also rewarding. I believe that I had a partial understanding of what is involved in running the Temple, but learn more each day. I am really lucky to have those that I can reach out to when I need help.

Another question that I am asked is how the Rabbi's and Cantor's discretionary funds can be used. There are guidelines from the professional organizations as to what the funds can be used for. Please feel comfortable that the discretionary funds are owned by the Temple with direction by the Rabbi and Cantor. The funds cannot be used for them or their families personally. The funds can be used for needy congregants or individuals; to support educational programs and speakers; books, materials and assets that are property of the Temple and remain with the Temple; and costs to host the Board or speakers that visit the Temple. At the end of the clergy's tenure, the funds remain with the Temple.

In my family, the question I am asked most is how much have you cried so far since they know that I am sensitive? I can honestly say that I have not cried too often yet! Thank you all! Please – if anyone has any questions, do reach out to me. I will try to find answers and solutions or reason why it is not the best practice.

May each day of Chanukah get brighter and brighter for you and your family. May you enjoy peace. May you feel love. May you savor latkes and fried donuts. May you be enlightened. May you know blessings.

Happy Chanukah from our house to yours,
Amy Neidle



*During the cold winter months
there are many who need*

Winter Coats & Accessories

November 1 - February 28

Please donate new, newly dry cleaned or very gently used winter coats, hats, scarves, gloves, warm socks (new only), hand and toe warmers to help keep children, teens & adults warm this winter

Donations will be delivered to a variety of agencies including, but not limited to, LWS Advocacy Services, Family and Children's Association and the Interfaith Nutrition Network



For information contact Rona Kauffman at ronakauffman@yahoo.com



SISTERHOOD NEWS

If it's December, it must be Hanukkah! Or is it Chanuka? Hannukka?? However you spell it, please be sure to stop by our sale in the Temple lobby on Sunday morning, December 3, from 9-12. Lots of new and unique items will be available for family, friends or even yourself.

Thank you to everyone who purchased pies from our Thanksgiving Pie Sale. We appreciate your support and hope that the pies made your holiday a little more special. They were so good; doesn't it make you wish we sold them for every holiday? Hopefully you planned ahead and saved one to have with your latkes.

We continue to collect new and gently used bras for our yearlong collection for **I Support the Girls**, an organization that provides bras to women who are in situations where they are unable to acquire this most basic item for themselves. Please give them to me or Rona anytime you see us at the Temple. We will be making our first donation of what we have collected to date later this month. Thanks to all who have generously donated already.

We have made multiple donations, each of which has been matched, to organizations that are supporting Israel during this difficult time. We pray that by the time you are reading this the hostages have all been released and that peace has returned to the region.

Wishing you and your families a Hanukkah (my preferred spelling!) filled with love and light!

See you around the Temple,

Helaine





BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Hello My Fellow Congregants,

Hope all is going well. I would like to reiterate that the Brotherhood Paid-Up Membership dinner was awesome with a huge turnout. Food was delicious, the socializing was even better and the updated Brotherhood Constitution was overwhelmingly passed. A BIG thanks to Vic Wurtzel and his staff for the diligent work. What can I say? Another great job done by the Brotherhood for the November Temple breakfast that had a huge turnout. A Big thanks to Ben and Sharon Cernese for running a successful flea market and to all the Brotherhood members who showed up and helped. Thank you to Sisterhood who provided food and drinks for the vendors and attendees.

Brotherhood will once again, as a fundraiser, have a wine and spirits sale for Passover. As Brotherhood President I want to wish all my Brotherhood members and Temple members a Healthy & Happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,
Eric Altman
Brotherhood President



Holiday Gift Drive

November 21 - December 21, 2023
Donations made by Dec. 1
will be delivered in time for Chanukah Gift Giving

Ways to Donate:

We are collecting unwrapped toys (no gun or war toys, please), games, art supplies, journals, sports equipment as well as new hats, gloves, socks, jackets, winter boots, etc. Unwrapped donations can be dropped off in the collection box in the TBT Lobby.

Gift cards in envelopes labeled SA/SJ Holiday Gift Drive can be mailed to TBT or brought to the TBT office during office hours.

Donations will be delivered to a variety of local agencies serving the needs of children, adolescents and families.

For information contact Rona at ronakauffman@yahoo.com.



