



In Memoriam Rabbi Albert L. Lewis

Rabbi Lewis' Last Message to His Congregation February 12, 2008

Shortly before he passed away, Rabbi Lewis made an audio tape to be shared with the congregation at his funeral. It came to the attention of his family only after his passing. In keeping with Rabbi Lewis' wishes, it was played at the funeral. His grandson, Ron Lipsky, transcribed the tape for Temple Talk. Rabbi Lewis spoke these last words with a strong and clear voice. The message is powerful and profound, and of course, has a hint of irony and humor. You can see the twinkle in the eye, as well as the tear. The tape ended with Rabbi Lewis singing "Shalom Haverim." We will remember.

Dear Friends,

This is the voice of your past rabbi speaking. Probably my last opportunity to talk to you, unless some of you have good memories and can recall what it was that we spoke about at times that may have given you some guidance and direction.

Let me begin by saying that the two questions I've been asked more than any other, actually thousands of times, in the course of my rabbinate are:

1. Do you truly believe there is a God? and,
2. Do you believe that after death, something does happen, i.e. that you are alive, in a different kind of way?

Well, let me deal with the first. Yes, I do believe that there is a God. The more I read, the more I study, the more I experience meeting with people, the more certain I am that there is a force, which we don't quite understand, just as we don't understand many other things, but this force has put into being this thing called the world, and specifically, me, you, as individuals. And, therefore, since I have a source like that, a force, I



find it rather comforting. Let me tell you why.

There was a physician I had who had been raised in an Orthodox Jewish home. Who, like many others of his generation, broke away, and became an atheist. He read every book that Ingersoll, the master atheist, had written. One day, I read in the paper that his brother had died. I came to visit him while he was sitting shiva, and after a few moments, the opening gambits of "I'm sorry," he says

something, I said something, he says to me: "Rabbi, I envy you." I paused, waited, and he continued: "You see, when your daughter, Rina, one of the twins, when she died, you had someone you could blame, someone you could vent at, someone who enabled you to get some of the guilt

(Continued on page 2)

Rabbi Lewis' Last Message *(continued from cover)*

off your shoulders. But Rabbi," he said, "I'm a doctor, I'm a physician, and I couldn't help my brother. And since I don't believe in a God, I've got no one to blame but myself. I envy you."

Friends, that was a very important statement -- it was once said by a poet: God says, hate me, love me, curse me anything...but don't disregard me, or neglect me. And it's that, which has enabled me to find my belief in a God.

Now let's get on to the second question which is a very difficult one. Is there anything after death? As I talk to you now, where is or is there any other part of me, apart from what's in this box here. And my answer, here, too...is yes. There is something...but friends, I'm sorry, now that I know, I can't even tell you. So you have to work it out yourselves. I'm sure you will, because: *koolanu chachamim, koolanu nevonim* -- we are all smart, we are all wise, and we all learn how to figure out a way.

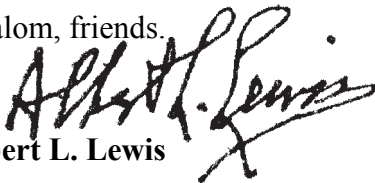
I want to thank all of you who have been either my students, my friends, my congregants, my children, I want to thank all of you, for having made all the years of my life very, very exciting ones, very creative ones.

I do believe in immortality, a separate topic of the second question I discussed with you. Yes, I believe in immortality. Immortality is genetically through your children, and through the teachings, the impact that each of us have had upon one another. So long as you may sometime in the future happen to mention, "Hey, I heard this from Rabbi Lewis" no matter whether there is or ain't something on the other side, I have gained immortality.

So friends, with great thanks, I beseech you, to please love one another, talk to one another, don't let trivialities and stupidities dissolve friendships. I wish you well, and I hope and pray that God, who does exist, will grant you all health, creativity, and a feeling of immortality, if you live that way.

Shalom, Shalom it's been a great experience living and being with you.

Shalom, friends.



Rabbi Albert L. Lewis

President's Message

By the time you read this, the Nominating Committee chaired by Steve Ravitz, will be in the process of selecting a slate of members and officers for next year's Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors of Temple Beth Sholom meets monthly to create and set policies that affect all the members of our congregation. This year, we will attempt to introduce board reforms that many feel are long overdue. We want the congregation to know the Board of our synagogue contains leaders whose desire is to maintain TBS' position as one of the leading conservative synagogues in the country. We expect our board members to lead by example, to volunteer for and chair committees, to attend programs sponsored by TBS and, of course, to support us financially. We do, however, realize that the appropriate level of financial support varies from board member to board member, so for now we will ask that the board members make TBS a priority when determining how to allocate their charitable contributions. We are looking to gradually strengthen our board's overall commitment.

Perhaps you have always wanted to get involved, but in the past have not been able to commit or were unsure how to go about it. We have committees for just about everything at TBS (some say too many, I say just the right number). Whether your interest is in the school, ritual or social aspect of our synagogue, we have a place for everyone. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to learn more about the opportunities to get involved. Who knows...maybe next year the nominating committee will consider you for the honor of serving on the TBS board.

I am happy to announce that the TBS office and Judaica Shop now have a supply of Ritz Movie Theater SCRIP gift cards, and Starbucks SCRIP gift cards. TBS earns approximately 9% on each gift card purchased. Remember to stop by before you go to the movies or run out for your morning caffeine.

Thank you for your support.

Mark Fendrick,
Mark.Fendrick@ms.com

HAZAK/Senior Chaverim

Have you RSVPed for our Modern Seder: Remembering the 20th Century? There's still time, but please hurry as Barclay Caterers needs a final number. You don't want to be left out. This venture represents an important first cooperative effort with Congregation M'kor Shalom. They've created a beautiful Haggadah featuring this topic which they're sharing with us. There'll be music and good food on this special evening, Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 6:00 pm.

