



Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller



The opportunity to grow and change is there for every one of us, in small ways and in profound ways.

Many years ago, our beloved Cantor Emeritus Ralph Moses found himself in the hospital over the High Holy Days. He lamented to me that missing the Holy Days at Temple made him feel incomplete for that year. I understood exactly what he meant. After a while, the Holy Days are both a physical response, like a mental re-setting of our inner clock, and a spiritual calling for renewal, to listen to our inner voice, contemplate the big picture of our lives and move forward into the year ahead.

Renewal and rebirth are real. The opportunity to grow and change is there for every one of us, in small ways and in profound ways. It can be physical, emotional, mental- shifting an attitude, changing or letting go of a narrative we tell ourselves, a truth we accept and integrate positively into our lives. Our family watched renewal in a profound and personal way this summer. Many of you may know that in June, Seth donated his left kidney to his sister. On the night he came home from the hospital I spoke about the prayer for daily miracles we recite, and how what is ordinary and taken for granted by others becomes a miracle when it is you who experience it. Ordinary and routine, when it is one of twenty thousand kidney transplants that happen each year; miraculous when it is your loved ones who benefit from the wisdom and skill of research and medical teams. In the weeks and months following the surgeries, our family saw renewal in Seth, the body's miraculous ability to heal, one kidney's ability to take over where once two kidneys shared the work. And we

witnessed rebirth in Bev, as her body responded to new opportunity, overcoming the stressed circumstances in which it had been laboring to function. Watching her kidney function increase, her skin shine again, her hands warm and her energy explode, it was the experience of a body reborn. She has been an inspiration to all.

The body is not the only part of us that can renew. The soul certainly can too. T'shuvah is that deep notion that we come back around to the same place we have been before, but we are different because we have grown in wisdom and insight. That is how we sit in Holy Day services with the same ancient and contemporary liturgy, but have a different experience than the years before, because we bring different insights and inner thoughts to the process of t'shuvah. The re-setting of the inner clock, and the Jewish calendar is a subtle reminder that our clock is moving too- that there is work we need to do in our relationships in our chronic behaviors, that must respond to the urgency of time. If not now, when? asked the sage Hillel. The Holy Days prods us with the same question, regarding relationships that need addressing, past issues that need to be addressed, inner traits we wish to improve. If not now, when?

I look forward to the process that began with the month of Elul on September 1 and unfolds through Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. I feel so blessed to be moving in to 5780 with each one of you, and with this kehillah kedosha. Seth and our family wish all of you a healthy and an enriching shana tova!



TBT 5780:
Jewish Community
Jewish Life
Jewish Belonging

UPCOMING EVENTS

HAPPENINGS

Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Sunday, October 13 at 9:30 a.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Story Discussion

Tuesday, October 29 at 2:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

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

Mahjong

Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

River Haven Food Drop Off

First Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m.
TBT KITCHEN

Shabbat Book Discussion & Potluck Lunch

Saturday, October 26 at 12:30 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Tot Shabbat

Friday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m.
TBT SANCTUARY

Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.
TBT SANCTUARY

Torah School 3rd Fridays

Family Shabbat
October 18
6:00 p.m. Family Services
6:45 p.m. BYO Dairy Dinner

continued on page 3

President's Message

Pam Small



It may be my age or my life experiences, but I treasure belonging to this community.

These past few months have been a little rough for me. In June I was diagnosed with Stage 0 breast cancer - bad news, but not terrible news. I was told that the first step in treatment was surgery to be followed by 4 weeks of radiation. This was hard news to hear. Both the diagnosis and the fact that I have never had surgery caused a great deal of anxiety for me - I even have all of my wisdom teeth! I was given a pamphlet on breast cancer in which I was informed that the most common side effect of radiation is fatigue. My brain immediately went to, "What if I can't drive?" Being the fixer that I am, I started to make a mental list of people I could ask to drive me once a week for four weeks. I easily came up with five people, so I went on and thought of ten, then fifteen, then twenty, and when I went over twenty-five people for my list, I felt calmer and very comforted. The majority of the people on my list came from our TBT community, or should I say, my TBT community.

