

 TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH'S
HOEDOWN!

★ SQUARE AND ★
LINE DANCE ★

\$40 PER PERSON

INCLUDES HOT BUFFET DINNER,
SNACKS AND SOFT DRINKS

See Flyer in Rack or on Website
for Sign Up Info!

31 JAN, 2026  6:30 PM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT JONI 516-996-0948
OR BRIAN 516-781-4966 OR BELLOBL@GMAIL.COM

2900 Jerusalem Ave Wantagh, NY 11793

Tu Bi'Shvat Seder
and Shabbat Service
Friday, January 30, 2026
See page 5 for details



Please join us for a
CHALLAH BAKE

A Sisterhood Fundraiser

At Temple B'nai Torah

Sunday, January 18, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Cost: \$18 per person

Bring a 5 pound bag of flour

(Will mix enough dough to make 4 - 5
loaves of Challah)



Please RSVP to Carol Meyerson by Friday, January 9th
tbtssisterhood@temple-bnai-torah.org

We are limited to 40 women, so first come, first served!

See the full flyer in the Scroll and in the rack in the Lobby
2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793

Temple B'nai Torah

has invited a scholar-in-residence,
Ms. Susan Stein to not only study with all each
of our religious school classes, she will also
perform her 1-person play about the life of a
young Jewish Dutch woman:

Etty Hillesum

as gleaned from Etty's diaries written
during World War II.

Please see Rabbi Poticha's article
on Page 3.

Ms. Stein will be scholar-in-residence:

Monday, January 12th
with our 7th grade students and older

Sunday, January 25th
with all of our Sunday students

Monday, January 26th to perform her play:
Etty (beginning at 6:45 pm)

RITUAL CALENDAR – January 2026

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



Friday, January 2	5:30 pm 7:15 pm	TOT SHABBAT (In-Person Only) Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, January 9	7:15 pm	Family Shabbat Service with BTNY - Double credit Iyyun T'filah
Friday, January 16	7:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service with Social Action/Social Justice - Life after Loss - Iyyun T'filah
Friday, January 23	7:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, January 30	7:15pm	Erev Shabbat Service & Tu BiShvat Seder - Iyyun T'filah - In-Person only

February

Friday, February 6	5:30 pm 6:15 pm 7:15 pm	TOT SHABBAT (In-Person Only) Soup Shabbat (SH) Family Shabbat Service with 5th Grade Midrash Presentation - Iyyun T'filah
Saturday, February 7	10:30 am	Shabbat Service Bat Mitzvah of Mira Binckes
Friday, February 13	6:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, February 20	7:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, February 27	7:15 pm	Erev Shabbat Service - Iyyun T'filah
Saturday, February 28	6:30 pm	Purim Spiel and After-Party - Iyyun T'filah

Tu BiShvat Seder/Service

On **Friday, January 30**, please join us for an interactive in-person Seder/Service. On Tu BiShvat we celebrate a New Year for the Trees, rejoicing in the fruit of the trees and the fruit of the vine, and celebrating the gifts of the natural world. This is a highly attended Seder and RSVPs are encouraged to ensure we have food and space for all to partake and enjoy.

RSVP by January 22 to: Ritualcommittee@tbtwantagh.org



KEY: * = On Zoom + = Watch for important information regarding Dinners & Luncheons close to their dates. # At TBT and Facebook Live.

Details for Services can be found on the Scroll and our Website.

Always check the TBT Website/Calendar prior to Services for the most up-to-date information.



Soup Shabbat:

Friday, February 6, 6:15 pm

We'll provide a variety of soups (all will be either meat or pareve) for you to taste or make a meal! Bring your dinner if you like (Kosher-style). Please RSVP to Lisa Shubin by January 30: LFShubin@gmail.com so we can be prepared.

Want to make a soup to share? Contact Lisa by January 23 membership@tbtwantagh.org

PURIM

Saturday, February 28:

Purim Spiel 6:30 pm (Beatles Theme), After-Party follows immediately after

Monday, March 2: Erev Purim Service and Program, 6:30 pm

TORAH STUDY *

January

Saturdays @ 9:30 am
- 01/03, 01/10, 01/17, 01/24, 01/31

Mondays @ 12:00 pm
- 01/05, 01/12, 01/26
(No Torah Study 01/19)

February

Saturdays @ 9:30 am
- 02/07, 02/14, 02/21, 02/28

Mondays @ 12:00 pm
- 02/02, 02/09, 02/23
(No Torah Study 02/16)

* **ALL on Zoom**

(Rabbi Poticha will be filling in for Rabbi Bar-Nahum while he's on sabbatical.)

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Rabbi Janise Poticha



During the Shoah of World War II six million Jewish adults and children were murdered, and millions of others were killed or suffered persecution at the hands of the Nazi campaign of dehumanization and extermination. Their lives and memory teach us the importance not only

of remembering the past but acting in the present to fight antisemitism and hate. The lessons of the Shoah/Holocaust illustrate the dangers of prejudice, discrimination and antisemitism.

The liberation of the Nazi concentration and extermination camps began in Eastern Europe when Soviet troops reached Majdanek, in July 1944. Soon they found many other sites, including Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest and deadliest Nazi extermination camp, which they liberated on January 27, 1945.

British and American troops who were approaching from the west did not reach the concentration camps in Germany until the spring of 1945. They were shocked at the unprecedented nature of the crimes they witnessed, including Jewish concentration camp prisoners on the verge of death, piles of corpses and overwhelming displays of Nazi crimes against humankind.

