



Temple Beth Torah

Inspiring people to lead meaningful Jewish lives

## Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller



Support our teens by letting them know that the work of caring for others is noble work.

The November wildfire that tore through Malibu and the Santa Monica Mountains devastated three Jewish camps-- Gindling Hilltop, Hess-Kramer, and Camp JCA Shalom-- which have been beloved summer homes to generations of Jewish kids from Southern California, including TBT kids. Just two years ago we held a TBT Family Shabbaton at Camp JCA Shalom. It's a rustic and fun-filled site that has hosted summer camp and year-round programming for the Jewish Community Center of Los Angeles since 1971. For 80 Temple adults and kids, it was a memorable weekend of tie-dying, Shabbat songs, hiking in the hills, family games, a hilarious talent show, and plenty of singing with Robbo, the camp's longtime song leader. On November 10, the day after the Woolsey Fire, all that survived of Camp JCA Shalom was decades of memories. Gone were the cabins, dining hall, all-purpose center, nature center, art sheds, trails, fields, campfire pits, stages, admin building, and gathering places.

There are two things that ring true for us as Jews. First, the incredibly positive impact Jewish camping has on the Jewish soul and Jewish identity. Second, how hard-wired resilience is in the Jewish DNA. We know how to build from ashes. We know how to replace that which becomes impermanent. We know how to look to the future and dream dreams. We know how to give tzedakah to transform what is into what can be.

For the first time, our B'nai Mitzvah students have asked to create one joint Mitzvah Project for their B'nai Mitzvah, in order to respond to the

magnitude of the devastation of a camp that is a special place for a number of these students. Working with our VP of Community, Laney Samuels, these students and families are creating a "S'more Camp Havdalah & Fundraiser," on Saturday night, April 27, 6:00 – 8:15 p.m. Jewish summer camp is always about Saturday night Havdalah outdoors, so we invite you to come eat s'mores, sing, and be part of a night of games, activities, and fundraising. Come participate in the raffle and silent auction. Have a child or grandchild who likes summer camp? Camp JCA has even donated a week of summer camp as a Big prize!

Our goal is to raise money that can be donated from Temple Beth Torah to give tangible and community support to JCA Shalom, the Jewish Community Center Association, and the enterprise of Jewish summer camping. Having experienced the trauma of the Thomas Fire in December 2017, we know first-hand both the impact of loss and displacement, and the expansive nightmare of rebuilding, insurance claims, preparing scorched land for habitability, toxicity reports, ground stability, earthquake standards, etc. Imagine tackling that for hilly acreage and multiple buildings! But the promise of Jewish children laughing, singing, and running around carefree in the hills again inspires us. We can do our part to re-build this camp.

So this Passover, I am inviting you to help our community support a need that is greater than our own. Support our teens by letting them know

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ADULT AND FAMILY LEARNING

#### International Flavor of Wines

Saturday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.  
with Ron Halpern

#### Shabbot Book

Discussion: Memento Park  
Deborah Pollack  
Saturday, April 13 at 12:30 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH LIBRARY

#### Mindful Middot: Path of Jewish Self-Growth

with Rabbi Lisa  
Sunday, April 28 at 9:30 a.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH LIBRARY

#### Women during the Holocaust

By Annette Halpern  
Tuesday, April 30 at 2:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### HAPPENINGS

#### Family to Family\*\*

First Sunday of the Month at 6:30 a.m.  
DOWNTOWN VENTURA

#### Food Share

Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

#### Women of TBT

Crafting and Kibbitzing  
First Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH LOBBY

#### Women of TBT

Mahjong  
Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 11:00 a.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

#### River Haven Food Drop Off

Monday, April 1 at 3:00 p.m.  
TBT KITCHEN

#### Woman's Seder

Sunday, April 7 at 4:00 p.m.  
Temple Beth Torah

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TBT 5779:  
*Jewish Community*  
*Jewish Life*  
*Jewish Belonging*

## Rabbi's Message

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that the work of caring for others is noble work. Let them know that tzedakah is an integral part of being Jewish. Tzedakah is a natural extension of compassionate people, who we are called to be. Giving to others allows us to be the kind of people we envision ourselves to be. Help us send the message to JCA Shalom that we are grateful for what they have provided our children and families for 50 years and we believe in the mission of Jewish camping. There is more info about this fundraiser in Marisa's column, but you may donate by sending a check in to Temple, or on our website under fire relief (if you follow the dollar sign to donations). Best of all, come spend April 27 with us as we hold a mock "Family Camp Night At TBT"- enjoying some yummy s'mores, singing along with Rabbi Noah at our campfire, eating, shmoozing, and being part of our intergenerational community. In short, all the things we love about going to family camp.