I did not grow up belonging to any sort of community. We lived in the country and all of us commuted long distances to get to school or work. The time we might have spent participating

in community activities was spent riding or driving. In high school I rode a bus for three to four hours a day because our buses had to cover such a large area to pick up students. It may be my age or my life experiences, but I treasure belonging to this community. Over the years, I have worked hard here, but I have also had great fun and have made many remarkable friends. So, how do you become a member of a community? Many of you know this, but some of you may be like me; I didn't have a clue. This may seem obvious, but sign up to be a member. Come for a service; try a Friday night and then try a Saturday morning. Join a committee or a Rosh Chodesh or a Havarah. Help plan an event, set up an event, and to meet the best people, stay and help clean up after an event. Take a class, teach a class, help with tutoring, and donate a meal for the homeless. If you are out to dinner on a Friday night, stop in and have your dessert at our oneg. Taste some great chili and beer with Brotherhood and come watch a movie with Sisterhood. Participate and make yourself known. As time goes by, I promise you will even experience moments of awe. I felt this recently at Perry Shapiro's funeral. The family requested

Psalms 150 and I had tears in my eyes as I joined in with the chorus of Halleluyah as our community sang Perry to his rest.

In February of this year, Rabbi Lisa and I chaperoned 6 of our teens for the Religious Action Committee Meeting in Washington, D.C. At one point I was assigned to help a small group with one of the activities. My teammate and I introduced ourselves. She was an educator from the east coast, but when I said that I was a temple president, she said, "Oh! I'm so sorry! That's the worst job in the synagogue!" In that perky way I have, I said that I actually enjoy being the president and was in my second term. Her eyes narrowed and she stared at me for a long minute, trying to determine if I was crazy. I must have passed muster because she slowly said, "Well, you must have a good congregation." I leaned in closer and told her, "I have the BEST congregation!" And I do. How do I know that all of those people on my list would drive me if I needed them? Because you are a congregation of extraordinarily kind and caring people. It continues to be a pleasure for me to get to know you better, a joy for me to work with you, and it remains a great honor for me to represent you. I wish for all you a year of many blessings, of good health, and of great joy.

B'Shalom,

Pam



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OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, October 4- Parshat Vayelech

Shabbat Shuvah
6:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat
7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service
followed by oneg

Saturday, October 5

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
11:30 a.m. Kiddush & Torah Study, Bank Family Library

Friday, October 11- Parshat Ha'azinu

7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service
followed by oneg

Saturday, October 12

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
11:30 a.m. Kiddush & Torah Study, Bank Family Library



Friday, October 18- Chol HaMoe'd Sukkot

6:30 p.m. Shabbat Sukkot Family Service in the sanctuary
6:45 p.m. Congregational dinner in the sukkah
7:30 p.m. Sukkot Sleepover & oneg!

Saturday, October 19

10 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services in the sukkah
Including lulav waving and oneg

Friday, October 25- Parshat B'reshit

7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service
followed by oneg

Saturday, October 26

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

11:30 a.m. Kiddush & Torah Study, Bank Family Library
12:30 Potluck & Book Discussion "Kaddish.com" led by Marilyn Baron, bring a non-meat item to share

*High Holy Day Service
times and Programs are available
on the website and were mailed to each
member home.*

Brotherhood

Ron Halpern

As we approach the High Holidays the Brotherhood has been very busy. In September we had our special beer tasting evening with chili and dessert contests. We had been planning this event since May. With the hard work of many of our members, I am pleased to report it was a very successful event. I want to thank our members who helped plan the activity and a big shout out to Camilo who not only picked up, but set up a ping pong table for us to use. Our sixty attendees spent time tasting a half dozen craft beers from the Santa Maria Beer Company, sampling tasty chili and rich desserts, and just enjoying conversations. The chili contest winner was Annette Halpern with Sandy Wilson finishing second. Mary Braitman won the dessert contest with Gail Kleinman as runner-up. I would like to thank all of the people who brought food for the event, helping to keep our costs down and our fundraising efforts up. They were all winners. In addition, I would like to give a shout out to David Kleinman who brought his DJ talents and played some great music for our listening pleasure.

The following day Brotherhood was back at TBT early in the morning making pancakes, preparing fruit, and serving over 150 of the Torah School parents and their children. This is a tradi-

tion that we do every year, and we will continue to help out TBT when we are needed.