The Jewish people know the importance of memory. In November 2025, the United Nations General Assembly realized the value of remembering what happened to the Jewish people just because they are Jewish. They adopted a resolution designating 27 January as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The resolution also supports the development of educational programs which memorialize and teach about the Shoah/Holocaust with an eye of preventing genocide in the present and future.

Commemorating International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Temple B'nai Torah has invited a scholar-in-residence, Ms. Susan Stein to not only study with all of our religious school classes, she will also perform her 1-person play about the life of a young Jewish Dutch woman: Etty Hillesum as gleaned from Etty's diaries written during World War II. In these diaries and later, her letters from Westerbork concentration camp, Etty bears witness to what it means to be human and commits herself to a radical choice: not to hate, even as she opens her heart to the horrors unfolding around her. She wrestles to write about the life she is living — her loves, her work, her humor, her spirituality, and her transformation. She was murdered in Auschwitz in 1943 at the age of 29.

In February 1942 she writes: "I really see no other solution than to turn inward and to root out all the rotteness there. I no longer believe that we can change anything in the world until we have first changed ourselves. And that seems to me the only lesson to be learned from this war." Etty asks us not to leave her in Auschwitz but to have "a tiny little bit of a say" in what she hopes will be a new world.

Susan Stein, gifted educator and actress began the Etty Project to not only keep the lessons of Etty Hillesum "alive" but also to teach the lessons of her life through educational programming and theater. Her programming, *Recovering Lost Voices, teaches what happened to Etty (and consequently to millions of other innocents) while fostering empathy and empowering students to see themselves as agents of change.*

Ms. Stein will also perform her play about Etty. Standing on a bare stage, Etty speaks directly to the audience as she wrestles to write about the life she is living. A disarming one-woman play, Etty invites the audience to be part of the intimate struggle to find a freedom within herself as the world closes in around her. The second act invites the audience to join the conversation which Etty begins.

In a time such as this, with the acuteness of antisemitism, Etty speaks to us.

Ms. Stein will be scholar-in-residence:
Monday, 12 January with our 7th grade students and older
Sunday, 25 January with all of our Sunday students
Monday, 26 January to perform her play: Etty.

The performance will begin at 6:45pm. All are welcome and all are invited. You are encouraged to invite your friends and family who are not members of TBT.

The entirety of this unique scholar-on-residence program is free. If you would like to contribute to our continuing ability to offer such important programming contact Rabbi Poticha.

We look to the fortitude of those who came before us for their wisdom, for what they have to teach us and subsequent generations. We are a resilient people.

L'shalom:
Rabbi Poticha

NOTES FROM OUR CANTOR

Cantor Rica Timman



Happy secular New Year!

In the Jewish calendar, as taught in the Mishnah, we actually celebrate four different New Years: Rosh Hashanah on the first of Tishrei, the first day of the month of Nissan, the first day of Elul, and the 15th of Shvat, Tu BiShvat, the "New Year of the Trees."

Tu BiShvat, often called the Jewish Arbor Day, originally marked the early stirrings of spring and served as an agricultural festival. In the 17th century, the mystics of Safed created a special ritual meal inspired by the Passover seder, celebrating God's presence through the fruits of the natural world. Today, communities across the globe continue this tradition with modern Tu BiShvat seders, and the holiday has taken on new life as a time for planting trees in Israel and around the world, often in honor or memory of loved ones.

A Tu BiShvat seder, rich in imagery and symbolism, is commonly divided into four sections representing the four seasons. As with the Passover seder, participants drink four cups of wine or grape juice, this time shifting gradually from white to deep red. These colors evoke the cycle of the seasons: the stillness of winter, the first blush of spring, the blossoms of late spring, and the fullness and warmth of summer.

The traditional seder plate includes fruits and nuts from four symbolic categories: those with inedible shells and edible insides, those with soft outsides and hard pits, those with edible outsides but inedible cores, and those that are fully edible. Each category reflects different layers of the natural world, and, some say, different ways of being human.

Here at TBT, we are excited to celebrate Tu BiShvat together this month! We will gather for our combined **Shabbat/Tu BiShvat Seder and Service on Friday, January 30th at 7:15 PM** in the social hall. We'll sit together at tables filled with the fruits, nuts, and symbolic elements of the holiday, enjoying a meaningful and delicious evening that blends Shabbat's peace with Tu BiShvat's renewal. The following week our Religious School will hold their Tu BiShvat seders on **Wednesday, February 4th**.

Please keep an eye on the *TBT Scroll* for the latest updates, including how to reserve your place for the Shabbat/Tu BiShvat Seder and Service.

We look forward to celebrating this New Year of the Trees with you, and to sharing all of our Jewish New Years together in health and joy!

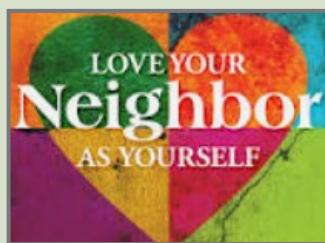
With blessings,
Cantor Rica Timman

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

AT ST. FRANCES DE CHANTAL

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF WANTAGH





Join us for a Tu BiShvat Seder/
Shabbat Service

Friday, January 30, 2026, 7:15 p.m.
~ in-person at TBT only ~

On Tu BiShvat we celebrate a New Year for the Trees, rejoicing in the fruit of the tree and the fruit of the vine, and celebrating the gifts of the natural world.