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## First Night Seder is Erev Shabbat, April 19!

Join us for community seder, as we join in our annual journey through Jewish history from the Exodus to the present. Along the way, we celebrate the gifts of freedom by eating ritual foods, singing classic songs, and renewing our sense of what it means to be a people of memory who use our story to transform the world today. That's a lot for one special seder meal, right?!

And that is why you need to be a part of it! We are pleased to invite you to make your reservations and bring family and friends with you. Our seder sells out every year, so please make your reservation today. We truly can't take late reservations because food is ordered and there is a limit on seating in our social hall. The flyer is in this Shofar; send it in, or call the office today! Rabbi Lisa and Robin Faigin lead this wonderful night, with passion, silliness, great songs, and joyous hearts!

Our seder is an affordable dinner because we ask people who are able to make donations to underwrite the cost of the ritual foods that we provide. You are invited to help underwrite by making a special donation to the congregational seder. For more information about seder contact Karen Kinrose, seder chair, or Sara Alviani, VP of Worship and Rituals.

## Camp Haverim is Coming

I am very excited to be directing Camp Haverim for the sixth year in a row. Last summer was wonderful, and now I am looking forward to creating more memorable experiences this year.

Our camp will offer traditional camp activities, such as arts and crafts, games, sports and water play. We will also offer Jewish cultural and religious activities, Shabbat services on Fridays, and teaching Hebrew blessings.

Camp Haverim will be offered for 6 weeks starting June 17th thru July 26th. Each week will have a different theme, such as Spanish, Art, Gymnastics, Soccer, Drumming, and Lego Creations.

Camp is for children ages 3-9 years old, and we also offer a Parent & Me class for children 20 months-30 months on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Camp will offer a variety of activities that will be appropriate for each child's developmental level.

For more information about Camp Haverim, please stop by the preschool office to pick up a brochure, or call 805-647-3798.

I hope to see you all this summer!

Shalom,

Marlena Gomez

Director, Camp Haverim

### APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### Friday April 5

PARSHAT TAZRIA

With Rabbi Lisa and Robin Faigin  
7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

#### Saturday, April 6

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service  
11:30 a.m. Kiddush & Torah study  
BANK LIBRARY

#### Friday, April 12

PARSHAT METZORA

Family Shabbat with Rabbi Lisa and Student  
Rabbi Noah Diamondstein  
6:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat  
6:30 p.m. Community Dinner  
7:15 p.m. Family Shabbat Service

#### Saturday, April 13

10:00 a.m. Brotherhood Shabbat  
Morning Services led by Men of Brotherhood  
Followed by Brotherhood-sponsored  
luncheon  
12:30 p.m. Shabbat Book Discussion (no  
potluck):  
Memento Park by Mark Sarvas, discussion led  
by Deborah Pollack

#### Friday, April 19

EREV PESACH/EREV SHABBAT

6:00 p.m. Congregational Family Seder  
Reservations required

#### Saturday, April 20

FIRST DAY PESACH

10:00 a.m. Shabbat/ Festival Morning Services  
including Hallel  
11:30 a.m. Kiddush & Torah study  
BANK LIBRARY

#### Friday, April 26

8TH DAY PESACH

7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services

#### Saturday, April 27

8TH DAY PESACH

10 a.m. Shabbat & Festival Morning  
Services, including Hallel and Yizkor  
Torah Study this morning



#### Community Shabbat Dinner

##### Friday, April 12, 6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat  
6:30 p.m. Community Shabbat Dinner  
and Torah School time  
7:15 p.m. Erev Shabbat Torah School Family  
Service with Rabbis  
Lisa and Noah

Please RSVP by calling the Temple office,  
(805) 647-4181

## President's Message

Pam Small



I now find that when the week gets hectic, I can recapture that feeling of calm that I experience every Saturday morning.