WOULD YOU LIKE A BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, TRAVEL, etc., BLESSING?

You can arrange for a blessing for any Friday night.

Call the Temple office - 516.221.2370

Square & Line Dance

Saturday, January 27, 2024

Hot Buffet Dinner at 6:30pm
Catered Event/ Desserts & Coffee
Snacks & Soda all evening.
Caller: Mario Fiore



Mario will call the Square Dances & include
Line Dancing throughout the evening.
\$36 per person

Raffles 50/50

Bring Your Friends! Reservations limited

Any Questions? Call Joan & Brian (516) 781-4966

email:bellobl@gmail.com

Fundraising event supported by Sisterhood, Brotherhood,
Chai Club, Circle of Friends, and TBT PTA

Please return tear-off by January 21, 2024

Contact: _____ Phone # _____

Please write names & e-mail addresses of all attendees on the back of this form.

How many? _____ How many dancing? _____

Try to seat us with _____

Enclosed, please find a check for \$_____ (made out to Temple B'nai Torah)

Send to: Square & Line Dance, Temple B'nai Torah Attn: Joan & Brian
2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793





TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH
CASH CALENDAR

**BUY A 3-DIGIT NUMBER(S) FROM 000 TO 999 FOR ONLY \$18
FROM TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH**

**YOU GET 365 CHANCES TO WIN!
ONE CHANCE FOR EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR!**

**EACH TIME YOUR NUMBER MATCHES THE DAILY EVENING "PICK-3" NUMBER, YOU WIN \$18.
IF YOUR NUMBER MATCHES ON ONE OF THE 4 BONUS DAYS, YOU WIN \$36:**

**NEW YEAR'S DAY - 1/1; PURIM - 3/24; FOURTH OF JULY - 7/4;
THANKSGIVING - 11/28**

**CHOOSE YOUR NUMBERS, AND WE WILL DO THE REST!
EACH NUMBER WILL ONLY BE SOLD TWICE (TO 2 PEOPLE).**

**SHOULD A NUMBER BE CHOSEN MORE THAN TWICE,
WE WILL LET YOU KNOW SO YOU CAN PICK ANOTHER NUMBER**

**TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH WILL TRACK THE WINNERS AND CHECKS WILL BE
ISSUED AFTER THE LAST CALENDAR DAY OF THE MONTH.**

.....
Checks will be mailed to the address provided by each participant.

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS TO MAIL CHECK: _____

3-DIGIT PICK-3 NUMBERS: _____

All proceeds to benefit Temple B'nai Torah

516-221-2370





CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Happy Hanukkah and Happy Holidays! Circle of Friends is busy too with a full calendar of events. We are enjoying the friendships around us at this horrible time in the world. We will be celebrating the holidays at Ben's. We are so excited to celebrate the holidays and eat the good food there. In January, we will be hosting an online zoom program about how to get discounts to Broadway Shows. Details will be coming out in a flyer soon. Spring will be here before you know it and we will have so many activities planned for all ages to get you out and exploring. Can't wait!! We both wish you a wonderful holiday season and may your candles always shine bright. Join Circle of Friends to make everlasting friendships.

Peace and Love,
Esther and Joni



Temple B'nai Torah Sisterhood Needs Your Order

Attention All
Mah Jongg Players



Now is the time for you, your friends, and neighbors to order your
2024 Mah Jongg cards.

Sisterhood receives a donation from the National Mah Jongg League for every order.

Complete your order form and return it with your check made out to:

Temple B'nai Torah Sisterhood and mail it to:

Lynne Happes
3679 Libby Lane
Wantagh, NY 11793

Deadline: December 31, 2023

For more information, call Lynne at (516) 735-8162 or E-mail mnmom10@aol.com

To order by mail, just include the following information:

Number of 2024 Mah Jongg cards wanted:

_____ Small Print @ \$14.00
_____ Large Print @ \$15.00

Total number ordered: _____, Amount and Check number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address _____



YOUTH GROUP

Hello! The fall has been an amazing time for the Youth Groups at Temple B'nai Torah. We are seeing record numbers at all meetings and events. We laugh, we learn, we have a great time. If you are in grades 5-12 and are not coming to Youth Group events, you are missing out. If you are interested in learning about Youth Group and getting on the mailing list please send your information to MDerwin@TBTWantagh.org.