KNOW YOU ARE COMING?

RSVP BY 1/22/26 TO RITUALCOMMITTEE@TBTWANTAGH.ORG

THIS IS A HIGHLY ATTENDED INTERACTIVE SEDER AND RSVP'S ARE ENCOURAGED TO ENSURE FOOD AND SPACE FOR ALL



BE A MITZVAH MAKER!

~ Donate to one of our youth scholarship funds ~

These funds will help our youth be able to attend programs outside of our religious school, such as summer camp and conclaves.

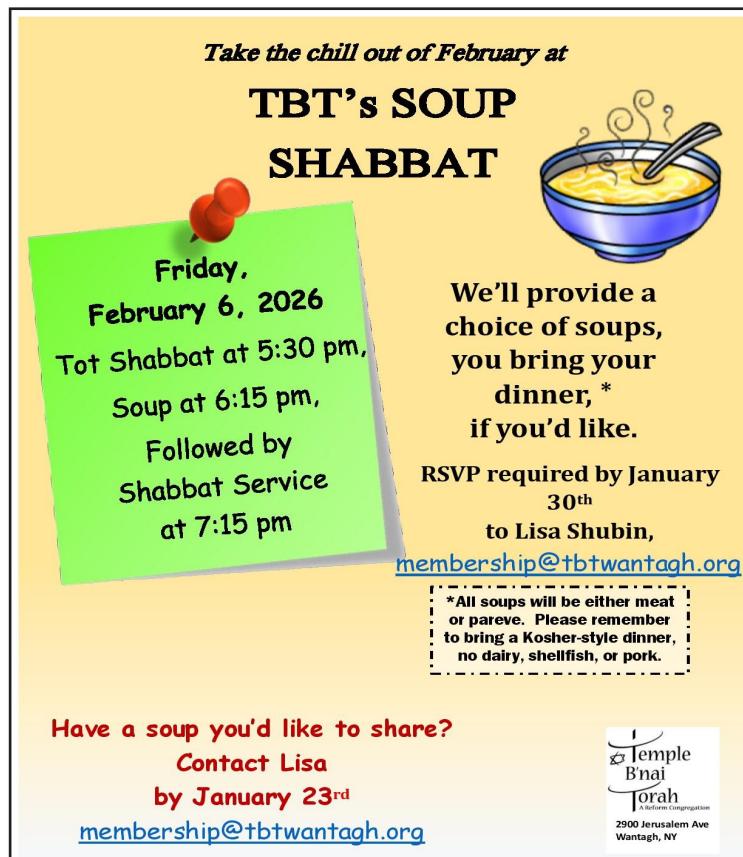
Call the temple office 516-221-2370 to make your donation to any of the following funds:

YAC, Robert Raab Fund, Bernard Weinstein Fund, Patty Kussoy Fund, Scherzer Fund.

On behalf of our children, we thank you for your generous donation!

Temple B'nai Torah 2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793

Donations can also be made on our website: <https://tbtwantagh.org/donations-2/>



Take the chill out of February at

TBT's SOUP SHABBAT

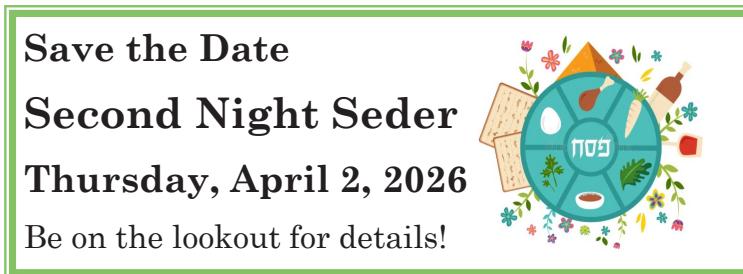
Friday, February 6, 2026

Tot Shabbat at 5:30 pm,
Soup at 6:15 pm,
Followed by
Shabbat Service
at 7:15 pm

We'll provide a choice of soups, you bring your dinner, * if you'd like.

RSVP required by January 30th to Lisa Shubin, membership@tbtwantagh.org

*All soups will be either meat or pareve. Please remember to bring a Kosher-style dinner, no dairy, shellfish, or pork.



Save the Date

Second Night Seder

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Be on the lookout for details!



B I N G O

NEEDS YOU!!

Did you know that Bingo is our biggest fundraising effort?

The Bingo Team is looking for Volunteers for the Wednesday Afternoon and Thursday Night Games

Volunteer for an hour or two, or become a "regular." There is a job for every level of time commitment!

For more information, reach out to Judy Kule at judykule@gmail.com or Call the TBT Office



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

The start of the new secular year has a very different feeling than the start of the Jewish Year. The calendar changes, the pages are flipped. As a community we have an opportunity to embrace a clean slate, to set intentions for the coming year. We have a chance to embrace the “New Year, New You” mindset. We can use this to be physically healthier, eat better, exercise more, but we should also use this chance to be mentally better.

Every day is an opportunity to be kinder, to commit to taking care of others, enriching our Jewish lives and those around us. Use this turning of the page to acquire knowledge, to connect to community and tradition.

This month, every Erev Shabbat offers a special opportunity to connect. We'll be honoring BNTY, our Youth Group, as well as our Social Action/Social Justice warriors, and finally, join us for our annual Tu BiShvat Seder.