While recently on vacation, I took a meditation class. The teacher asked everyone if they practiced any form of meditation in their life. Many people said that they had tried and it didn't work for them; they just couldn't empty their minds and focus quietly, it was too hard, but they thought they should be doing it. When it came my turn, I told the group that two and a half years ago I had started attending religious services every Saturday morning. I explained that in the beginning, my mind would race, thinking of all the things I needed to get done, but, over time, I learned to appreciate the quiet and the soothing aspect of familiar rituals. I now find that when the week gets hectic, I can recapture that feeling of calm that I experience every Saturday morning. The instructor was very interested and told the class that this was the first time someone had answered him in this way. He also said that I was describing mindfulness rather than meditation.

As the lesson proceeded, it became apparent that the room was filled with A type personalities, with the exception of me. I think I must be a B, C, or even a D type. When told to sit quietly and focus on the tips of my index finger and thumb touching, I was promptly in that quiet place that has become so familiar to me on Saturday mornings. No one else was quite able to do this. The next day, I was approached by two women who were very interested in what I had said in the class. We talked for some time and I learned that neither of them attended services except for weddings and funerals. This made me think about the value of my weekly attendance. Secular life has few rituals or time to seek out the small, still voice. Ritual provides a spiritual language for the experiences and passages of life for which there are no words. The great joys and sorrows of life are celebrated and eased, and living itself becomes a practice of gratitude and thought.

Services are a dear and familiar routine and have become an important part of my week. Saturday mornings find me at TBT reflecting, feeling grateful, and enjoying the company of my fellow congregants. I am especially happy to be with my

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## Brotherhood

Ron Halpern



I am following the footsteps of two leaders here at Temple Beth Torah who have put their earlier pictures of themselves in the monthly Shofar articles, Pam Small, TBT President and Bob Braitman, our Brotherhood Past President. This is a picture of myself when I was 10 years old at my little league in North Hollywood.

One of the reasons I have wanted to follow Pam and Bob was because little did I know that I would someday be the President of as great an organization as the Brotherhood and I would be here at Temple Beth Torah along with some of my little league teammates that are, too, members of TBT. Marty Kinrose is one of them. In addition, I learned many of my fellow high school classmates who attended my high school, U.S. Grant High in Van Nuys are congregants, Robert Kerman and Eleanor Richman, just to name a couple. Robert has already been to a few Brotherhood

meetings and has helped out at Brotherhood events. What a great feeling it is to know that right here at TBT we run into many of our childhood and teenage friends.

The Brotherhood is about building relationships with the members just like being a teammate on a baseball team. At Brotherhood, we meet the first Monday of each month and share our time together with some food, conversation and go over our activities calendar. This month, we have planned a Brotherhood Shabbat service on the morning of April 13. The following morning, April 14, we will have a Brotherhood brunch. The speaker will be the Executive Director of Ventura Land Trust, Derek Poultny. Please see the flyer in the monthly Shofar or online for all the information on the brunch.

Shalom to all,  
Ron Halpern

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D FROM PG. 1

### Tot Shabbat

Friday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Brotherhood Shabbat Service

Followed by Luncheon  
Saturday, April 13 at 10:00 a.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Jr. VCTRY

Saturday, April 13 at 4:30 p.m.  
Offsite (May be onsite)\*\*

### Brotherhood Lox and Bagels

Sunday, April 14 at 9:30 a.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Mini VCTRY

Sunday, April 14 12:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Pesach Community Seder

Friday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Sr. VCTRY NFTY\*\*

Friday, April 26  
Offsite

### Havdalah Celebration

Saturday, April 27  
6:00 p.m. Dinner  
6:30 p.m. Art Activity  
7:00 p.m. Havdalah Service  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Jr. VCTRY

Sunday, April 28, at 1:00 p.m.\*\*  
Offsite

## MEETINGS

### AA Meeting

Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Brotherhood Meeting

Monday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Ritual Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Board of Director's Meeting

Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### House Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

### Social Action Committee

Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m.  
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

\*\*offsite



## President's Message

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community, singing and praying, hugging and kissing, laughing and loving. There are now a number of prayers for which the Hebrew comes to me as smooth as a well-polished stone. I recently realized that I have learned these prayers from listening and imitating the Saturday Morning Minyan. What a joy to know that all of you have been teaching me. I can never thank you enough.

B'Shalom,  
Pam



Enjoying the Havdalah light glowing from a hand-made Havdalah candle.



Teacher Sharon Speilman taking 1st 2nd graders on a scavenger hunt searching for the Hebrew word David. After, they sang, "David Melech!"