The members of BNTY had a bake sale to collect money for Israel. So many members of BNTY, BNTY JR, MNTY, and their parents, baked wonderful treats. We collected close to \$500 which will be matched (Thank you, Stephanie Giwner) and sent to Israel. We will do this again in the Spring!

BNTY's meetings, included the wonderful Rachel Minkowsky, speaking with the kids about their upcoming college experiences. We also created newspaper chairs and had a really tough trivia contest. You never know what will happen at our meetings.

Watch for information about our upcoming Chanukah parties and our yearly Mystery Maccabee. Both are always a good time!

Stay warm!
Mark Derwin
Youth Director



Bakesale



College Talk



QZAR



QZAR



QZAR

~HAVE YOU READ TEMPLE'S MISSION STATEMENT?~

~DID YOU KNOW WE HAD A MISSION STATEMENT?~

HERE IT IS FOR YOU TO READ, IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE VALUES THAT OUR HOLY CONGREGATION HOLDS IN HIGH ESTEEM.

Temple B'nai Torah is a diverse caring congregation that embraces a progressive and inclusive vision of Reform Judaism through worship, study of Torah and righteous deeds. We are creating a multi-generational home in our region by staying connected to our roots, as well as offering spiritual enrichment, Jewish education and community engagement.



PTA UPDATES

Shalom, PTA Families,

Oddly, December is going to be a mostly quiet month for PTA—at least the second half will be. The first half is a flurry of activity.

First, our December PTA meeting will be Sunday, December 2, at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Lounge. Bring your coffee, wear your pajamas, we don't care. We just want to spend some time with you.

Then the next Sunday, December 10, is this year's Chanukah Brunch (Day 3 of Chanukah). At this moment, it's too late to score a reservation (and unfortunately, we can't accept walk-ins), but if you have any items you would like to donate to our Chanukah Auction, please reach out to Ilene Hellman at ilenetbt@gmail.com.

We hope you will have a peaceful and rejuvenating holiday school break, and when we come back in January we will have details on our Pizza, Prayers, and PJs Game Night event for grades 5-12; our Adult Challah Bake; the return of our Pickle Me Pete fundraiser; and a chance to volunteer to help with the Religious School's Tu Bishvat Seders.

Happy Chanukah!

Laurel Klein

Past President/VP of Communications

TBT PTA

Join us for the annual
Temple B'nai Torah
Chanukah

MENORAH LIGHTING

Friday,
December 8th at 7:15 pm

Bring your Menorah, and 3 Candles.
We will say the blessings, light our Chanukiyah
and sing songs with our Choirs.

After Services,
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for All!



Temple B'nai Torah 2900 Jerusalem Ave, Wantagh 516-221-2370





SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

Happy Chanukah from the entire Social Action/Social Justice Committee!

Chanukah provides many opportunities to consider social justice themes and ways to become more involved in social action initiatives. If you are looking for ways to incorporate social action themes into your Chanukah celebrations and to encourage your children's participation in social action and social justice, see Kveller's article at <https://www.kveller.com/article/8-ways-to-raise-budding-social-justice-activists-this-hanukkah/>

Winter Coats and Accessories Collection continues through February. Suggested items include: new or gently used coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves, gloves, boots and children's winter pajamas. Several agencies serving individuals and families in need will be receiving items collected. We thank you in advance for your ongoing generosity.

Speaking of generosity, our annual **Frozen Turkey Drive** last month made it possible for many families who otherwise would have been struggling for the Thanksgiving Holiday, to prepare a special family dinner celebration. Again, thank you!

Our annual **Holiday Gift Drive** has also begun and runs through December 21. See the flyer in this issue for suggestions on what to donate. Items can be dropped off in the collection box in the temple lobby or you can bring them with you when you come to PTA's wonderful Chanukah Brunch on Dec. 10.

This can be a difficult time for families struggling with financial stresses. If you are in need of support and could benefit from any of the above initiatives, please let Rabbi Bar-Nahum know and strictly confidential arrangements will be made.

Our **Jewish Climate Leadership Coalition (Adamah)** subcommittee has been busy meeting with administration and select temple committees to help TBT put together its Climate Action Plan for 2024. The plan will report on climate actions already taken as well as those we hope to institute in the future.