This January, let's embrace the new year as a chance to learn, question, and engage. Every lesson, discussion, and discovery is a step toward living a fuller, more meaningful Jewish life.

~ Sheryl Gordon

Congratulations to the Cast & Crew of INTO THE WOODS



Congratulations to the cast and crew of the TBT Junior Players production of *Into the Woods*!!! We were treated to 3 bravura performances on December 6, 7 and 13. Wonderful productions, amazingly talented group of kids!





PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

As we step into January—into a new calendar year and the heart of winter—we find ourselves reflecting on what it

means to belong to a sacred community. The secular new year invites resolutions, fresh intentions, and renewed commitments. For us, it is also a moment to affirm the values that shape our shared spiritual home. At the center of these values is *nedivut*, the Jewish tradition of generosity. *Nedivut* is an openness of heart and a willingness to give freely of oneself, one's time, energy, and spirit, not just money.

A “culture of giving” is not simply about financial support—though that support is vital to sustaining the programs, clergy, staff, and facilities that enable our Temple to flourish. It is, at its core, about cultivating a communal mindset grounded in gratitude, responsibility, and care for one another. When we speak of giving, we mean giving of the heart, giving of time, giving of presence, and giving of spirit.

Throughout our tradition, acts of giving are woven into the fabric of Jewish life. *Tzedakah* teaches us that supporting others is not an act of charity but an expression of justice. *Gemilut Chasadim*, acts of lovingkindness, remind us that every gesture—visiting someone who is ill, welcoming a new member, offering comfort, or volunteering in our social justice initiatives—strengthens the bonds that hold us together. Even the simple act of showing up—at services, at a class, or at a community celebration—contributes to the collective energy that makes our congregation vibrant.

This past year, we witnessed countless examples of generosity within our walls: volunteers who keep our Bingo game thriving, congregants who help those in need, and families who gave of their resources to ensure our community remains strong for generations to come. Each act is a thread, and together they form a beautiful tapestry of commitment and love.

As your co-presidents, we are profoundly grateful. And as we look to the year ahead, we invite every member—longtime, new, and everyone in between—to join us in deepening this culture of giving. Ask yourself: *How can I contribute to the well-being of this community? What gifts of time, talent, or resources can I share? How can I help ensure that our congregation continues to be a place of learning, connection, and spiritual growth?*

The beauty of giving is that it enriches not only the receiver but also the giver. In strengthening our temple, we strengthen our own sense of belonging and purpose. In supporting one another, we honor our heritage and shape our future.

May this new year bring opportunities for generosity, gratitude, and connection. May we continue to build a community rooted in compassion, justice, and joy. And may each of us find meaningful ways to give—and to receive—the blessings of temple life.

Wishing you a year of peace, health, and renewal.

-Alisa and Stephanie



Circle of Friends Ceramics Night

On November 18th, Circle of Friends organized a Ceramics Night at Time Flies studio in Seaford..

The creative energy was flowing as friends sat side by side at long tables painting their creations together. Thanks to Jennifer Schnitzer for organizing this unique night out!





BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Happy New Year!

As we begin a new year, I want to thank all the Brotherhood members who worked so hard on our programs or who attended our programs. You made 2025 a wonderful year!

Many Congregants attended Congregation Breakfasts prepared by Brotherhood members, who get up early on Sunday mornings to prepare these breakfasts. In addition, Brotherhood members work to plan, advertise, and communicate the breakfasts, and shop for the food we prepare. We are planning additional Congregation Breakfasts in 2026.

Our free Brotherhood Paid Up Membership Dinners in May and November were both well attended. We had 56 Brotherhood members attend our November dinner which included a presentation by Peter Schwatz, a WFAN Sports Anchor. We also had two other dinners for our membership last year. We have two additional dinners planned for January 14th and May 20th in 2026 and we will have our annual Passover Program on March 24th, 2026.

Once again, we will have our Passover Wine

Sale in February and March with a wine tasting at the Purim Party on February 28th and wine delivery on March 29th. We are planning a spring tennis or pickle ball tournament. In June, we will have an auction at the Temple with Sisterhood that plans to be our biggest event of the year.

Brotherhood supports our Temple Softball Team. We had a fun BBQ with the Softball Team at Wantagh Park in July after the Softball Team's doubleheader wins. We plan to have another BBQ with the Softball Team in 2026.

Brotherhood also supports various Temple programs throughout the year. Whenever a need arises, Brotherhood is there to help.

We have an exciting year of events planned for Brotherhood in 2026. I look forward to seeing you at our events in 2026!

Once again, Happy New Year!
Victor Wurtzel, Brotherhood President



Thanks to Brotherhood for setting up our Outdoor Chanukiah on 12/4/2025. Pictured: Jimmy LoNigro, Alex Kushnir, Ira Salzman & Vic Wurtzel. Look for photos of all the arms lighting the Chanukiah in the February 2026 TBT Voice.



Antisemitism: Past and Present

Rabbi Poticha's final session about modern manifestations of antisemitism and attempts to combat it

Sunday January 11, 2026 at 10:00am

Please contact us
with any questions:
lifelonglearning@tbtwantagh.org



JOIN US FOR SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE SHABBAT ON

FRIDAY JANUARY 16, 2026 AT 7:15 P.M.