On November 3 we will hold our first brunch of the Jewish new year featuring the director of Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, David De Candia. He has arranged for a tea tasting and will discuss teas of the world. Stay tuned for more interesting brunches coming in December and at the beginning of the new year in January. If you are interested in joining the Brotherhood or just coming to a meeting the first Monday of the month, please let me or Martha in the TBT office know. You are always welcome.

L'shana tova,
Ron Halpern



UPCOMING EVENTS CONT'D FROM PG. 1

MEETINGS

AA Meeting

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

Ritual Committee Meeting**

Thursday, October 17 at 5:30 p.m.
RABBI'S SUKKAH

Brotherhood Meeting

Monday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Board of Director's Meeting

Thursday, October 10 at 7:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Women of TBT Meeting

Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

House Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Social Action Committee

Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 p.m.
TEMPLE BETH TORAH

***OFFSITE

Office closure

October 1, 9

Women of TBT

Your Sisterhood

Ann Kerman and Kathy Randall

“You don't have to be powerful, famous, or extraordinary. We all have stories to tell. A story begging to be told of our successes and our failures while trying to express something deeper. All of our lives are important, for our lives are truly meaningful, thoughts on who we are and what we are about. All of our stories no matter who we are can truly make a difference in someone else's life. We all have dilemmas, a story to tell or something to vent about. We are the sum of the stories we tell ourselves, and those stories are necessarily while we exhale our memories. Our lives are stories that we constantly invite others to help us create, share and live, for our stories convey the meaning of our lives, experiences that shape truths we come to believe. We all walk many different paths in life and we each have a story to tell.” By: GLORIA NEWSOME, (LORAIN OHIO)

Women of TBT have expressed the desire to

have speakers. Speakers inspire us and enrich us with meaningful information. At Temple Beth Torah, we have women from all walks of life. Women who have been through wars, immigrated to this country for a better life, homemakers, scientists, volunteers, doctors, nurses, religious figures, genealogists, teachers, engineers, care givers, designers, musicians, historians, office workers, etc. The list goes on and on. We want to hear your story!

Calling all Women of TBT. We all have a story to tell and we want to hear yours. You might feel your story is not important or meaningful, but it is! You are just very familiar with your story and so perhaps feel it is not exciting enough. It doesn't have to be exciting. Something small can be very powerful! Your story might be about your career, your family background, volunteer work you are involved in, teaching experiences, travel stories, war stories, beauty and fashion, and so on.

Your story would be presented by you at one

of the monthly general meetings but if more time is needed, we can schedule a special event and expand the audience. Please give us your thoughts and come forward to tell your story. See Ann Kerman or Kathy Randall or email us at WomenofTBT@gmail.com.

We also want to invite Women of TBT to share their family recipes and favorite cookbook recipes. We are looking at the possibility of doing a “Women of TBT Holiday Cookbook.” More information to follow.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next General Meeting, which due to Yom Kippur has been rescheduled to October 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. If you are new to the Temple or have not signed up yet for Women of TBT (Sisterhood), we invite you to come join us for some female camaraderie and kibitzing. As always, please let us know if you need a ride to the meeting and we'll do our best to accommodate you.





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TRANSPARENT TBT

1. New Members events are scheduled for October.
2. House Committee is working hard on future needs.
3. Adult Education is planned for 5780.

VCTRY, Looking Ahead...

Seniors: Let's get together (yeah, yeah, yeah) on Saturday, October 5, 2019 for Havdalah and a movie downtown! We will meet on California and Main, walk down to the beach to end our Shabbat together, then walk back to the Century 10 movie theater downtown. We will all choose the movie when we get there. Food will not be included. Please bring money for a movie ticket and concessions. Flyer will have additional details.

ALSO!! SENIORS!!

SAVETHE DATE (and some cash) because ... We will be taking a trip down to Disneyland during Winter Break on Saturday, December 21, 2019. Details are still being worked out, but do not forget to put it on your calendar. Be sure to wear your Disney best.

SAVETHE DATE

NFTY FALL KALLAH will be happening this year on October 25, 2019 until October 27, 2019 in Ojai!!! WOO!! Registration is now open!! Early Bird Registration until September 22, 2019, Cost: \$290. Late Registration until October 13, 2019, Cost \$340. These events are TRULY magnificent. I highly encourage everyone to go and if cost is an issue, LET US KNOW! NFTY offers scholarships, but registration needs to be completed in a timely manner.