Thanks to our members who participated in the discussion with our 8th graders on February 24. Jennifer Stofman and Rabbi Micah Peltz led us in a discussion about teenagers in the times of the seniors, particularly in relationship to Israel. We compared the life of teenagers in America and Israel in the late 40s and 50s and their lives now. This was the first in a series of three.

Hilda L. Isaacson, President
hildamli@earthlink.net

The funeral service of
Rabbi Albert L. Lewis
is now available in MP3
format on our TBS
website,
www.tbsonline.org.

The service is also
available in a 2-CD set
(\$10 per
set) at
the TBS
office.



WHAT'S NEW IN THE MISHPOCHE?

Speedy Recovery to:

STAN CURZMAN ROBIE BLOOM HARVEY HERSH

Mazel Tov to:

BETH & JEFF FISHER on the birth of their grandson, KYLE JAMES FISHER
SUSAN & BARRY GERTSMAN on the birth of their grandson, MICAH GUTHRIE
GILINSKY

LOIS & DAVID BROMBERG on the engagement of their son, TODD TO ALIX
GOLDBERG

JOYCE & JOE FOX on the birth of their granddaughter, AVERY ELLA FOX
PAMELA & PAUL LITWACK on the engagement of their son, DANIEL, to
ANNABELLA ATACH

Mazel Tov to our March B'nei Mitzvah:

KENDALL PRICE, son of ALEC & JOCELYN PRICE

RUTH COVAL, daughter of BERNARD & JILL COVAL

REBECCA SCHUCK, daughter of SANDRA SCHUCK and MARVIN SCHUCK

JACOB MEKLINSKY, son of IAN & SUSAN MEKLINSKY

EVAN DANNENBAUM, son of MARK & MARGERY DANNENBAUM

MELINDA SCHULNER, daughter of KENNETH & JILL SCHULNER

Condolences to:

JOE MAGUN on the death of his beloved wife, CHANA MAGUN

NATHALIE HAYMAN on the death of her beloved mother, DORIS ZAFRANI

JACK DEMBOWITZ on the death of his beloved son, SETH DEMBOWITZ

SARAH LEWIS AND FAMILY on the death of their beloved husband, father,
grandfather and our rabbi, RABBI ALBERT L. LEWIS

STEVEN SUTKIN on the death of his beloved father, STANLEY SUTKIN

LARRY BARR and JAMIE TYSZKA on the death of their beloved father,
PERRY BARR

Have an item? Please notify us at the TBS Office at 751-6663.

From the Budget Committee

The Budget Process

In the Book of Numbers, Moses is ordered to count the number of those able to bear arms. The result is that 603,550 are found to be fit for service. From a personal standpoint, I was probably destined to work with numbers my whole life, or at least the 40 years following my Bar Mitzvah, as my Torah portion was Bemidbar, the beginning of the Book of Numbers!

The count was made in the Bible using half shekel coins. Thankfully, unlike Moses, we have implements such as calculators and computers to work with numbers. Also unlike the Israelites, it does not take us 40 years to get through the "wilderness" of our budget process—although some budget years do seem longer than others!

What I learned from my study of Bemidbar was that there is a promised land, but to get there, you sometimes have to get through the wilderness. I also learned the way to get there is by joining together and marching day after day—in a much lighter way than the Bible, that is pretty much how the budgeting process works!

So what exactly is involved in the budget process and why should it concern you, our fellow congregants? The process is not totally unlike Moses' task in Numbers, but instead of seeing what our numbers look like for fighting a war, we need to see what our

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Temple Beth Sholom Sisterhood

NEWS AND VIEWS

Have You Heard of Rachel Carson?

No, she's not a modern Jewish woman of note, nor is she a Jewess of historical importance. However, she was a visionary and a trailblazer who understood the meaning of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world. In 1962, Rachel Carson wrote a book titled Silent Spring, in which she chronicled the dangers of DDT in terms of its impact on fish and wildlife and our natural environment. The legacy of her writing was a new public awareness that nature was vulnerable to human intervention. And this was written almost a half-century ago!

Today, we are well aware of the impact of our actions on our environment – every media form reminds us of the importance of going “green,” retail stores now offer “green” alternatives, whether in the form of shopping bags, foods, cleaning products or clothing choices and automobile manufacturers scramble to offer the next best “green” car.

The word *green* is closely related to the verb *growan* Old English, “to grow”. It is used to describe plants or the ocean. In some cultures, green symbolizes hope and growth. Green is also associated with regeneration, fertility and rebirth for its connections to nature. As Jews, we are reminded that G-d created the earth. And it is our responsibility to preserve it for future generations. The *Torah's* injunction for a *Shmita* year – when we allow the soil to lie fallow every seven years - is considered among Judaism's most humane and environmentally friendly laws, signifying the importance of giving the earth time to renew itself and giving the poor the chance to share in its abundance. This year is a *Shmita* year in the Jewish calendar. So, perhaps we can all make a commitment to make a few small changes in our lives to help repair the world in which we live.

I will share a couple of actions that I have taken recently that require little effort:

If you, like me, receive catalogues in the mail that you don't want or need, there is a website that allows you to delete them from your mailbox: www.catalogchoice.org. It's simple to use, and you will soon feel good about all the trees that have been saved by taking this action. Consider replacing your incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient ones (also called CFL's – compact fluorescent bulbs). They use about 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs and last about 10 times longer (the average life span of a CFL is 9 years!). And contrary to bad jokes, it doesn't take 4 people to change a light bulb!

Soon we will be preparing for Passover, the spring holiday of renewal – taking a few small steps to preserve our natural resources is a perfect complement to the celebration of Passover.

B'shalom,
Helene

UPCOMING SISTERHOOD EVENTS.....

March 11	GENERAL BOARD MEETING
March 30	MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT
April 3	WOMEN'S SEDER
April 6	ROSH CHODESH PROGRAM
April 8	GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Hospitality Bags from Sisterhood!