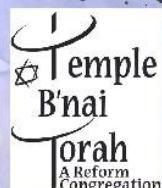
WE WILL BE JOINED BY STEPHANIE DRAINE, FOUNDER OF LIFE AFTER LOSS, A.N.D.R.E AND LEARN HOW PERSONAL LOSS WAS TURNED INTO AN ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY FACING LOSS AND TRAUMA.

AFTER SERVICES, DURING OUR
ONEG, HELP ASSEMBLE COMFORT
PACKAGES FOR THE CLIENTS OF
LIFE AFTER LOSS. A.N.D.R.E.



Questions? Email Rona at
socialaction@tbtwantagh.org

2900 JERUSALEM AVENUE, WANTAGH, NY 11793





SISTERHOOD NEWS

Happy New Year!! Hope this year brings peace, love and joy.

Sisterhood starts the year with a challah bake January 18th. It is a fundraiser and the cost is \$18 and a bag of flour. Please sign up, the event is limited.

Save the Date: March 14th for a Murder Mystery Dinner. It should be so much fun solving the mystery.

Consider helping Sisterhood with an upcoming event. There are so many different events coming up you will make everlasting friendships. Sisterhood is an arm of the temple which helps different Jewish organizations, as well as helping the temple with events, food, and donations.

We also sell trees in Israel. They come with a beautiful certificate and mailing.

Do you play Mahjong? We sell the newest cards. Order from us.

Have a great month. Keep warm and cuddle.

Joni Christie



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

It's happy SNY again. Secular New Year! May our 114 members and their families have a very healthy and successful year.

Our Chanukah Party was very well attended, and everyone enjoyed the food (Catered by Ben's.) Special thanks to Jenn Schnitzer, Joni Christie and their committee who ran another successful program. In addition to our dinner and Chanukah gift swap, we all participated in lighting the final candle on our outdoor TBT Menorah.

We can't wait for Game Night, Saturday, January 17th, for our very popular program that is always an enjoyable night for all. **See the flyer on page 15.** Play Mahjong, Balderdash, Poker, Scrabble or bring your favorite. Members -\$28, non-Members - \$33. Checks required by January 9th, 2026.

It's only a few short months for our June trip to the Argyle Theatre in Babylon, for a professional showing of the Broadway show, **Beautiful**. We will also select one of the fantastic Babylon restaurants for an (optional) dinner after the show. You can still send in a \$10.00 pp refundable check to reserve your Orchestra show tickets.

Regina White Chereskin (rtwctbt@gmail.com) & Joan Levy (sea1983jl@gmail.com)
Co-presidents



Sisterhood Chanukah Sale December 7, 2025





PTA UPDATES

Happy New Year from the PTA!

Looking back on the past year, we are so appreciative for all we have already accomplished and to all of our fantastic members that make it all happen!

In this spirit, we want to start off the first column of the year with appreciation for everyone who helped the PTA make Chanukah festive & bright.

Thank you to everyone who attended our fabulous Chanukah Brunch, to everyone who volunteered in the planning, shopping, creating, cooking, setting up and cleaning up of this festive event.

Thank you to Gregg Wallis for once again being an entertaining MC and keeping the kids engaged.

Thank you to the Brotherhood for donating prizes for the games & to Star of David Memorial Chapel, whose generosity made it possible to purchase spectacular grand prizes for the raffle.

Thank you to Nadine for always offering a helping hand!

Thank you to Amanda Bernstein and all those that created raffle baskets and who asked vendors in our community for their generous donations.

Thank you to our sugar cookie menorah purchasers/ decorators, whose creations will be (if they haven't already) proudly displayed all over Facebook and Instagram AND thank you to each one of you who shopped at Five Below and helped us raise even more funds that will help support our school enrichment!

We were so thrilled to have so many PTA members alongside the religious school students lighting the outdoor menorah on the temple lawn on the 4th night of Chanukah!

We are excited for our next fun event to kick off the new year! On January 24th we will host Pizza, Prayers, and Pajamas Game Night for grades 5-12. It is sure to be a fun night!

Our next meeting is on Sunday, January 11th, at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Lounge. We will be making plans for February's upcoming events - our delicious Pickle Me Pete fundraiser and starting to plan for Family Bingo on March 15th! Stay tuned for details! See you at TBT!

Wendy Shatz & Jessica Katz
TBT PTA Co-Presidents



It was a snowy, yet festive PTA Family Chanukah Brunch on Sunday 12/14. Thanks to Co-Chairs Robin Golub and Heather Lorenz and for TBT Presidents for lighting the menorah and Rabbi Poticha and Cantor Timman for leading us in blessings and song.

PTA Annual Family Chanukah Brunch





CHAI CLUB

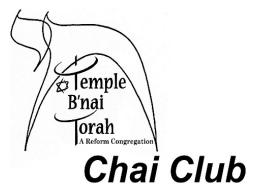
The members of Chai Club extend our Happy New Year wishes to everyone. May 2026 bring good health and happiness to all!!

We have been very busy planning interesting programs for the beginning of the year.

Monday, February 23, 2026 ZOOM 7PM - - we will certainly enjoy 'DICK CLARK'S AMERICAN BANDSTAND. Guaranteed to bring up old memories.

Monday, March 30, 2026 our program in conjunction with Circle of Friends celebrates Women's History Month - at TBT at 7pm, WOMEN OF NEW YORK.