Juniors: The first off-site Junior VCTRY event is taking place at Sky High in Ventura on Sunday, October 13, 2019. We will jump around for two hours and burn some steam for the upcoming week. The cost is only \$20 per person (unless VCTRY Pass was purchased). Food will not be served at this event. Please see the flyer for more details.

Mini: No Mini event for the month of October. See you all in November!

Recycling Program

This year we have also implemented a recycling program as our way to give back to the world and help our youth group raise funds. This program is a team effort that will seek help from our TBT community by bringing their plastic and metal recyclables for us to process. Some FAQs:

How can I participate?

Well! There are a couple ways. VCTRY has set up some beautifully decorated recycling boxes around TBT where you can leave your empty plastic bottles and cans. Do not worry about separating them because we will go through it.

Another way is...

Start collecting your plastic bottles and cans at home and then drop them off at 9:30 AM on the dates below. We will separate them that day. You will be helping the planet AND helping out our youth group raise money.

Do I need to wait until the drop off dates to leave my recyclables?

Nope! Simply bring them to TBT whenever you are local and drop them off in one of our VCTRY receptacles.

The days we will be meeting to collect are 9/12/2019, 12/7/2019, 2/15/2019, and 4/18/2019 at 9:30 a.m. on the TBT campus.

Expand Your Horizons— Learn Something New!

by Deborah Pollack, VP of Adult Learning and Programs

With the new year comes your new opportunity for intellectual, spiritual, and creative growth—and much more! The 5780 edition of Temple Beth Torah's Life-Long Learning brochure was distributed to all those attending High Holiday services and is also available in the racks outside the Temple office. Please look at the many and varied educational offerings, check off the ones that intrigue you, and put them on your calendar. Many require advanced registration so that the teachers can be fully prepared—those dates and my email address are prominently featured, so please note them. Bring a friend to class or meet new friends whose interests coincide with yours.

SHABBAT BOOK DISCUSSION & POTLUCK LUNCH

Kaddish.com by Nathan Englander
Marilyn Baron, Discussion Leader
Saturday, 12:30–2:00 p.m.
October 26

Larry is the secular son in a family of Orthodox Brooklyn Jews. When his father dies, it's his responsibility to recite the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, every day for eleven months. To the horror and dismay of his sister, Larry refuses—imperiling the fate of his father's soul. To appease her, Larry hatches an ingenious if cynical plan, hiring a stranger through a web-

site called kaddish.com to recite the prayer and shepherd his father's soul safely to rest. Sharp, irreverent, and hilarious, Englander's tale of a son who makes a diabolical compromise ingeniously captures the tensions between tradition and modernity.

Read the book and bring a non-meat item to contribute to the potluck.

ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH/UNLOCKING THE SPIRITUALITY OF PRAYER

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller and Kathy Fink
Sundays, 9:30–10:30 Rabbi Lisa (focused on prayer) Sundays, 10:30–11:30 Hebrew with Kathy Fink

October 13, November 17, 24, December 8, 15, January 12, 26, February 2, 9, 23, March 1, 15, 22, 29, April 19, 26, May 3, 17

Hebrew is the beautiful key that unlocks much of the spirituality of Judaism: the ability to pray fully, sing heartily, and chant the sacred Torah words from the scroll. This year, we invite you to expand your Hebrew skills, immerse in a deep understanding of liturgy, find new comfort and ability in worship and song, and...read from Torah!

Join our 18-week Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, which is equal parts building on Hebrew reading skills to include familiarity with Hebrew prayers, and learning key Hebrew words and

spiritual ideas to unlock the meaning within prayers. Co-taught by Kathy Fink and Rabbi Lisa, this Sunday morning program will culminate in an Adult B'nai Mitzvah on Shabbat morning, May 30, which is Shavuot, the celebration of receiving Torah at Sinai. You will be reading Torah! If you have participated in an adult b'nai mitzvah in the past, you may always participate again!

Rabbi Lisa's class is open to any Temple member who would like to enrich his or her understanding of prayer. Kathy Fink's class, which is the preparation for the B'nai Mitzvah service, is open to Jewish Temple members who completed Kathy's Hebrew class or are of equivalent proficiency. This program is available only to Temple members.