## Musical Notes From Robin Faigin

A few months back, I suggested that we start a monthly TBT "jam" group. This is open to all congregants who would like to bring your instrument(s) and/or your voice, and come learn some of the new prayer settings and music I've been learning and sharing. You could also share your own favorites that you would like me to add to our prayer repertoire. The focus would be on Jewish music, new and old.

Well, I got a bit sidetracked with the preparations for our Beatles Shabbat Service, and, in the meantime, we have also had Purim and Pesach preparations going on here, but I am now ready to get this ball rolling!

I did hear back from a few of you, and the general consensus was weekend afternoons work best for the majority of the interested folks. So, I'd like to schedule our first jam on Sunday, April 14th (after the Brotherhood Brunch!) at 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.-ish. I will have some music available for you, and we'll see how this goes.

Please do contact me at [robin@templebethtorah.com](mailto:robin@templebethtorah.com) to let me know you're planning to attend, so I can have enough copies of music (and sufficient snacks, of course!)



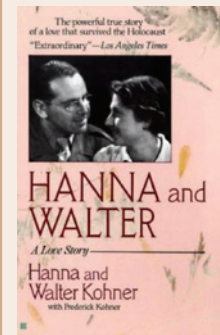
## Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 28, 3:00 p.m., hosted at  
Temple Ner Ami in Camarillo

Our Jewish community comes together each year to celebrate at Simchat Torah, study on erev Shavuot, and to commemorate on Yom HaShoah. Please join us on Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. for a special program, hosted by Congregation Ner Ami, as Julie Kohner talks about the story that her parents first revealed on "This is Your Life." Hanna and Walter Kohner had one of the few Holocaust stories with a happy ending. The two were childhood sweethearts in Czechoslovakia before the war, with big plans for the future. When Hitler's armies closed in, Walter managed to get to the States, where his brothers were living. Hanna was arrested and miraculously survived internment in four concentration camps, including Auschwitz.

After the war, Walter learned from an American sergeant who helped liberate her that Hanna was still alive. He eventually found her in Amsterdam, and they were soon married. Settling in Los Angeles in 1946, Walter

became a theatrical agent, and with Hanna wrote their amazing story, Hanna and Walter, A Love Story, published in 2008. Please join us for a commemoration service, our guest speaker, and a light reception afterwards.



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## TRANSPARENT TBT

1. Additional security cameras have been installed and are up and running.
2. The new kiosk in the lobby will be operating soon.
3. There are many events coming for Brotherhood, Torah School, and Adult Classes!

# Expand Your Horizons— Learn Something New!

by Deborah Pollack, VP of Adult Learning and Programs

T.S. Eliot wrote that “April is the cruellest month,” but Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales begins in the rejuvenating month of “April,” so take your pick. Here at TBT, you’ll also have several educational options from which to choose this month, just **BE SURE TO REGISTER ON TIME IF REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

## Learning About the International Flavor of Wines

Ron Halpern

Saturday evening, April 6, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Following a brief Havdalah service, join Certified Wine Specialist Ron as he teaches us about different types of wine we may want to consider for our holiday needs, ranging from Kosher, to Organic, to Bio-Dynamic, and regular types. We will taste reds, whites, and sparkling wines. Ron will cover what to look for on the labels, the different varietals, countries of origin, and estimated costs. Cheese and crackers will be served.

There will be a materials fee of \$10–15 depending on the number of participants. Enroll by 4/2; email Deborah Pollack at [rp5dp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rp5dp@sbcglobal.net)

## Prayerbook Hebrew

Kathy Fink

Tuesday evenings, 7:00–8:00—NOTE NEW START AND END DATES!!

April 9, 16, 23, 30

May 7, 14, 21, 28

June 4, 11, 18

Would you like to be able to read along with the Rabbi in the siddur (prayerbook) without looking at the transliterations and even be able to follow along in the Torah? Kathy will be your guide to this simultaneously ancient and modern language using a textbook written specifically for adult beginners, Aleph Isn’t Tough. Whether you don’t know an aleph from a bet or learned Hebrew so long ago that you’ve forgotten most of it, this is the class for you. You’ll enjoy feeling more involved in Shabbat services, especially if you’re thinking about preparing for an adult bar or bat mitzvah.