Having a simcha? Surprise your out-of-town guests with a lovely bag ordered from TBS Sisterhood. Gift bags are filled with snacks, fruit, and beverages and delivered to your guests at their hotel. For more info, or to place an order, please call Karen Schwartzman at 856 424-1930 or Caryn Friedman at (856) 616-8455.



Torah Fund

Your support of Torah Fund will help provide:

Rabbis who offer wisdom and leadership,

Hazzanim who enhance the beauty of our prayers,

Educators who transmit the richness of our heritage to our children and grandchildren,

Professors of Jewish Studies at our children's universities,

Professionals with deep Jewish knowledge who serve the community,

Lay leaders who are informed, educated, and committed Jews.

Remember to send Torah Fund Cards. These cards can be sent for you by calling one of the following women:

Helene Greenblatt 627-6228

Joan Kinbar 428-8550

Roz Mulnick 489-9879.

Thank you for your generous support.



ONE DAY MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT!

Sunday March 30, 2008

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

\$40.00

\$150 First Prize and lots more cash prizes!!

Officiated by Joanne Bourne,

Four Seasons Mah Jongg Tournaments

Look for the flyer/entry form in this issue of Temple Talk

Shalach Manot Pick-Up

An email or postcard will be sent to notify you that your package will be ready for pick-up at Temple Beth Shalom.

SHALACH MANOT DISTRIBUTION DATES:

Sunday - March 16th, 2008 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Thursday - March 20th, 2008 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Please contact Lisa Gershenfeld with any questions at (856) 751-5960 or email lisagershenfeld@hotmail.com.

We thank you for helping us to make this year's Shalach Manot project a huge success.

Chag Sameach!

TBS Sisterhood Board of Directors Slate for 2008-2010

Executive Committee

President - Ellen Spitz
Vice-President Fundraising - Cindy Stevens
Vice-President Fundraising - Dawn Stern
Vice-President Membership - Cyndee Kotler
Vice-President Education - Debbie Zimmerman
Vice-President Programming - Susan Anolik
Treasurer - Donna Nahum
Financial Secretary - Tanya Sokoloff
Corresponding Secretary - Debbie Swerdlow
Recording Secretary - Miriam Feldman
Past President - Helene Amster

Board - 1st year of Second Two-Year Term

Ruth Abrams	Minna Siegel
Lisa Gershenfeld	Dottie Singer
Sylvia Schafer	Debbie Trachtenberg
Barbara Werner Schwarz	Jo-Ann Waxman
Brooke Zeitz	

Board - 1st year of First Two-Year Term

Karen Baer	Debbie Mellitz
Marissa Baker	Carol Orwitz
Shelli Berlinsky	Melissa Rosten
Amy Blackstone	Ande Sax
Cory Cherkas	Karen Schwartzman
Gail Dragon	Janet Simons
Shirley Feigenbaum	Lyn Stein
Gerri Friedman	Andrea Stomel

The following board members have completed their term of office. The sisterhood wishes to extend to them a special note of thanks for their unselfish contribution to the benefit of us all.

Rosanne Cetel	Judy Hymowitz
Sherrie Cohen	Joanne Kanoff
Jill Coval	Tricia Schafer
Robin Greenberg	Melanie Schwartz
Zelda Greenberg	Marsha Weinstein
Leslie Zaontz	

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie Cohen, Nominating Committee Chair

Decorate your Seder Table with a lovely flower arrangement ordered through TBS Sisterhood!



Look for your order form in this issue of Temple Talk!

Got Stuff?



Super Synagogue Rummage Sale

Sunday, August 03, 2008

TBS Sisterhood will hold a HUGE Rummage Sale at the synagogue on Sunday, August 3. As you go about your spring cleaning and your transition to summer, start saving all of those things you no longer need or want. We will accept any items (clothing, books, small appliances, house wares, furnishings, etc.) in "sellable" condition.

Information about drop-off will be in future issues of Temple Talk.

Do You Know of a "Mitzvah Waiting to Happen" That May Need a Little Assistance?



Mitzvah Day—May 4, 2008

With Mitzvah Day approaching, we've enclosed the complete Mitzvah Day volunteer form in this issue of *Temple Talk*. It contains lots of wonderful opportunities for all of us to make a difference in our community. Please return your form and get involved!

There will again be a bike-a-thon and walk-a-thon to support Hazon. This year there will be an option for a 2 or 5-mile walk. Please help support our "Kosher Collection," as we will be collecting non-perishable Kosher foods for the local Kosher food bank.

Other items that we'll be collecting on Mitzvah Day are: gently worn or nearly new clothing for New Visions in Camden, supplies for the Animal Orphanage in Voorhees (see flyer for specific items), and travel-size toiletries to make care packages. We will also be collecting children's books (new or gently used in excellent condition) to send to Israel.

Any questions? Please contact Michele Warren at 795-9185 or michluv2bike@aol.com; or Miriam Feldman at 751-3752 or mef332@gmail.com.

Cook for a Friend

We're always looking for additional worthy organizations that can be added to our distribution list. If you are aware of such an organization, please send it to me or to Steven Osder at smosder1@verizon.net.

From time to time, there may be members or friends of TBS who may not be able to cook for Shabbat or otherwise have need. We have meals on hand to fill those needs. Contact Steven Osder if you know someone who may qualify.

Listed below are our upcoming dates. We start at 6:30 pm and are finished by 8:30 pm. Two hours of fun and mitzvot. Not a bad investment of time. Feel free to come to any of the sessions:

- March 13, 2008
- April 10, 2008
- May 4, 2008 (Mitzvah Day!)
- June 19, 2008

If you are unable to attend, there are other ways to help. We always need "shopper(s) of the month" who can do grocery or produce shopping. If you're interested, please contact Steven Osder.

Social Action Contributions

When you are making contributions to TBS in honor or in memory of someone, or for a speedy recovery or *yahrzeit*, remember that there is a **Social Action Fund** whose monies help defray the cost of these projects.