There is a \$50 materials fee. Please register and pay in the Temple office by October 10.

STORY DISCUSSION

Deborah Pollack
Tuesday, 2:00–3:00 p.m.
October 29

Just in time for Halloween, we'll discuss "A Rose for Emily" by William Faulkner. Copies of the story will be available in the racks outside the TBT office or you can print out your own.

House Committee

By Alan Kirschbaum

Over the summer months, we've been working hard to make Temple Beth Torah a Mishkan—a safe and comfortable place for sacred study and community gathering.

Summertime, when Torah school and pre-school are on break and when the activity calendar is light, is the ideal time for renewing our Temple home while minimizing disruption to active programs. This summer, through the hard work of the House committee and the staff, we implemented several key improvements. You may not immediately see all that's happened to keep our facilities and grounds in good working order, so let's look at some of these improvements.

Our major project this summer focused on Torah school buildings' structural integrity. While you'll see the fresh paint on the Youth center (classrooms 14, 15) and the portable building (classrooms 12, 13), what you don't see is even more important. The Youth center now has a modern tapered roof and gutters to handle rain much better and keeping the building and the people inside dry and well insulated. There's also new energy efficient exterior lighting and extensive insect and dry-rot damage remediation. Similarly, the portable classroom building also got significant roofing insect and dry-rot damage repairs. These buildings are now better places for children to grow in Jewish culture.

Throughout the office and classroom areas, we continue to "green" TBT. The fluorescent light mechanical and electronic ballasts were approaching the end of their useful lives, so we've replaced almost 300 fluorescent tubes with low

power LED lamps. In addition to saving on our monthly electrical bills, we're saving significantly on the cost and labor of replacement florescent tubes.

You can help. The House committee would love to have additional members who can contribute to enhancing our facilities by taking on specific short-term and long-term improvement planning projects. You'll identify areas that need improvements, plan solutions to physical plant issues, and turn those plans into reality. For more information, contact me or our TBT vice president for facilities, Berta Steele.

Wishing you a secure and uplifting L'shona tova.



Thank you to Dianne Turner who often polishes our Torah silver in preparation for the holy days!

Education & Family Programs

Marisa Schrier



The Torah School staff is filled with passionate people who bring the joy of Judaism to our children each week.

Thank you to everyone that made the 1st Day of Torah School possible! I was thrilled to see our Social Hall filled with returning and new families. The Brotherhood cooked us a delicious pancake breakfast and helped cheer on the Torah School students as they went off to meet their teachers and check out their classrooms. Parents spent time reviewing Torah School policies and procedures and had the opportunity to connect with their child/ren's teacher/s. To re-energize our tzedakah program, students met with Taylor Paskin, the Torah School Art Specialist, and made leather pouches to carry their tzedakah money, a pushke (The Yiddish word, pushke, pronounced PUSH-kee, is derived from the Polish word puszka and is a little container in which money to be donated to a charity is accumulated). Cantor Robin filled the Sanctuary with music as she led the students in a song session and Rabbi Lisa brought us all together for a chance to pray and bless the students for the school year.

The Torah School staff is filled with passionate people who bring the joy of Judaism to our children each week. I want to share with you a little about each of them.

Alli Quiroz is returning for her 3rd year as the Mishpacha teacher. (Mishpacha is a Family and Me class, for children between 2-4 years of age and their guardian/s. This is a free program that is funded by The Jewish Federation of Ventura County.) Alli was born and raised in Ventura and has attended TBT throughout her life. She teaches kindergarten at Junipero Serra Elementary

School and has her Master's degree in Administration for Education. Married to Alfonso Quiroz for 11 years, they have three wonderful children who are Torah School students.

Katie Spalluto is returning for her 2nd year as our Trans Kindergarten-Kindergarten teacher. Katie has a 5 year old and 9 year old and they spend a lot of time in their garden and exploring the community. She is excited to lead new and thoughtful Judaic lessons and share some of her creativity with Temple Beth Torah. Katie is looking forward to incorporating STEAM projects into each lesson.