Enroll by 4/4; email Deborah Pollack at [rp5dp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rp5dp@sbcglobal.net)

## Shabbat Book Discussion

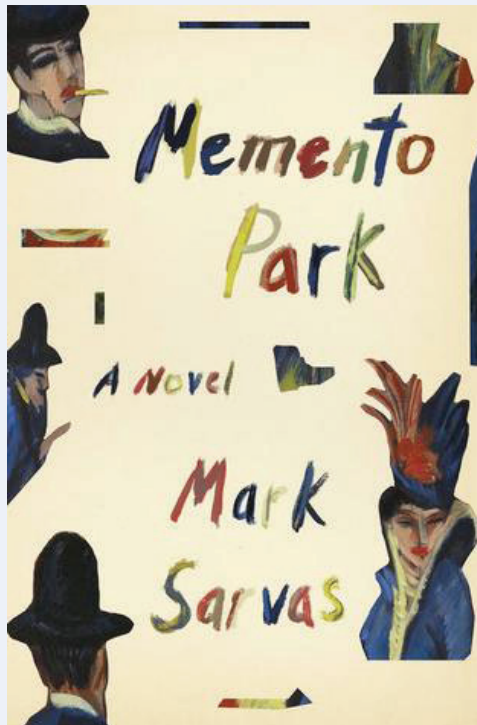
April 13, 12:30–2:00

Memento Park by Mark Sarvas

Facilitated by Deborah Pollack

Set in Los Angeles, New York, and Budapest, this book begins with an unexpected call from the Australian consulate through which protagonist Matt Santos learns of a valuable painting believed to have been looted from his family during WWII. To recover it, he must repair his strained relationship with his father, unearth his family history, and restore his connection to his own Judaism.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** This book discussion will follow Brotherhood Shabbat morning services, to which all participants are cordially invited. After their inspirational service, the men of Brotherhood will be serving lunch and have generously offered us the opportunity to carry ours into the library. Therefore, no potluck items are required.



## Mindful Middot: The Path of Jewish Self-Growth

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller

Sunday mornings, 9:30–11:00 a.m.

April 28 and May 19

April 14

April 28

May 19

Mindful Middot with Rabbi Lisa continues April 28 and May 19 as we look at texts which come from the Musar tradition, that of self-reflection and improvement on the traits that we feel compelled to address within ourselves. Through mindful focus, Musar teaches us that we can improve our poor traits through reflection, journaling, prayer, and conscious work! If you have not been part of the class so far, do not hesitate to come—each trait, and each month, is a full-time project unto itself! We have addressed anger, holiness, peace of mind and more this year. See you on Sunday, April 14 and April 28, 9:30–11 a.m. in the library.

## Women During the Holocaust

Annette Halpern

Tuesdays, 2:00–3:00 p.m.

April 30, May 7, May 14

“The historian of the future who will write about the events of our days will have to devote a special page to the Jewish woman and her place in this war. The Jewish woman has assumed a special chapter in Jewish history. In the abyss of darkness, she was a pillar of strength and courage.” Emanuel Ringelbaum, historian and head of Oneg Shabbos, the secret archives and chronicle of the Warsaw Ghetto.

Join Annette, a Holocaust Education Specialist, for an exploration and discussion of complex and varied responses of Jewish women to the Holocaust.

Enroll by 4/26; email Deborah Pollack at [rp5dp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rp5dp@sbcglobal.net)



## Education & Family Programs

Marisa Schrier



It is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food for the Purim feast held later in the day and to increase love and friendship among Jews and their neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate Purim with us at our Enchanted Forest Purim Carnival. The games and activities were incredible this year. Leather stamping, archery, fairy dust potions and ribbon twirlers were some of the favorites. I had so much fun watching the kids build their own creations and search for the Golden Gnome! The Megillah reading was a great twist on the traditional story, and hearing the kids boo and cheer throughout was so much fun. I am thrilled to share with you that we met our \$2500.00 goal and exceeded it! Thank you so much to everyone that helped us reach this objective. This wonderful Torah School Fundraiser would not have been possible without the Purim Committee. Taylor Paskin, Keren Zaks and Inessa Gelman worked endlessly to make this event the great success it was. If being on a future Purim Committee interests you, please contact me, and we will make it happen.