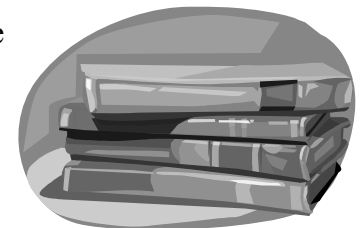
Blankets from the Heart

Attention Knitters: The Virtua Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is in need of blankets for the babies. The blankets should be light weight and measure about 31 inches by 31 inches.

Also Wanted: Someone to sew together already knitted squares to make blankets to give to the hospital. If interested, please call me.

Project JELLY

This project is ongoing throughout the year. Children's books are collected and sent to libraries in Jerusalem for children who want to read books in English. Edith Kalech, who initiated this project, receives heartfelt thanks from the Jerusalem library when they receive the boxes of books sent each year.



Donations to Ancora Psychiatric Hospital

Clothing, household items, recreational materials including games, videos, books, arts & craft supplies and greeting cards are all needed. Some items are used by the patients, others are sold in the thrift shop. Please keep the hospital in mind as you clean your closets for the new year. We thank Cheryl Rosov for delivering the goods to the hospital. To donate, please call Cheryl at 856-424-4366.

Janet Simons, Social Action Chairperson
856-795-6373



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
Upcoming April Events						1 24 Adar I 9:30am B/M Kendall Price; 7pm Shorashim at "Color Me Mine" <i>Minha: 5:30pm Vayakhel</i>	
3..... Sisterhood Women's Seder 4..... Gan/Mechina Aleph Zimriyonet 6..... Gimel Neviathon 9..... Preschool Holiday Workshop for Passover 10..... Social Action Cooking		10Men's Club Health Series 10Scholar-in-Residence Noam Zion 11Shabbat Carlebach Service 13Religious School Model Seder 17Siyum B'Korim		19 1st Seder—Erev Passover 20 2nd Seder 21 TBS Office Closed 27 No Religious School 29 Religious School Resumes			
2 25 Adar I 9am Religious School Pretzel Sale, BeST IV 'Driving Me Crazy' 9:15am Learning with the Rabbis; 10am-12noon Library Open	3 26 Adar I 9:30am Preschool Music Round; 6pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Jewish War Veterans Meeting, Advanced Hebrew 8:15pm Ritual Committee Meeting	4 27 Adar I 9:30am PS Kids Music Round; 11am HAZAK Mailing; 7pm Hilda's Hebrew, Boy Scouts; 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 8:15pm Tuesday Night Talmud	5 28 Adar I 9am PS Jolly Jumpers 12:30pm Int Hebrew 1:30pm Book Club 6:15pm PS Music Rd 7:30pm Choir Rhrl, TBS Exec Bd Mtg 8pm YMG Bd Mtg; 8:15pm Bimah Protocol	6 29 Adar I 10:30am PS Music Round; 12:30pm Int Hebrew; 6:45pm Hadassah Rosh Hodesh Service/Kiddish; 7:15pm Men's Club Health Services	7 30 Adar I 10am Kids Music Rd 7pm Aleph Consecration <i>Candlelighting time: 5:40pm</i>	8 1 Adar II 9:30am B/M Ruth Coval <i>Minha: 5:40pm Pekudei Shabbat Shekalim</i>	
Rosh Hodesh							
9 2 Adar II Daylight Savings Time Begins! 8:45am BeST III trip to JRA; 9am Men's Club B'fast, Rel Schl Pretzel Sale 9:15am B/M Parents Mtg, Learning with the Rabbis 10am-12Noon Library Open	10 3 Adar II 9:30am PS Music Round 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 7pm Women's League 7:30pm Budget Comm Mtg, Youth Comm Mtg, Advanced Hebrew	11 4 Adar II 1:30pm HAZAK Bd Mtg; 7pm Hilda's Hebrew; 7:30pm Sisterhood Bd Mtg, Israeli Dancing	12 5 Adar II 9am PS Jolly Jumpers 9:15am PS Holiday Workshop (Purim); 12:30pm Int Hebrew; 6:15pm PS Music Rd; 7:30pm Choir Rhrl; 7:45pm Membership Committee Meeting	13 6 Adar II 10:30am PS Music Round; 12:30pm Int Hebrew; 6:30pm Social Action Cooking 7:30pm YMG Board Meeting	14 7 Adar II 10am PS Music Round 6:45pm Preschool Shabbat <i>Candlelighting time: 5:47pm</i>	15 8 Adar II 9:30am B/M Rebecca Schuck <i>Minha: 6:30pm DST Vayikro Shabbat Zachor</i>	
16 9 Adar II Pesach Wine Sale Begins 9:30am Purim Carnival, Religious Sch Pretzel Sale 9:15am Learning with the Rabbis; 10am-12noon Library Open; 1:15pm Boy Scouts	17 10 Adar II 9:30am PS Music Round; 1pm Hadassah 7pm Women's League 7:30pm Advanced Hebrew	18 11 Adar II 9:30am PS Music Round 4:15pm Religious School Gimel Purim Shpiel; 7:30pm Israeli Dancing; 8:15pm Tuesday Night Talmud	19 12 Adar II 9am PS Jolly Jumpers 10am PS Purim Program 12:30pm Int Hbw 6:15pm PS Music Round 7:30pm TBS Board Mtg, Choir Rehearsal	20 13 Adar II 10:30am PS Music Rd; 12:30pm Int Hbrw; 6:45pm Purim Celebration; 7:45pm Megillah Reading	21 14 Adar II 6:30am Full Megillah reading following Shacharit; 10am PS Music Round <i>Candlelighting time: 5:54pm</i>	22 15 Adar II 6:45pm B/M Jacob Meklinsky <i>Minha: 6:55pm Tzav</i>	
23 16 Adar II No Religious School No BeST High School	24 17 Adar II 9:30am PS Music Round; 12:30pm Lunch & Learn; 7pm Women's League 7:30pm Adv Hebrew	25 18 Adar II No Religious School No BeST High School; 9:30am PS Music Rd; 7pm Hilda's Hbw; 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	26 19 Adar II No Religious School No BeST High School 9am PS Jolly Jumpers 6:15pm PS Music Round 7pm Library Lecture/Reception 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	27 20 Adar II 10:30pm Preschool Music Round 12:30pm Intermediate Hebrew; 6pm HAZAK Adult Seder	28 21 Adar II 10am Preschool Music Round <i>Candlelighting time: 6:01pm</i>	29 22 Adar II 9:30am B/M Evan Dannenbaum; 6:45pm B/M Melinda Schuler <i>Minha: 7:00pm Shemini Shabbat Parah</i>	
30 23 Adar II 9:30am Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament 1:15pm Boy Scouts	31 24 Adar II 9:30am Preschool Music Round; 7pm Women's League 7:30pm Advanced Hebrew	<h1>Hag Purim!</h1>					