The Garden at TBT offered garden themed items for sale at the **Vendors' Fair on Nov. 27**. Thank you for visiting our table and supporting the garden.

The 2023 growing season has ended and our beds are tucked in for the winter. Watch for announcements of a mid-winter meeting and our re-opening in March 2024!

By now we hope you have heard about Kulanu, a program developed through the ADL to address the problems of rising anti-semitism. SA/SJ, PTA and Religious Education are continuing to work together to offer meaningful programming and support through the year. Stay tuned for details about upcoming program offerings.

While you are reaching out to help others, remember the importance of self-care: Do your mental health check this month and let someone know if you are in need of any support.

We always welcome new members and welcome your input! *Our next meeting will be*
Wednesday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m. (on ZOOM) For information about SA/SJ, the Garden at TBT, or any of our projects, contact Rona at: ronakauffman@yahoo.com or Jason at jaynew4@gmail.com



CHAI CLUB NEWS

The Chai Club played such an important role in Janis and I becoming friends by providing the common ground we needed to bond. That common ground is the stage of life we are in and what she and I also share with all other members of the Chai Club.

Chai Club gathers those who are interested in learning about varied topics, current and past, who share memories of the same music and entertainment. Chai Club members have compassion for those who live alone, understanding for those who are experiencing health issues, and excitement for those who are celebrating birthdays with big numbers. Most importantly, we give many of TBT's older congregants opportunities to step out of their homes and be with their friends. Chai Club makes sure that the more senior members of our congregation are honored and cherished for their past and continuing accomplishments and contributions. It is mostly Chai Club members, who volunteer at Bingo and show up for regular Erev Shabbat Services with their Chai Club friends, but believe me, Chai Club is not cliquish. I remember my first Chai Club dinner, sitting with a lovely, welcoming group of people who wanted to get to know me and share stories about themselves. Janis and I truly treasure the members of the Chai Club of which, I'm told, there are 150.

Chai Club also shares a love of Israel. If you ask them, many have traveled there, have family who live there and through the years have supported Israel through donations and Israeli bonds. Unfortunately, right now we are all experiencing the heartache of an attack on the Jewish citizens of Israel with Jewish hostages taken to Gaza. We are all being bombarded with news of both support of Israel and antisemitism. Please be cognizant of the horrific personal memories this must have reawakened for some of our Chai Club members. Many of our members grew up when antisemitism was rampant in the world and find themselves reliving that horror. They have personal memories of the Shoah or heard stories from parents and grandparents who were lucky to survive it. We all could use an outlet to talk through how this terror attack has affected us. Sometimes talking and sharing your thoughts with others helps to get through a tragedy.

To this end, Chai Club had a program with Rabbi Bar-Nahum on Sunday November 19th that was an open forum discussion about what is happening in Israel and how it affects each of us.

Janis, the Chai Club membership, and I pray for peace in Israel, at home and for the rest of the world. Shalom.

Janis and Judy

Membership Dinner



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Contact our Membership Team at membership@tbtwantagh.org
for More Information

Temple Membership is not required to participate in our social activities



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Uniongrams



PLEASE NOTE: Due to privacy concerns, Uniongrams published on the Scroll, in the Voice or in the lobby flyer rack will no longer carry birth or anniversary dates. Any concerns, please reach out to Ellice at: ellice823@yahoo.com or 516-987-0693. Thank you as always for your continued support!

JOIN US IN WISHING A JANUARY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Jennifer Brown	Michael Rosenfeld	Jason Broder	Leslie Feder
Adam Lorenz	Jack Zuckerman	Jeremy Gorman	Rob Saunders
Elyss Schwartz	Steven Langenthal	Laurence Brown	Edward Muro
Sheryl Goldstein	Karen Liebovitz	Sheldon Amin	Mark Plavin
Les Kule	David Eisner	Jeremy Taffel	Richard Langsam
Esther Phillips	George Jacobi	Ira Salzman	Aviva Jiran
Marvin Berg	Heidi Singer	Sheila Konsker	Norman Levinsohn
Diane Lewis	Jennifer Lew	Maxine Jacobs	Stephen Block
Stephen Ettinger	Irina Gershengoren	Paul Rosen	Larry Rosenzweig
Jeff Brody	Marcia Bernstein	Janet Goldstein	George Bernstein
Leslie Ashinoff	Geoffrey Asofsky	Michael Steinman	Judy Kule
Michael Tumbarello	Gerard Ferrara	Susan Beller	Ellen Berman
Lynne Happes	Matthew Novet	Steven Cooperberg	Amy Neidle
George Ays	Joyce Ogradnik	John Castellvi	
Allan Cohen	Jodi Luce	Jeremy Sessler	