We hope you will join us for the above programs and we look forward to seeing you in March.
Janis and Judy



Social Action/ Social Justice Annual Frozen Turkey Drive

950 pounds of turkey and other Thanksgiving staples, as well as supermarket gift cards were collected on Sunday, November 23rd and distributed to the Wisdom Lane School Pantry, the Interfaith Nutrition Network and Island Harvest in time for Thanksgiving. Thank you to everyone who coordinated and donated to this important effort!



SAVE THE DATE
Annual TBT Blood Drive
In Memory of Alexis Zayas
Sunday, March 22, 2026
At Temple B'nai Torah





Social Action/Social Justice Committee

Happy Secular New Year from the Social Action/Social Justice Committee!

Our **Winter Coat and Accessories Collection** (continuing through February 15) has started out with a wonderful selection of coats, sweaters, scarves, hats and gloves that have already been distributed to those who need these items to stay warm during the winter months. We will be doing monthly sorting and delivery of items collected. Let us know if you are interested in assisting! Thank you to all who have donated, and thank you in advance to those who will.

Our Annual Frozen Turkey Drive was a major success. (950 lbs. of turkeys and Thanksgiving related food items were donated, along with \$200 in store gift cards. Items were delivered to the Wisdom Lane School Pantry, the Interfaith Nutrition Network and Island Harvest. The success of the drive was due to everyone who helped organize, publicize, collect, deliver and especially to all those who so generously donated!!!

Our **Holiday Gift Drive** provided holiday cheer for many local children and families and helped make their holidays special this year. In partnership with the Mid-Island JCC, gifts were delivered to Ohel Children's Home and Family Services in time for Hanukkah. Family and Children's Association, and the P.E.A.C.E. After School Program were additional recipient agencies. Again, thank you!

Our **Climate Action Plan** for 2026 is being finalized and will be submitted to ADAMAH this month.

We have already completed preparations for our Native Plants Demonstration Garden at the corner of Oakfield and Jerusalem Avenues. Thank you to those who donated mulch, their time and their energy to prepare the space. Your efforts will allow the soil to develop over the winter in preparation for new plantings in the Spring. Stay tuned for information about Native Plants programming at TBT.

The Garden at TBT is closed for the winter but we are busy planning for our 7th growing season! Although farms often let fields lay fallow in the 7th year, our emphasis on crop rotation and ongoing soil development allows us to continue using the garden to its fullest. Through the generosity of Island Harvest's Farm program and Cornell Cooperative Extension, we have been approved to participate in an extensive soil testing program, free of charge. The results will help us fine tune our soil management and crop selections for the next growing season. We are extremely grateful and excited for this opportunity. If you think you might be interested in helping when we re-open, join us in-person, at TBT, on Sunday, February 8, 12:00-2:00 pm.

This year's **SA/SJ Shabbat** is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 16. Please join us and learn about what we do. We will be joined by Stephanie Draine, founder of Life after Loss, A.N.D.R.E. who will speak about her organization and how it supports family members who have experienced loss due to gun violence. Then, join us at the Oneg where we will assemble Comfort Packages for the recipients of Life after Loss, A.N.D.R.E.s' services.

Save the Date: We will be hosting our annual **Blood Drive** on Sunday, March 22

We always welcome new members and welcome your input! Our next meeting will be

Wednesday, January 21 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, Jason at jayne4@gmail.com or Jayne at jturtle54@msn.com



Earth Sustainability Tip Series: Help Our Planet Every Month!



January Tip:

Open curtains on the south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat the home, and close them at night to reduce the chill from cold windows.



YOUTH GROUP

Happy New Year from Youth Group!

The year 2025 is racing to a close! There have been so many amazing meetings and events for Youth Group and we have had unbelievable participation! I can only hope that it continues into the new year!

BNTY and BNTY JR combined for 2 great meetings. The first had them dressing up and posing as iconic images. The second had them competing in the Youth Group Olympics. Everyone had a blast and showed off their creativity. Rose and Maddie led an amazing meeting on issues facing our communities today and how teens can get involved. We had very mature conversations about the state of the world. Four of our members went to Texas for the NFTY Collab. They got to meet and have discussions with other Jewish teens from across the country.

MNTY discovered if they would survive the Zombie Apocalypse. Luckily most did. We then made, decorated, and flew wooden airplanes. Their next event is the Ultimate Chanukah Challenge and in January we are going ice skating at Newbridge Rink.

So many of our members participated in Mystery Maccabee. Each youth group member got the name of another youth group member and they had to buy them a nice Chanukah gift. Check our Facebook page to see many of those great gifts.

Sincerely,
Mark Derwin



Above and Left: MNTY, BNTY JR & BNTY at ACTIVATE. Below and right: BNTY JR and BNTY "Iconic Images". Can you figure out the Iconic Images?





GAME NIGHT

January 17, 2026 – 6:30pm

Where -- Temple B'nai Torah



Members: \$28 per person & Non-members: \$33 per person



poker, board games, mah-jongg, balderdash, strategy games, scrabble, card games, etc.

(You May Bring Your Favorite Game)



Snacks, Pizza, Salad, Dessert, Soda, Coffee, Tea

Checks must be in by January 9, 2026

Make out check to: TBT Circle of Friends

Mail to: Temple B'nai Torah Circle of Friends

2900 Jerusalem Ave. Wantagh, N.Y. 11793

QUESTIONS? Contact Jenn - jschnitzer2276@gmail.com

OR Joni – lollipop@optonline.net

_____ cut here _____ _____ Fill Out Form Below and mail with payment _____ _____ cut here _____

Name(s) _____ Check Amount _____ Phone _____

Email _____ # of Members _____ # of Non-Members _____

TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH 2900 Jerusalem Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793 516-221-2370



Mazel Tov to **Evan Parker Walowitz** who graduated **Summa Cum Laude** from **Miami University in Oxford, Ohio** on December 12, 2025. Evan is the **son of Robert and Jennifer Walowitz, grandson of Roz and Howard Walowitz**. The entire family is so proud of Evan, who maintained a 4.0 average every semester of his college career.