<p>Service Schedule</p> <p>Daily Services: Monday-Friday at 7 am and Sunday at 8:15 am</p> <p>Evening Services: Sunday-Thursday at 8 pm</p> <p>Shabbat Services: Friday at 6:15 pm and Saturday at 9:30 am <i>Minha</i> at Sundown</p>
<p>SCRIP Available For</p> <p>ShopRite/Cherry Hill Kosher Starbucks/Ritz Movie Theatre/Acme/Macy's</p> <p><i>Purchase SCRIP in the TBS Judaica Shop or Office. See page 16 for details on our new gift card program.</i></p>

<p>Children's Service Schedule*</p> <p>Tefilat Yeladim (TY) 10:30am: Shabbat Services for grades 3 and 4 led by Claire Spechler.</p> <p>Kneset Noar (KN) 10:30am: Shabbat Services for grades 5 and 6 led by Jane Lindemann.</p> <p>Shabbat Enrichment (SE) 11am-12pm: Shabbat Services for ages 4 to 7 led by Harriet Baker in Room 106.</p> <p>Babysitting: Every Shabbat morning in Room 116.</p>

<p>Push the Right Buttons!</p> <p>Main Office 751-6663 TBS Fax..... 751-2369 Religious School. 751-1824 Preschool..... 751-0994 Internet Address..... www.tbsonline.org</p>
<p>Judaica Shop Hours</p> <p>Sunday: 9:00am-1:00pm Mon, Wed, Thurs: 9:30am-1:00pm Tuesday: 9:30am-6:30pm Wednesday: 4:00pm-9:00pm Friday: 9:30am-12:00noon Hours also available by appointment. Call 751-6663.</p>

From the Educational Director

“וימצאהו איש והנה תעה בשדה וישאלהו האיש לאמר מה תבקש” (בראשית לז:טו)

“And a man found him and he was lost in the field, and he asked him,
‘what are you looking for?’” (Genesis 37:15)

This phrase is extracted from the story of Joseph and his brothers. Joseph went to look for his brothers. While getting lost on his way, a man approached him offering him help. This man, according to Jewish tradition, can be perceived as a hero. He came forward to offer help, he directed Joseph toward his brothers, and consequently affected the history of the Jewish people.

This man, while we do not even know his name, in my opinion, has an important role in the Jewish narrative.

This month, on March 13, and last month on February 22, we made sure to name people we perceive as heroes: Claire Spechler, with her many years of dedication to Jewish education, and Sharon Green, a parent and a leader in the partnership that we have in educating our children.

During this period of honoring educators and lay leaders, I would like to make sure that we all know and remember to recognize all the other teachers and parents dedicated to Jewish education. They may be, like the “man” in the story, not always mentioned by name, but their role is imperative when it comes to our children’s future. Please make sure you take the time to find out who they are, talk to them, express your gratitude and appreciation for what they do.

Some of the experiences that they create for our children take place during this month:

- ✧ **March 7:** Our Aleph students will be receiving their first prayer books.
- ✧ **March 15:** We will recognize our mensches—our special students—at Shabbat services. The teachers will be there to witness the event and later on, to study with the rabbis.
- ✧ **March 18 & 19:** Our Gimel students will be enhancing our Purim experience with their Purim Shpiel.
- ✧ **March 19:** We will be hosting a group of Israeli children who have cancer and whose dream is to travel to the United States. Our

Dalet students will engage in some activities with them, and our entire school will present them with special Mishloach Manot baskets. In the evening, they will have dinner with our 7th graders and spend some time in their classes.

- ✧ **March 1, 8 & 15:** The Torah will be heard through the voices of our young students.
- ✧ **March 9 & 19:** Our BeST high school students will, again, help the Jewish Relief Agency with packing and delivering food for families in the Philadelphia area. They will also cook with the Social Action Committee’s Cook for a Friend program.

Thank you, TBS teachers and parents!

Dina Eliezer,
Religious School Director

Shorashim

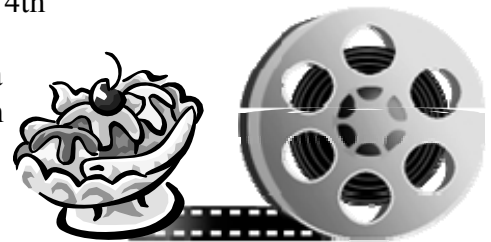
Shorashim is the TBS youth group for 2nd through 4th graders. We get together each month for a social activity.

In January, we painted pottery and ate pizza at Color Me Mine, and in February, we had an awesome “Karate and Cupcakes” program.

Our March event will be held on Saturday, March 1 from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm, when we’ll meet at TBS in our PJs, eat ice cream sundaes and watch a movie!

Please get your 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders involved in a Jewish youth group now.

Contact me for more information.