Sharon Spielman, our returning 1st/2nd Grade Teacher, lives in Newbury Park with her husband Aaron Dvoretzky. They have 2 daughters, who are in college. Sharon moved from New Jersey to live in Israel at age 9 and stayed there until after military service. She has a Master's in Electrical Engineering and is currently working on a teaching credential in High School Math.

Gil Ramot, our upper grade Hebrew Teacher, is returning to Temple Beth Torah's Torah School for his 13th Year!! He was born and raised in Israel and has been teaching since 2006. He has a Master's degree in Social Work with experience in at-risk youth and his teaching certificate. He is married to Revital and they have 2 children that attend Torah School.

Tassi Benjamin is returning for her 2nd year as VCTRY Advisor and is our new upper grade Judaic teacher. Tassi was raised in California by her Brazilian parents, and has been working in Jewish

Education for the last 10 years. She is actively pursuing a BA in Psychology, and would like to continue to work in the field of education. Tassi works for an aerospace engineering company in the corporate development team.

Robert (Bob) Kerman is returning to Torah School as the 7th Grade teacher. Bob, and his wife Ann, are active congregants at Temple Beth Torah. Married for just over 40 years, they enjoy traveling and their 4 grandchildren. Bob is a retired Middle School Counselor. He is also a passionate long time Judaica teacher and has 2 Master's degrees.

Taylor Paskin is joining our staff as an Art Specialist. Taylor is married to Allan Paskin and is the mother of two. She is an active congregant at TBT, works with the Social Action Committee and Chairs the Torah School Committee. Taylor is looking forward to exploring art through the prism of Jewish education with our children and families.

I know that our incredible teaching staff has an amazing year planned for our students. We are all looking forward to a year of learning and connecting.

L'shalom,
Marisa

New Member Welcome in Rabbi Lisa's sukkah

We are delighted to invite our new TBT members to one of two welcome events this autumn! VP of Member Engagement Allan Paskin and VP Member at Large Heidi Sohn are planning two special events to welcome those who have joined TBT in the past 2 years.

Wednesday, October 16- For our new couples and singles, please join us for an evening in Rabbi Lisa's sukkah. Come dressed appropriate for the outdoor weather. RSVP to the temple office and you will receive more information about time and location.

Sunday, November 10- For young families connected to Torah School, and young adults, please join us for a backyard shmoose and hang out, (there is no Torah School this day!) at the home of congregants Dana and Chad Jennings. RSVP to the temple office and you will receive more information.

Additionally, new members will be receiving information electronically about both of these events. We are so glad you are a part of TBT!

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Children's World & TBT Preschools

Marion Levin-Welch



Our goal here at TBT is to strengthen a child's self-esteem and character so they can be the best they can be in the world we live in.

A you read this newsletter our children will have talked about Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur, getting ready for Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Aside from celebrating the holidays, enjoying Kinder Music, Science, Yoga and Soccer the children continue to visit the Temple Sanctuary for services most Friday mornings with Rabbi Lisa or Marisa or me. The children bake Challah each week, sing Jewish songs with Amy and Jaime, and cuddle up listening to stories with Erika Manset, Kelly D and Angela. We have two Toddler classes that encompass MWF or a TTH. We are busting at the seams and we love it.

We started school in August in both TBT and Children's World preschool. In the beginning of September, we had our classroom picnics, settled into the routine, made new friends and learned to get along with one another. Our recess time is a blast in that we ride bikes, trikes, and scooters and pull wagons. Each table has some kind of manipulative on it so the children have choices of active play or more quiet play. We visit the garden to reap the rest of our summer crops and save seeds for next year.

In October we will have a school wide BBQ where about 220 people come to this event so that they can continue to bond with each other. Our wonderful Brotherhood will BBQ all the hot dogs and hamburgers for us. Other events that will occur in the months to come: Harvest festival, Field trips, Hanukkah celebration at Barnes and Nobel, Winter Fest, Hawaiian Day, Earth Day and Magic show and dinner, (in January). You can come to this as well. So much to accomplish.

Our goal here at TBT is to strengthen a child's self-esteem and character so they can be the best they can be in the world we live in. With parental partnerships, staff camaraderie, support from the professional staff, support from the board to improve upon and expand the preschools, and the cheerleading we get from others.