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TBT MEMBER?**

**DO YOU WANT TO SHARE THAT
FEELING WITH OTHERS?**

Sign up to be a TBT B'nai Buddy!

"How much time will this require?", you might ask...
As much or as little as you'd like!

Call to introduce yourself to your B'nai Buddy (a new member) and then periodically remind your buddy when different events are happening at the temple that they might be interested in attending. Reach out occasionally to check in and see how your buddy's first year is going.

**CONTACT THE
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
FOR INFO AND TO SIGN UP!**

Membership@temple-bnai-torah.org



Have you heard about TBT's new Young Adult 20's & 30's Program?

- ◆ Open to members of the Jewish community, between the ages of 21-36, and their partners
- ◆ Social programming
- ◆ Low annual temple dues



Temple membership is not required to participate in our social activities

Contact our Membership Committee,
membership@tbtwantagh.org
 for more information

MITZVAH MAKERS

The Mitzvah Makers committee is looking for volunteers to help our members in many varied ways: from rides to phone calls to shopping to bringing cheer.

Please consider joining our team of helpers!

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!

Please contact Mitzvah Makers Amy Neidle at agneidle@gmail.com or 917-734-2575

It feels good to do good!

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-or-

Contact Sisterhood Catering Manager, Laurel Klein at 516-884-6507
TBTLaurel@gmail.com for more information.

The following is a list of the children who will be celebrating their Bar/Bat/Bet Mitzvah **Feb. 7, 2026** through **March 21, 2026**. 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 Marilyn Appelt at Temple B'nai Torah **at least 2 weeks prior to the event.**

DATE	CHILD'S NAME	PARENTS
Feb. 7	Mira Binckes	Jeremy & Jackie
Mar. 7	Eli Levine	Jed & Alyssa
Mar. 14	Leanna Freedland	Jan & Jennifer
Mar. 21	Emily Pasternak	Justin & Jessica
_____ Uniongrams @ 1.25each_____		

PLEASE PRINT _____

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.

Chai Club Program **Dick Clark's American Bandstand** **Monday, February 23, 2026 at 7:00 pm on ZOOM**

Please join us on ZOOM, as Rick Feingold discusses American Bandstand, which originated in 1957 as a five-day-a-week afternoon television show. It featured teenagers dancing to Top 40 records introduced by Dick Clark. This program set in Philadelphia between 1957-1963 features original live Bandstand performances of Rock Around the Clock with Bill Haley and the Comets, Mack the Knife by Bobby Darin, Tears on My Pillow by Little Anthony, Charlie Brown by the Coasters, Great Balls of Fire by Jerry Lee Lewis, Rock 'n Roll is Here to Stay by Danny and the Juniors and more.



All Temple members are invited to this free program!

Questions? Contact Jay Schoenberg at (516) 476-0989
or Email Jaydiane@yahoo.com

ZOOM Meeting ID: 378 036 6300 Password: 465021

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

CASH CALENDAR 2026



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& 1st Night of Chanukah



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after the last calendar day of the Month

Questions: Contact Amy at agneidle@gmail.com

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address for Prize Checks: _____

3 - Digit Pick 3 Numbers : _____

_____ Numbers total x \$18 = \$_____ Enclosed Check #: _____

CONGRATULATIONS!

CASH CALENDAR WINNERS
NOVEMBER

11/2	718	Sharon Weiss
11/7	608	Marla Solomon
	608	Helaine Schnall
11/8	853	David Kaminsky
11/11	201	Dan Neidle
11/16	011	Anony Baroukh
11/22	821	Brian Star
	821	Jordan Leeds
11/29	610	Cindy Talisman



Temple B'nai Torah Judaica Shop

Open Sundays by appointment

For more information

*Contact Maryann
at mtgross68@gmail.com*



TBT Lifelong Learning Announces



Adult Confirmation

Classes will be taught by the clergy and will begin this winter. Dates and times to be determined by the participants' availability.

Basic Hebrew skills will be required.

Priority will be given to those who have not been Confirmed in the past.
The program will culminate with a service on Saturday,

April 10, 2027.

If you are interested or have questions, send an email to lifelonglearning@tbtwantagh.org.