Staci Boiskin, Advisor
jonboi@aol.com

BeST High School News

Another Wonderful BeST II Winter Retreat!

Rabbi Peltz, Rachel Zivic and I enjoyed a Shabbat weekend with our BeST II (8th grade) students at the Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center in Reisterstown, Maryland. We spent the weekend playing games, praying together and sharing in excellent discussions on our topic “Jewish Life After Bar/Bat Mitzvah.” Our teens eagerly and actively led T’fillot (services), Brachot (blessings) and read Torah.

Here are just some of the comments from our students regarding the weekend:

“I wasn’t sure if I wanted to come here, now I hope that we come back next year!”

“I thought that it was going to be all praying and learning Jewish stuff. We had a lot of fun doing all kinds of things.”

“The Mystery Trip on Saturday night was really great. I had a lot of fun hanging out with my friends.”

We had a wonderful time with our



We all had the BeST time at the BeST II winter retreat held at the Pearlstone Conference Center in Reisterstown, Maryland! Leading the trip were Rabbi Peltz, Rachel Zivic and TBS Program Director Jennifer Stofman.

teenagers discovering their unique and special talents (especially their taste in music). Having them as part of our BeST Hebrew High School program is truly a delight!

B'Shalom,
Jennifer Stofman, Program Director

Preschool News

Many things our children learn in preschool are reinforced through field trips. Over the past several weeks, the children have enjoyed and learned from wonderful experiences outside the classroom.

Our Threes went to the Ritz Theater in Oaklyn to see a live performance of “Pinocchio.” For many years, the Ritz Theater has featured children’s classics and recreates them to an appropriate developmental level for preschoolers. These productions are performances of classic children’s stories and emphasize a moral that children easily understand.

When asked about their “favorite part” of seeing this play, here is what the Threes expressed:

- ✧ *“I liked when Pinocchio’s nose got longer.”*
- ✧ *“I was happy Pinocchio became a real boy.”*
- ✧ *“I liked the actresses.”*
- ✧ *“I won’t tell a lie.”*

- ✧ *“I liked the whale.”*
- ✧ *“I liked riding on a school bus.”*

Joining a community celebration for Israel’s 60th Anniversary, our Three, Four and Kindergarten Enrichment classes experienced first-hand what it would be like to live in Israel. Coordinated by the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey, we visited the Children’s Museum’s “Celebrating Israel at 60.”

During classroom time, our Fours made suitcases and pretended they were ready to board an El Al plane. Even though they landed in the Voorhees Town Center, you might easily have believed they made aliyah as they shopped in an Israeli market, visited a national park, tasted falafel and much more.

Children learn, grow and aspire through their experiences.

Ellen Berju
Preschool Director

Ritual Committee

The Conservative Movement is committed to Halakhah – Jewish Law. This requires responses to questions which arise and occasional reviews of ritual procedures. Our mode of operation is that the rabbis interpret or present relevant Halakhah, and the TBS Ritual Committee implements the policy. At a recent Ritual Committee meeting, Rabbis Lindemann, Levenson, and Peltz (in consultation with Rabbi Lewis) shared with us some of their recent decisions. Here are the results of those decisions:

1) We have changed the formula we use for calling people to the Torah in a relatively minor way.

In the past we used the phrase “ya’amode Yitzchack ben Avraham v’Sarah, Shlishi” – Arise, Isaac son of Abraham and Sarah, three. Now we will say “ya’amode Yitzchack ben Avraham v’Sarah LaAliya HaShlishit” – arise to the third aliyah.

While we will try to give the first aliyah to a Kohen or Bat Kohen and the second to a Levi or Bat Levi, there are times when we will need to give those aliyot to Israelites. When that is necessary, we will use a phrase asking the Kohen’s permission. In addition, there may be times when we need to put a Kohen or Levi in a later position (which we have been doing as needed for many years). By using the new formula, it is much less confusing on the Bimah!

2) We will urge women to use the designation of bat Kohen (daughter of a Kohen) or bat Levi (daughter of a Levi) when their father’s Hebrew name is used. This applies regardless of marital status. In the past, we tended not to stress that designation for married women who had that “yichus.”

3) We will continue to require married, divorced and widowed women to wear head coverings when they

go up to the Bimah. Appropriate choices would be a lace head covering (which we have outside the sanctuary and bet midrash), a kippah or a hat. While bat mitzvah girls are not required to wear a head covering, they may choose to do so.

4) We have adjusted the times for the Shabbat Congregational Mincha (Afternoon) service so that we start the service before candle-lighting time. In the past, in an effort to keep our services starting on the quarter hour, we often would start after that time, though still before sunset. Now we will use times that are closer to the proper time (staying on 5 minute intervals –such as 5:40 or 6:05. This has produced the added benefit of allowing a few minutes between the Mincha and Ma’ariv services for a brief comment by one of our Rabbis – so we have returned to the tradition of a bit of learning late on Shabbat afternoon.

All of these items reflect our constant effort to make TBS an institution based on Jewish law and customs that is alive and thriving.

Alvin Stern

Mothers!

Have the honor of reading Torah on Mother’s Day Weekend.

Torah reading will take place on May 10, 2008. For your part, training and assistance, contact Sue K. Levine by April 8, 2008 at 428-7957 or chukosh@mac.com.



Passover Kiddushim

It has been a TBS custom for congregants to make monetary contributions for the Pesach Kiddushim. Can we count on you this year?

Pesach Kiddushim Sponsorship

Please send this completed form and your check to: Pesach Kiddushim c/o Temple Beth Sholom, 1901 Kresson Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Dollar Amount Enclosed \$ _____

PRESCHOOL REMINDER

Registration continues for:

- Preschool and Kindergarten 2008-2009
 - Parent/Child Programs:
 - Kids Music Round
 - Jolly Jumpers
 - Splish, Splash & Fun!
 - Camp Keshet Summer Program

Please call the Preschool Office for more information at 856-751-0994

Mazel Tov to Our Jewish Educators!