JOIN US IN WISHING A JANUARY HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Elyse and Jonathon Loew	Marni and Dennis Cashton
Arlene and Harvey Weber	Irina and Albert Gershengoren
Rosalyn and Howard Walowitz	Laurie and Gerald Gononsky
Barbara and Jerome Hirschhorn	

To send your wishes, circle the names of those you wish to send a uniongram. Please sign greeting as you would like it to appear. Leave list in the temple office box designated “**UNIONGRAMS**”, or mail to: Ellice Toscano @ 3655 Woodbine Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793. Make check payable to: **TBT SISTERHOOD**.

ALL LISTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 20TH, OR REQUEST CANNOT BE PROCESSED.

Number of Uniongrams @ \$1.25 each _____

Sign as: _____



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www.temple-bnai-torah.org

The following is a list of the children who will be celebrating their Bar/Bat/Bet Mitzvah **Jan. 20, 2024** through **March 30, 2024**. Circle the names of those to whom you would like to send congratulations and PRINT your name and SHORT sentiment as you want it to appear on the Uniongrams. Please return the list promptly with **\$1.25** for each Uniongram made payable to **TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH SISTERHOOD** and **MAIL** to **Marlyn Appelt, 31 Hark Lane, Westbury, NY 11590** at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CHILD'S NAME</u>	<u>PARENTS</u>
Jan. 20	Jessica Wolken	Brian & Deborah
Jan. 27	Jordan Waiting	Paul & Lori
Feb. 3	Alexis Levine	Robert & Jun
Feb. 10	Brian Goldstein	Michael & Elise
Mar. 9	Hollie Werner	Brian & Bevin
Mar. 16	Macey Cataldo	Rob & Bonnie
Mar. 30	Hannah Synder	Jonathan & Melissa

_____ Uniongrams @ 1.25each _____

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PLEASE NOTE: All uniongrams requested must be submitted TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE, either by mail or left in the Uniongram box in the Temple office. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN MAIL BOX. We cannot be responsible for lost money.



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In memory of:

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Al Litwin from Joyce Zimmerman

9/11 from The Chai Club

In appreciation of:

Rabbi performing Auf Ruf for Brandon & Arielle from Claudia & Jeffrey Shavelson

Rabbi performing Auf Ruf for Daniel & Tina from Marty & Carol Drucker

Rabbi's prayers of healing for Laurie Mermelstein from Joyce

Rappaport **Rabbi Lowenberg officiating at the funeral of Carol**

Silverman from Jeffrey Silverman

Rabbi performing the baby naming of Layla Ogundele from Susan Rosenthal

Rabbi performing the funeral of Sheila Siegel from Sandy Siegel & Shana Weber

Rabbi performing the Bar Mitzvah of Myles Bar-Nahum from Gil Bar-Nahum & Olga Pantelyat

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND:

In honor of:

Granddaughter Layla's baby naming from Susan Rosenthal

In appreciation of:

Funeral for Rhoda Schwartz from Sandra Baer & Judith Schwartz

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In honor of:

Robin Schwartz & Beth Trugman from Michael Schwartz

Jan Friedman from Judy & Gary Adler

Birth of Jemma Rose, granddaughter of Andrea & Mark Chanzis from Sheree Frank

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Bar Nahum from Melanie & Dan Bessel

In memory of:

Leonard Young from Lori Kotkin

Naomi Weinberg from Judy & Gary Adler

Joyce Bartick from Amy & Dan Neidle

Charles Herbert from Marc Herbert

SOCIAL ACTION FUND & GARDEN FUND

In memory of:

Rhoda Shubin from The Shubin Family

Jay Eiten from David Eiten

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In memory of:

Sue Beller from Janis & Jim Beldner

In honor of:

Janis & James Beldner's 50th Anniversary from Marlyn Appelt

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In memory of:

Susan Beller from Jan & Stan Friedman

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In memory of:

Sue Beller from Brian & Joan Levy

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In memory of:

Etheline Gibson from Karen Liebovitz

In appreciation of:

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of:

Emanuel Lubin from Stan Brosowsky

GENERAL FUND

In memory of:

Herbert Sussman from Ruth Sussman

In honor of:

Ari Schnitzer becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Barbara & Robert Schnitzer

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

In memory of:

Leonard Young from Adrienne Robb Fund, Jay Fund, Edward & Susan Robb & Families

Sally Evans from Jan & Stan Friedman

HARVEY BELLER FUND

In memory of

Irwin Walowitz from Howard Walowitz

Susan Beller from Susan Beller

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In honor of

Ari Schnitzer becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Ellen & Jeff Kraut

Emily Giwner becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Ellen & Jeff Kraut

Lila Minkowsky becoming a Bat Mitzvah from Ellen & Jeff Kraut

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

From Adrienne Robb Fund & Jay Fund

In memory of:

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Robert Robb from Adrienne Robb Fund & Jay Fund

Annette Robb from Adrienne Robb Fund & Jay Fund

ONEG SHABBAT & FLOWER FUND

Bat Mitzvah of Lila Minkowsky from Jeffrey & Rachel Minkowsky

YISKOR ELOHIM:

Susan Beller, wife of Jeff Beller

Stu Kurland, member, husband of Jan Kurland

Joan Smolokoff, mother of Heidi Singer

Etheline Gibson, mother of Karen Liebovitz

Rhoda Schwartz, member





YAHREZEITS



YAHREZEITS:

Marvin Kopelman from Marshall Kopelman
Laurie Greenbaum from Rich Epler
Joseph Alterman from Edward Alterman
Selma Martin from Eugene Martin
Claire Konigsberg from Freyda Kolinsky
Julia Lenoil from Mira Kopelman
Seymour Sactor from Lisa Evans
Jack Cohen from Gail Cohen
Robin Leidner from Marilyn Leidner
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Herbert Feldman from Hannah Feldman
James Drucker from Rita & Harvey Drucker
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Sidney Sol Salberg from Susan Healy
Lillian Tessler from Susan Healy
Sidney Gottlieb from JoAnn & Lloyd Portnoy
Melvyn Ettinger from Stephen Ettinger
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Dave Albert from Harvey Albert
Blossom Kramer from Gloria Kramer

Michael Finkelman from Jody Ratner
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Jack Gallin from Harvey Consor
Elsie Saltzman from Harvey Consor
Amy Greer from Hannah Schrier
Raymond St. George from Yolanda & Ira Friedman
Vivian Rosenthal from Alice Malchick
George Rosenthal from Alice Malchick
Freda Horowitz from Ed Horowitz
Thomas Saccio from Barbara & Russ Carpenter
Gurly Maus from Kathy Kliegman & Tom Maus
Lillian Tessler from Susan Healy
Edythe Shavelson from Jeffrey Shavelson
Ralph Abofsky from Janis & Jim Beldner
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Renee Weber from Amy Weiner
Larry Schulman from Hannah Feldman
Shepard Kurtter from Eugene Goldberg

SPECIAL FUNDS AND DONATIONS

The giving of Tzedakah for a birth, birthday, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, wedding, anniversary, or death is part of our heritage. Your generosity provides for Temple B'nai Torah to sustain programs for our members. An inscribed card is mailed to the person named, acknowledging your gift. We thank you for your donation.

For either the *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund* or *Cantor's Discretionary Fund* or any of the Endowment Funds, please make your check payable to the fund; for all other fund donations, please make your check payable to TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH, 2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793-2025.

Below is an up-to-date list of temple funds. Some funds from all legacy congregations have been combined with Temple Board and family approval.

