



Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller



Community, Coping and Thriving, in a Time of Isolation

oni Mitchell, in her song Yellow Taxi, sang "don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you've got till it's gone..." It might be that we take having community for granted, until we are told to limit being in community to being with only 250 people, only 50, only 10. I found it remarkable that in the anouncement closest to my writing this article, the group size we should limit ourselves to is 10, in order to best enforce social distancing. Ten is the exact number our rabbis in Talmud Berachot told is is needed for a minyan- for a viable community to exist, in order to pray. Less than ten, they reasoned, you could exist as a Jew- but you couldn't exist as a Jewish community. So many of the expereinces that we have gone thorugh in the last few weeks - standing in line at groceries, finding that we can't immediately access what we want, all we want, when we want, without waiting...has been a humbling lesson, too, in what it means to be part of community- having to share resources, having to strengthen our ability for patience. This is a great time to work on the mussar practices we learned last year in adult education to practice those personal traits of patience, anger and fear!

There is no doubt that we are thinking about and valuing and creating community in new ways, as we ride out these months of epidemic. Being told to be in isolation does not mean we must suffer from social isolation. Join us online as we light Shabbat candles as community, and pray and sing with Robin and me. Rabbi Mike is offering weekly community adult learning on Zoom. We will send you updates each Wednesday in the T'kiah for ways to stay connected here. By virtue of computers and phones, we have the ability to thwart social isolation- there are billions of ways to stay connected.

But I'd like to suggest something different. Over the last few decades we have often lamented how over-booked our lives are, how much stress we feel, how technology drags us down the rabbit hole of wasting time on websites, and facebook, and researching picayune things. It was a group of 30-somethings that invented "Shabbat Unplugged"the revolutionary idea of signing off their technology for 24 hours to actually enjoy face to face interaction, and the de-stressing that comes with not being attached to a device. My suggestions? Think about how you want to use this time of "simpler living" that lays ahead. Deprived of working in offices, school for kids, daily commutes, endless chores, what can we do to creatively use this time, rather than waste this time? Having the order of our daily lives disrupted- no school hours, work hours and scheduled tai kwan do lessons or bone builders classes to attend- how do we impose an order on this time that helps us feel in control? This is so important, at a time when there are so many unknowns, in the progression of an epidemic. It is the heart of why we pray the Maariv prayer in the evening and the Yotzer prayer in the morning; to remind ourselves that our world is ordered, and that when we feel there is an order, we feel safe and secure. We need to provide that for ourselves and our families.

Can we take each day, each week, and schedule time for exercise? Is that a walk, a bike ride? Quality reading time? Spiritual time- sitting outside and listening to the birds, or doing a meditation of lovingkindness where we focus on healing and health for everyone? (It will bring your stress level down, I promise!) Creative time- making a puzzle, building with Legos, baking, quilting, drawing, painting, creative writing, woodworking, working on your family Ancestry page-- whatever your favorite hobby is. Can you schedule time to call one person a day that you might not talk to, just to check in? Maybe someone who lives alone? If you are a parent managing children at home, then creating the boundaries of school work, play time, creative time, exercise, and finally, device time, is so important. Letting your children spend all day preoccupied on computers so you can get your work done is not "managing" the situation. It is coping! Take a deep breath, and think about how you can order their day.

These lessons are actually the lessons I learned from taking sabbatical! Going from a busy life in community to a self-imposed isolation for a few months, I found that if I didn't create a structure for myself, I would get to the end of my sabbatical and look back and feel I had wasted my precious time of being away from work. I had to create an order to each day, building in exercise time, reading time, meditiation time, play time, so that I could really accomplish what I wanted to. It also helped me not feel guilty, if I was watching a movie, or going to swim- because I knew I had created space later in my day for the work I needed to do. So I share with you my learned wisdom!

Wouldn't it be amazing to come to the end of this time of isolation, having managed our stress, having felt we are closer with friends and family, perhaps reclaiming some of the joys of family time that we used to do before everyone plugged into their own music, shows, and social media accounts?

And of course, we continue to pray for healththe personal health of all people here and across the world, the economic health of our country and the world. In some extraordinary way, let this pandemic — which knows few boundaries, few distinctions of class, wealth, religion, ethnicity, gender or country — stop the plague of tribal mentality that has broken our world into "us vs. them" the past few years. This pandemic is a vivid reminder that what affects some of us effects all of us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ADULT EDUCATION

Many Adult Education classes for April and May have been postponed or moved online. See page 5.