On Thursday, March 13, the Delaware Valley Region of the Jewish Educators Assembly will hold a gala, honoring members of our community for their dedication to Jewish education within the Conservative Movement. At this event, Claire Spechler and Sharon Green will be recognized for their exceptional contributions to Temple Beth Shalom.

Claire has been involved in Jewish education for over fifty years and is a teacher, a leader, and an inspiration. She teaches third grade and leads our Junior Congregation services, but she is also a devoted student herself, learning at every opportunity. TBS recently celebrated her 85th birthday in a consecration ceremony that brought together her students, both “old” and “new”—*“l’dor va-dor ul’netzach netzachim.”*

Sharon Green has been a true partner in the TBS educational community, helping to create a Jewish environment suitable to learning and



Our honorees Sharon Green and Claire Spechler.

growing Jewishly. As a parent, Sharon was constantly involved in the Religious School as a school board member, chair, and most recently, a vice president holding the education portfolio. She is the mother of 3 TBS Confirmants, past active USY members, and Camp Ramah alumni.

We wish our education leaders Yishar Kochachem for the inspiring work that they do.

Library Corner

A Special Event

This month marks the third year that the Jewish Community Foundation has generously funded a series of three free lectures in conjunction with the South Jersey Jewish Librarians Council. The enclosed flyer gives the information for all three lectures.

I am very excited about the line-up of speakers, as they are all wonderful lecturers with much to say on a very interesting topic—how we as Jews have changed and adapted to this country and created an American Jewish identity.

Dr. Beth Wenger, Professor of Jewish History at the University of Pennsylvania, will be speaking at TBS on Wednesday, March 26th at 7:30 pm. Dr. Wenger will be speaking about her new book "The Jewish Americans: Three Centuries of

Jewish Voices in America."

This book is the companion volume to the 6-hour PBS series that aired in January. In her book, Beth Wenger explores American Jewish history through intimate first-person accounts of several generations of American Jews—writer, activists, musicians, spiritual leaders, politicians and ordinary Jews who shaped American Jewish culture.

Dr. Wenger is a dynamic young speaker who we invite you to all enjoy! The two-DVD set of the PBS series is now in the library collection as well as Dr. Wenger's book for your borrowing pleasure.

Hope to see you at all three lectures!

B'Shalom,

Judy Brookover, Librarian



Budget Committee (continued from page 3)

numbers look like for operating the synagogue. The TBS financial year runs from July 1 to June 30 and the budget process begins a year in advance. So we started in the fall of 2007 to plan for the financial year of July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009.

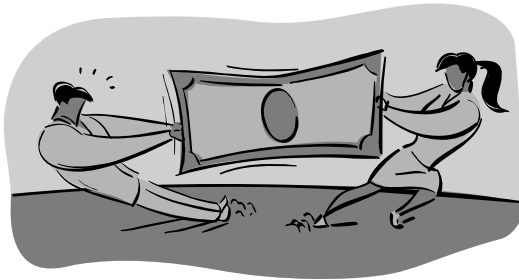
Eric Jacobs works with many people within TBS to compile the various budgets. A lot of the work is performed by Abbie Seher, who assists with estimating revenues, and many of the operating budgets, such as office costs, maintenance, high holidays and others. Budgets are also prepared for the Hebrew School by Dina Eliezer and for the preschool by Ellen Berju, both of whom receive input from their respective boards.

The mission of the Budget Committee is to ensure each operating department of the synagogue is held accountable for its expenditures, and to the extent it is a revenue source, its revenue generation. The “bottom line” of the budget process is to determine whether the revenues into TBS from congregants’ annual dues, fees for Hebrew School and preschool and other sources, such as donations, will be enough to cover the costs of running the synagogue. It must be stressed that our goal is to balance the budget, which means our revenues are sufficient to cover our operating expenses. It must also be stressed that TBS is subject to increases in costs just like we all are in our businesses and homes. The impact of increasing gas prices, insurance costs and many others is felt directly here at TBS.

Just like any other expense or investment we face, it is a challenge to keep our annual dues and various fees at the same level from year to year, simply because the costs that underline those revenues are increasing. Think about what it takes to heat the synagogue in the winter months; to keep it clean and presentable for services and its other uses, to clear the snow from the parking lot (remember snow?) and think about exactly how many hours a day the doors of TBS are open for us.

The Budget Committee receives each of the budgets and thoroughly analyzes and discusses them as presented. We have a chance at each meeting to question the preparer as to the basis for

the budget and to ensure all avenues of cost-savings are considered. Similarly, for revenue-based items, such as congregants’ dues and school fees, we ensure that the enrollment numbers are based on actual numbers or best estimates. Relating back



to the Book of Numbers, this is not unlike each person having to provide documents to prove what tribe from which they descended!

As congregants, we should all be mindful that the synagogue’s budget is in excess of \$3.5 million, which should give everyone an appreciation for the complexity of his process. It should also give you an appreciation of the importance of each piece of the budget puzzle and how important everyone’s efforts are in the process. Each of our fellow congregants can help with any aspects of the budget, especially getting involved in fundraising efforts, buying SCRIP, special events and many others. You can also volunteer to be part of the Budget Committee!

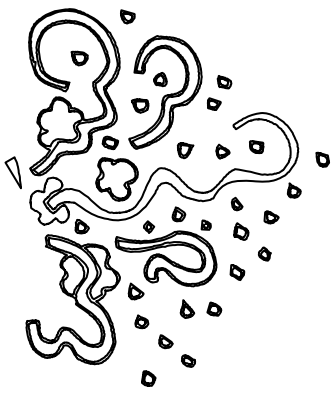
At the end of the day, our role is to present a budget to the TBS Executive Committee that has a solid foundation. We also provide other input on programs which could benefit the synagogue, such as the implementation of the ACH payments which:

- allows dues to be paid on a regular monthly basis directly out of congregants’ bank accounts;
- helps TBS’ cash flow;
- lessens the burden on congregants to mail checks to the synagogue;
- helps congregants avoid using their credit cards for transactions at the synagogue, thus reducing the fees that TBS has to pay to the credit card companies.