<i>Adult Education Fund</i>	Funds used to sponsor Adult Ed. Programs.
<i>Adult Library and the Rabbi Deanna Pasternack Children's Library Fund</i>	Funds used for purchases for our library.
<i>Beautification Fund</i>	Funds used for the upkeep of the building & grounds.
<i>Bishop Family B'nai Mitzvah/Religious School Fund</i>	Funds used for Bar/Bat Mitzvah and school programs
<i>Blau (Matthew) Drama Fund</i>	Funds used for the Temple Show (E. Solomon oversees)
<i>Blumenkranz (Fred) Fund</i>	Funds used for the eternal light
<i>Caring/Mitzvah Makers Fund</i>	Funds used by the mitzvah makers.
<i>Chapel Fund</i>	Funds used to beautify/maintain our sanctuary
<i>College Fund</i>	Funds used for our college students to celebrate Jewish holidays via mailings and gifts.
<i>Floral Fund</i>	Funds used for sanctuary flowers.
<i>Friedman Stage Fund</i>	Funds used for the upkeep of the stage.
<i>General Fund/Gift of Love</i>	Funds used for the running of our temple.
<i>Goldblatt Fund for the Disabled</i>	Funds used for adaptive equipment for physically challenged.
<i>Holocaust Education</i>	
<i>Memorial Fund</i>	Funds used to maintain our memorial and Holocaust section of the library and provide special youth scholarships.
<i>Lowell Golden Mail Center Fund</i>	Funds used for mailroom equipment
<i>Music Fund in Memory of Cantor Walter Lewis</i>	Funds used for special musical events.
<i>Past President's Fund</i>	Funds used to purchase plaques for past presidents.
<i>Prayer Book Fund</i>	Funds used to purchase new prayer books.
<i>Rabbi Raab Fund</i>	Funds for youth programs.
<i>School Enrichment</i>	Funds used for Jewish education
<i>Social Action /Social Justice Rosenheck Memorial Fund</i>	Funds used to promote social action and justice
<i>Tallit Fund</i>	Funds used to clean tallit.
<i>Torah Fund</i>	Funds used to pay for repair of religious articles.
<i>Tot Shabbat Fund</i>	Funds used for our tiny tots program

Tzedakah Fund Funds used for Tzedakah.
Youth Activities Com. Fund Funds used for our temple youth.
Weinstein (Bernard) Fund Funds used for Youth/Conclave.

Special Memorial Funds

Judy Bardavid Fund (Gift is given to worthy confirmand)
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 Harvey Beller Fund (Administered by Brotherhood-award to student with most spirit
 and subsidizes students' confirmation trips to Religious Action Center div URJ)
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 Steven Cohen Fund (Temple supplies at the discretion of the Cohen Family)
 Doris and Ed Kliegman Adult Education Fund (Fund used for adult education programs)
 Dr. Pat Kussoy Fund (Fund used for youth camps, particularly the disabled)
 Rose Mandel Holocaust Fund
 Rabbi Raab Fund (Fund used for summer camp scholarships)
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 Yucht Scholarship Fund (Funds used for a gift for a deserving confirmand)
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Stay tuned for details on registration and links



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We are here to lend an ear, provide cheer, and help where there is a need!

If you are in need of a ride, a phone call or some shopping, we are here for you!

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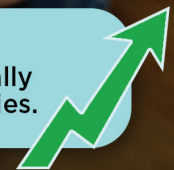
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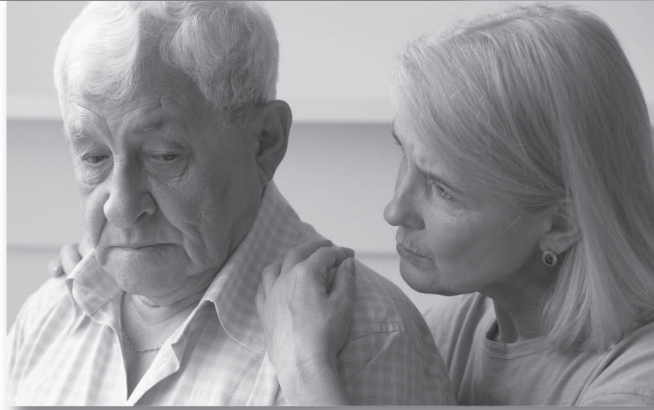
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Mission Statement

Temple B'nai Torah is a diverse caring congregation that embraces a progressive and inclusive vision of Reform Judaism through worship, study of Torah and righteous deeds. We are creating a multi-generational home in our region by staying connected to our roots, as well as offering spiritual enrichment, Jewish education and community engagement.



The TBT
Voice

2900 Jerusalem Avenue
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Address Correction Requested



Candle Lighting



December 2023

December	1	4:11 pm
December	8	4:10 pm
December	15	4:11 pm
December	22	4:14 pm
December	29	4:18 pm

May the light fill your soul with love & peace!
Shabbat Shalom!



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