I wanted to share with you that I attended a Bat Mitzvah not too long ago and was honored to be asked to present the gifts to the young lady from TBT and others. I was thrilled to see a young girl, Shayna Dearman-So, once upon a time a student at preschool, articulate and present her speech, read Torah and accomplish this great feat. She was amazing in her posture, her Hebrew and presence. And another surprise was when her sister Hannah came up to the Bimah, asked me to basically hold out my hand to present a Tzedakah box, given to her years ago as a class project and she was returning to me a tin filled with coins. I felt my heart sing at the gesture and sincerity upon receiving this sacred tin that held up after all the years. Children never forget what is taught with loving kindness and the basics of Judaism, which they now carry as young adults. I was awed and touched.

We wish you and yours a wonderful month of happiness, kindness and friendship.

Shalom,

Marion Levin-Welch M.A.

A "Quick Note" from Robin

By Robin Faigin

As I write this article, the High Holidays are still approaching, and therefore I can only imagine how our planning and developing services will turn out. As you read this article, Rosh Hashanah will have come and gone. I hope the musical prayers, songs, readings, and liturgy bring meaning to your worship and reflection.

I am enjoying the incredible experience of helping to coordinate the High Holy Days choir and services once again this year. So many aspects, details, and people converge to make our Days of Awe truly meaningful.

During this time of reflection, one of the areas I've pondered is my role as cantorial soloist here at TBT. What skills do I already have that I can share for the greater good, and what new skills can I develop? During this past year, I developed themed Shabbat services and started a fledgling TBT Jam group. I hope to continue these types of "projects" because I see them as kehillah-builders (community-builders). In the coming year I hope to improve my "technical" skills so that I can challenge myself occasionally to chant from Torah on Shabbat mornings! There – I've said it publicly, so now I guess I'll have to get going on that... after the High Holy Days!

I am looking forward to sharing many more memories, events, and music with you during holidays and special events, as well as week after week at Shabbat services.

SIMCHAT TORAH/HOSHANAH RABBAH

We culminate the Fall holidays with something new! The last 4 years we have celebrated Simchat Torah with other Ventura County congregations. TBT has been proud to host that event. This year, we have moved it to the morning, so that it will be easier for young families to attend! Sunday, October 20, concurrent with Torah School, we will experience Hoshanah Rabbah services in our sanctuary, led by congregation Am HaYam. A joyous celebration, Hoshanah Rabbah is the name for the seventh day of Sukkot. Those who have a lulav and etrog bring them to synagogue, and amidst singing, they are paraded seven times around. The service includes singing Hallel- psalms of praise, and a special Torah reading. This is not a festival service that TBT has ever led before and I am excited to experience it in our own sanctuary- come experience it with me!

Our Hashanah Rabbah service begins at 9:30 a.m. It will be followed by plenty of nosh and drinks, sponsored by our Jewish Federation, with thanks to Cheri DeKofsky. About 11:15 a.m. we will "fast forward" from Hoshanah Rabbah to a celebration of the "crescendo" of the Fall Holidays- Simchat Torah. This gives us the chance to rejoice in Torah together with our larger community, and will feature music, dancing, and the unrolling of Torah. We invite everyone in the community- all ages, to be with us. Our friends from Ner Ami in Camarillo, including their religious school families, our friends from Congregation Am HaYam, and the Jewish community of Ojai, will all be present; come be a TBT ambassador and greet and celebrate! Our celebration will end about noon time.



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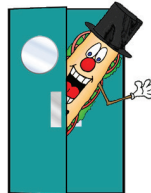
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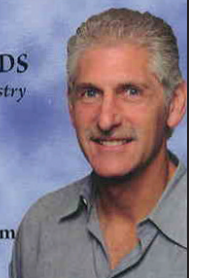
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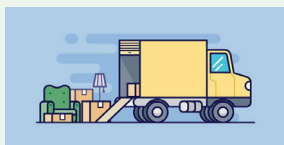
October 2019
Wednesdays: 2, 16, 23, 30
Sundays: 6, 13, 20
Mishpacha:
Sunday: 6, 20
No Torah School:
Wednesdays: 9
Sundays: 27

Upcoming Events November 2019

November 11—Veteran's Day
TBT OFFICE CLOSED
November 28—Thanksgiving Day
TBT OFFICE CLOSED

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