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 HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY TO:

Lisa Steinberg	Michelle Goldstein	Elise Rosen	Alan Smith
Dan Neidle	Jennifer Yorek	Merrill Lehmann	Tracey Ament
Tessa Kean	Rachelle Schnall	Maureen Dominguez	Rachel Falletta
Sandee Horowitz	Elliot Baron	Mark Steinberg	Brandon Weinberg
Phyllis Lubell	Anthony Russo	Marc Weiser	Bernice Albert
Stanley Weckstein	Harvey Albert	Howard Rothstein	Ann Dinstell
Even Katz	Joseph Rubinstein	Cheryl B. Gorman	Leslie Eichen
Jeff Minkowsky	Barry Friedlander	Larry Ross	Morgan Warach
Helen Schnee Giller	Neil Gross	Marc Weisel	Sharon Chernoff
Edward Taub	Ellen LeNoble	Debra Rosenfeld	Susan Fioribello
Jason Altman	Hope Summers	Joy Vincent	Debra Ann Leacock
Eric Hoffman	Tyler Shatesky	Evren Ledbetter	Harvey Consor
Beth Levin	Marc Weiner	Sandra Caracciolo	Stacey Weisel
Gregg Wallis	Norman Ostroff	Jill Tretola	Ira Friedman
Deanna Popeck	Beth Cohen	Alex Friedman	Brad Zomick
Pamela Sabel	Linda Pollack	Carly Salzman	Laura Siegel
Sharon Forman	Andrea Parker	Joshua Levin	Rich Tepper

JOIN US IN WISHING A HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Yvette and Harvey Consor	Ilene and Zane Hellman
Jodi and Luigi Iannucci	Lori and Paul Waiting
Amy and Marc Weiner	Leslie and Emanuel Ashinoff
Vicki and Bernie Deutsch	Lisa and Mark Steinberg
Jennifer and Richard Yorek	Amy and Matt McGrath
Marsha and Allan Seftel	Melissa and Steven Epstein
Deanna and Howard Popeck	

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 JANUARY 20TH, OR REQUEST CANNOT BE PROCESSED.

Number of Uniongrams @ \$1.25 each _____

Sign as: _____



TZEDAKAH



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in appreciation of: **Ava Greenberg's bat mitzvah** from the
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In memory of

Leo Streickler from **Sharon Forman**

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In honor of:

Eileen Schneyman's appointment to NATA Board from
TBT Chai Club

YISKOR ELOHIM:

Ken Feinstein, brother of Mark Feinstein

Howard Zukerman, father of Jodi Luce

Sandra Klein, mother of Adam Klein



YAHRZEITS



Ralph Abofsky from Janis Beldner
Freda Horowitz from Edward Horowitz
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George Rosenthal from Alice Malchick
Vivian Rosenthal from Alice Malchick
Rosemary Lallathin from Diane Lewis
Theodore Wasserstein from Jackie Wasserstein
Bernard Rosenbach from Anne Rosenbach
Richard Drezen from Lori Freeman
Blanche Swawite from David Swawite
Dorothy Newberg from Eileen Newberg
John Wyman from Kathy Kliegman & Tom Maus
Eunice Kliegman from Kathy Kliegman & Tom Maus
Alvin Derwin from Doris Derwin
Esther Derjawitz from Doris Derwin
Sheila Marcus from Doris Derwin
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David Wyetzner from Elaine Wyetzner
Leo Wyetzner from Elaine Wyetzner
Robert Mossack from Elaine Wyetzner
Boris Aronow from Edith Naps
Theodore Emmerman from Phyllis Biernick

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.

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

Torah Fund	Funds used to pay for repair of religious articles
Tot Shabbat Fund	Funds used for our tiny tots' program
Tzedakah Fund	Funds used for Tzedukah.
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)
 Stephen Bigman Fund
 Harvey Beller Fund (Administered by Brotherhood-award to student with most spirit and subsidizes students' confirmation trips to Religious Action Center div URJ)
 Harvey Cohen Fund (Temple supplies at the discretion of the Cohen Family)
 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)
 Scherzer Fund-Youth Fund
 Yucht Scholarship Fund (Funds used for a gift for a deserving confirmand)
 Zelman Fund

Temple B'nai Torah DONATION FORM (Include with your donation.)

Donation \$ _____ Date _____

To (which fund) _____

In Memory of _____

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Name and Address of Donor _____

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BACKYARD PLAYERS &

FRIENDS

LOVE, NANA



Back by Popular Demand!

Sisterhood will continue its Social Action project in support of a non-profit group called **Love, Nana by Backyard Players and Friends**. This group collects new and gently used baby clothes, hats, socks, and shoes up to size 24 months. They also collect small books and baby blankets for this age range (please no toys until further notice). Volunteers transform these donations into gift packages for specific sizes, which are color or theme coordinated and are packed to look new and special. Each includes a card that says "Love, Nana" like you might do for your own grandchild. Packages are distributed to social service agencies for families in need, hospitals and immigrant families.

Love, Nana, is part of Backyard Players and Friends, which provides services to young adults and teens with intellectual disabilities or autism. These individuals volunteer a few times a week to launder, fold and sort the items needed for the Love, Nana packages.

Bring your items when you come to any Sisterhood events throughout the year and we will bring them to Love, Nana's facility in Rockville Centre. If you cannot come to a Sisterhood event and have items you wish to donated, or if you have any questions, contact Rona Kauffman at socialaction@temple-bnai-torah.org.

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Rabbi Daniel Bar-Nahum

Cantor Rica Timman

Rabbi Janise Poticha, Ph.D

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Ext.

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Mission Statement

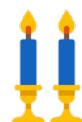
Temple B'nai Torah is a diverse caring congregation that embraces a progressive and inclusive vision of Reform Judaism through worship, study of Torah and righteous deeds. We are creating a multi-generational home in our region by staying connected to our roots, as well as offering spiritual enrichment,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

**The TBT****Voice**2900 Jerusalem Avenue
Wantagh, NY 11793

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**Candle Lighting****January, 2026**

January	2	4:22 pm
January	9	4:29 pm
January	16	4:36 pm
January	23	4:44 pm
January	30	4:53 pm

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