The budget process begins in the fall and runs through spring until we make it through the wilderness of numbers!

If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to ask me or any of our committee members: Jerry Baer, Rich Berman, Jeff Brenner, Stuart Goldstein, Ben Green, Joe Kingan, Stacey Udell and Joel Weiss, or our tireless treasurer, Ben Ansell.

Howard Silverstone, Committee Chair



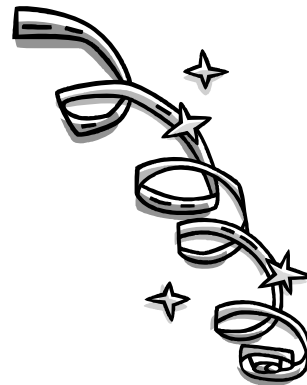
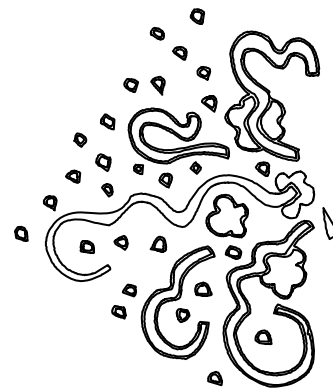
TBS Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 16
9:30 am-1:00 pm

**Great NEW Games, Awesome Prizes
and Fun for All**

New This Year:
Pre-Carnival Ticket Sales March 5, 9 and 12
Receive 100 tickets for \$20 (Save \$5)

For more information,
call Jennifer Stofman
at 856-751-6663.



TBS Purim Services

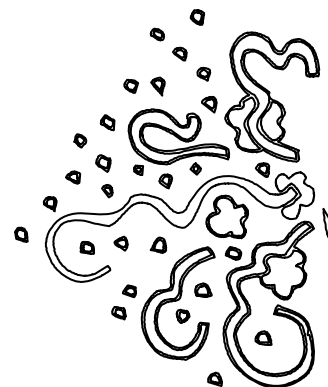
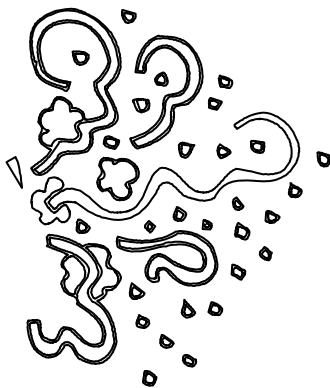
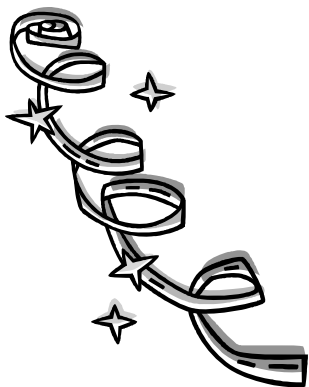
Thursday, March 20

6:45 pm:
Family Purim
Celebration

7:45 pm:
Complete Megillah Reading

Friday, March 21

6:30 am:
A full reading of the
Megillah will follow
Shacharit



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

To send a contribution card, requests should be made to Betzy Abramson in the synagogue office.

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Young Members Group

The TBS Young Members Group has two exciting programs planned for the month of March.

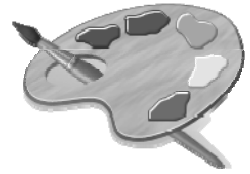
On March 12 at 9:15 am, Rabbis Levenson and Peltz will lead the fourth class in the series "Stay One Jewish Step Ahead of Your Child." This session will focus on Purim, providing parents with a refresher on the holiday, and offering creative, meaningful ways to celebrate at home with children. Discussion at these sessions has been both fun and educational. I encourage you to join us for what promises to be another lively class. Please contact me with questions or to register for this free program.

Mara Rosenthal and Robin Kahn have been busy planning a Young Members Group Ladies' Night Out at Color Me Mine in Voorhees on

March 13 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Join us for an evening of pottery-painting, refreshments and relaxation.

Price is \$10 per person, plus the cost of your pottery piece. For more information, and to register, contact Mara at 856-874-4080 or maraladybug111@aol.com; or Robin at 856-489-7729 or kahn@comcast.net. To reserve your space, send a check made payable to TBS to the TBS Office by March 6.

We hope to see you there!



Stacey Chazin,

Chairperson, Young Members Group Committee
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For more info, call Sandy Agus at 489-3221 or Beverly Glass at 424-3689.



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Cantor Jen Cohen
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STAFF

Ackerman, Jerry,
Executive Director Emeritus
jerrya@tbsonline.org
Abramson, Betzy, Front Office
betzya@tbsonline.org
Baker, Harriet,
Preschool Coordinator
hbaker8684@aol.com
Barkan-Shamir, Tamar,
Assistant to Education Director
tamarb@tbsonline.org
Berju, Ellen, Preschool Director
ellenb@tbsonline.org
Brodnick, Ruth, Front Office
ruthb@tbsonline.org
Brookover, Judy, Librarian
judy.brookover@gmail.com
Eliezer, Dina, Education Director
dinae@tbsonline.org
Ferguson, Michele, Preschool
Office
michelef@tbsonline.org
Jacobs, Eric, Executive Director
ericj@tbsonline.org
Magowan, Steve, Facilities
Manager
856-751-6663
Markoff, Linda, School Office
lindam@tbsonline.org
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Marc Cohen
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Men's Club: Adam Pollack

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Personnel: Ellen Spitz

easpitz@comcast.net

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betzya@tbsonline.org

Tributes & Bequests:

Susan Trager
strager1@comcast.net

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sharonrube@aol.com

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