One of the commandments related to Purim is about giving mishloach manot. Mishloach manot literally means, "sending of portions." These gifts of food or drink are sent to family, friends and others on Purim day. The mitzvah of giving mishloach manot derives from the Book of Esther. It is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food for the Purim feast held later in the day and to increase love and friendship among Jews and their neighbors. Our 3rd–6th Graders fulfilled this commandment by creating 25 boxes to send to our elderly community during the time of Purim. The boxes included; a decorated box, a handwritten note, a handpicked orange, home baked hamantashen and some other treats. This activity gives the students a chance to practice gimilut hasadim (acts of loving kindness).

Thank you so much to the talented and brave baker, DeAnna Scott. She successfully made hamantashen, with 40 Torah School Students! Robbie and Phoebe's mom is always happy to help out to ensure our activities have sweetness baked in. We appreciate your hard work and time.

Our bright and committed group of B'nei Mitzvah Students have come together to work on a joint mitzvah project. They have organized a Havdalah Fundraiser, benefitting JCA Shalom (A Jewish Camp in Malibu that was destroyed during

the fires). Please join them on April 27th, 2019, from 6:00–8:15 p.m. The cost is: \$20 per family/\$10 per individual. Price includes: Havdalah Service, supplies to create a Havdalah Spice Bag, Silent Auction (which includes a scholarship to a weekend camp from JCA Shalom), raffle, sing along, games for kids, Camp Fire, a s'more and a hot chocolate, and closing circle. You don't want to miss out on this opportunity to come together as a community to help create tikkun olam (repairing the world) for our JCA Shalom friends.

Cookie Diamant, a very special congregant, has been knitting kippot for our community. Do you want a more personal kippah than the one you pick up going into services? Please come to my office and pick out a hand knit kippah for yourself. I encourage all Torah School students to pick out one that works for them. Wouldn't you enjoy praying, with a kippah on, that was made with so much love? Thank you to Cookie!

The Torah School Students have been very busy learning, praying, and growing. They are progressing in their Hebrew, learning about Bible stories, en-

riching their holiday knowledge, and creating amazing Judaica. Ravit, the Torah School Art Teacher, has the students working on amazing projects. 3rd Grade is learning the Hebrew Aleph Bet, and they are making their own Hebrew letter chart utilizing their knowledge regarding complimentary colors. 4th/5th Graders are focusing on Judaica symbols and are creating a personal Hamsa. Students are using beautiful napkins to decorate this art piece. 6th Grade is focusing on Blessings and Prayers. Using oil pastels, students created a Shabbat scene with Shabbat candles and using calligraphy pens, wrote out the candle blessing.

April's First Family Friday will be on April 12th, 2019. Please note we are revising the schedule for this special evening. Join us at 6:00 p.m. for Tot Shabbat, and at 6:30 p.m. for a Stone Fire Dinner (\$8 adults/\$5 per child 12 or younger) or Bring Your Own Dairy Dinner. 7:00 p.m. hallah braiding led by DeAnna Scott. Torah School Service will begin at 7:30 p.m. allowing us the time for the hallah activity. Please RSVP to the Torah School office before 04/08/19. This evening promises to be fun, engaging, and meaningful. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

B'shalom,

Marisa

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## Children's World & TBT Preschools

Marion Levin-Welch



April is the month that we start planting in the preschool garden and getting ready to feed the families who come to the Brotherhood Food Share program.

Our preschool celebrated another author's day with Dr. Seuss' Birthday and the Cat in the Hat on March 5th & 6th and then continued the merriment in the classrooms. The Cat in the Hat read stories to us, and then we took pictures to remember the event. Each year, we are lucky to get a visit from Dr. Seuss' favorite friend.

Our very own Temple Beth Torah Preschool is planning a Passover program in April with the children, their families, our educator, Marisa, and Rabbi Lisa. We plan this family event for TBT preschool families in part so we can listen to songs at our sing along and make an arts and crafts project to take home. We will have a mini Seder so the children gain further knowledge about the order of the Seder. We believe that experience will help strengthen their understanding of why we celebrate this special holiday in the name of freedom.

On Tuesday, the 23rd of April, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., we are planning to hold our Open House. We will have an ice cream social, at which a lovely dessert will be served. This Open House event presents our annual book fair, art show designed by the children, and a silent auction. You are invited to join us if you would like. Bring the kids and grandkids.

April is the month that we start planting in the preschool garden and getting ready to feed the families who come to the Brotherhood Food

Share program. The kids really enjoy the opportunity to be outside learning the basics of gardening from our science teacher, Dawn Reily. In addition to planting this month, we will have a week-long program celebrating Earth Day, providing the children experiences to understand more about Tikkun Olam. We have many activities and special projects planned so the students learn first-hand the importance of recycling, repurposing, and how to care for the earth.

We look forward to our garden day with families. At the end of the month, during our garden day, we plant, weed, and create. The families have been wonderful about engaging in all the activities: digging in the dirt, the pulling of greens we do not plan to use, and kibitzing with each other as they laugh and share stories.

We are blessed that our school only has a few spots remaining for the next school year. People are still touring and being placed on the wait-list we have created. Our teachers are the best, and their love for their profession and their creativity shine for all to see.

As we approach this holiday season, we are mindful of all that has brought us to this time. We wish you and your family a happy Passover.

B'Shalom,  
Marion Levin-Welch M.A.  
ECE Director

## Torah School Calendar

### Torah School Dates:

Wednesday, April 10, 17, 24

Sunday, April 14, 28

### No Torah School Dates:

Wednesday, April 3

Sunday, April 7, 21

### Mishpacha Dates:

Sunday, April 14, 28

## Tot Shabbat

Friday, April 12, 6:00 p.m.

## WOMEN OF TBT

Women of TBT kicked off the planning of our first set of activities/events at a fun-filled Rounds and Reds evening in February.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- **Women's Seder – Sunday, April 7th, 4:00–7:00 p.m.** (contact Annette at [annetehalpern4@gmail.com](mailto:annetehalpern4@gmail.com) or Marilyn at [mbaronlcs@gmail.com](mailto:mbaronlcs@gmail.com))
- **Chick Flicks & Dessert – Saturdays, May 11th and July 20th, 6:30 p.m.** (contact Kathy at [kathy@narwhat.us](mailto:kathy@narwhat.us) or Taylor at [taylormia@aol.com](mailto:taylormia@aol.com))

We are also thrilled to kick off the following groups:

- **Crafts/Knitting/Needlepoint – first Tuesday of the month, 1–3 p.m.** – Temple lobby (contact Rochelle at [rhoslick@gmail.com](mailto:rhoslick@gmail.com) or Joy at [joymikevta@gmail.com](mailto:joymikevta@gmail.com))
- **Mahjong – 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month – 11:00 am – 2:00 p.m.** (contact Jennifer at [saucy520@gmail.com](mailto:saucy520@gmail.com))

We encourage all Temple women to join Women of TBT for fun, friendship and support of TBT. For more information or questions please email us at [womenoftbt@gmail.com](mailto:womenoftbt@gmail.com).

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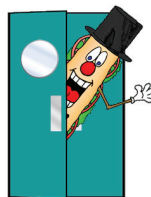
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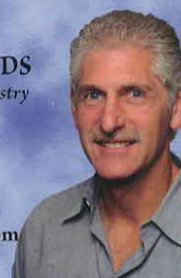
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## LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY



### Wednesday, May 1

Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Memorial Day

### Friday, May 3

First Friday Shabbat

### Wednesday, May 8

Yom HaZikaron/Memorial Day

### Thursday, May 9

Yom HaAtzmaut

### Saturday, May 18

Torah School Havdalah

### Monday, May 27

Memorial Day

## How to reach us

Phone: (805) 647-4181

Email: [TBTventura@TempleBethTorah.com](mailto:TBTventura@TempleBethTorah.com)

Web: [www.TempleBethTorah.com](http://www.TempleBethTorah.com)

### Temple Auxiliaries & Affiliates

#### Brotherhood

Ron Halpern (805) 647-5278

#### Sisterhood

[TBTwomen@gmail.com](mailto:TBTwomen@gmail.com)

#### Children's World & TBT Preschools

Marion Levin-Welch (805) 647-3798

#### Senior Youth Group/VCTRY (9th–12th grade)

[MarisaSchriereducator@templebethtorah.com](mailto:MarisaSchriereducator@templebethtorah.com)

#### Junior Youth Group (6th–8th grade)

Tassi Benjamin (805) 647-4181

#### UJA/Federation

Cheri DeKofsky (805) 647-7800

#### JFS Office

(805) 641-6565

### PROFESSIONAL STAFF

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Please call the Temple office to keep us informed of any new addresses, phone numbers or e-mails.



Check out the *Shofar*, photos, and lots more about TBT at [www.TempleBethTorah.com](http://www.TempleBethTorah.com).

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