TBT 5780: Jewish Community Jewish Life Jewish Belonging

President's Message

Pam Small

am writing this column on the morning after our March Board Meeting where your temple leadership took the unusual step of cancelling nearly all TBT activities for the next four weeks. We established a subcommittee to advise us on policies and actions as events unfold. Good leadership is of vital importance during this time and we will work hard to be nimble and prudent in our responses.

I thought it might be helpful for all of you to understand our thinking in dealing with the epidemic and its effect on our community. We cannot stop the spread of this virus, but it is within our power to slow it down. Our goal is to avoid rapid peaking in the number of cases. If we can help flatten that curve, our medical professionals will be better able to handle the caseload and those who become seriously ill will get the care they need in a timely manner.

The virus is especially dangerous to elderly and immunity-compromised people. That made the decision essential to cancel or postpone events where large numbers of seniors would be attending. Prior to the Board meeting, I had emails and messages from several people who were worried about attending the Film Festival. On the morning of the meeting, Rabbi and I heard from several medical professionals within our community, giving us advice we were grateful to get. All of this input made the decision to cancel events an easy one because we knew we were doing the right thing to relieve your worries and protect your health.

During the meeting, we were notified that Ventura Unified School District was closing down. It may seem counterintuitive that the Board decided



to keep Children's World Preschool open. It is a small school, with fewer than 200 children and staff members, a manageable number. We learned during the Thomas Fire that the preschool is a lifeline to families in which both parents work, as childcare is scarce and expensive. Our Board chose to keep Children's World open as long as possible, to help families cope with changing schedules, and the new reality of having school-age children at home.We want to help families avoid financial difficulties, and will let the situation dictate when the right time will be to suspend pre-school classes. We are also working with Federation to continue Food Share, but with alterations for the safety of all involved. We are investigating adding more dried and canned goods to the boxes, possibly doing drive through pickups, and maintaining safe distances between volunteers and recipients. The epidemic is going to create economic hardship for many and we should do what we can to alleviate it.

Ventura is also a tourist town and that industry is being hit very hard. Support your local businesses to the best of your ability, especially over the next few months. If you have tickets that have been cancelled, consider making them a donation. So many performances have been affected and cultural programs are vital to our California economy. If you usually enjoy eating out you can have food delivered from any local restaurant. People I call the bread-and-butter workers are going to be hit the hardest over the next few months, but if we call contribute, perhaps we get through this crisis, bruised, but intact.

B'Shalom,

Pam

News from the ...



The Festival, along with many events scheduled in March, has been postponed. But it is not cancelled. There have been some dates proposed and when the world resumes and we can safely meet up, we will determine the best revised schedule of dates.

In the meantime, we want to thank everyone for their support and patience. We have a great TBT community and we also appreciate the support we have received from the wider Ventura film-going community who also attend our Festival.

As soon as we know, we will notify you of the dates.

In the meantime, stay safe and focused on family and friends.

The Committee

CAMP HAVERIM

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 15th thru July 24th. 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

We are no longer inviting in-person attendance but encouraging you to join us via Zoom and Facebook live, by going to our Temple Beth Torah facebook page. If you receive the T'kiah, you will be sent a link to join services via Zoom every Thursday by 6 p.m.

Friday, April 3- Parshat Tzav/ HaGadol

5:30 p.m. 20-minute Family-oriented Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services via facebook live and Zoom

Saturday, April 4

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Friday, April 10- Chol HaMoed Pesach

5:30 p.m. 20-minute Family-oriented Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Saturday, April II

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Friday, April 17- Parshat Shemini

5:30 p.m. 20-minute Family-oriented Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Saturday, April 18

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Friday, April 24- Parshat Tazria-Metzora

5:30 p.m. 20-minute Family-oriented Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Saturday, April 26

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services via facebook live and Zoom.

Women of TBT Your Sisterhood

Ann Kerman and Kathy Randall

Resource is probably the Jewish holiday that presents more joyful anticipation than any other. It is one of the world's oldest continually observed holidays and still, despite our changing world, retains its ancient charm. We are saddened with the current coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, resulting in the cancellation of both the Women's Seder and the temple's Community Seder. Although we won't be together, please know we and the Women of TBT board wish you and yours a very happy Passover.

Other Women of TBT activities have also been

put on hold at this time, including Mahjong, Crafting, etc. We will keep you posted when activities can start up again.

At our March meeting event, we had a wonderful time with Erica Walsh, "The Cookie Lady", who demonstrated making hamantashen. Erica owns the Purple Lady Bakery. Erica is self-taught with inspiration from Martha Stewart and the Food Network. It is in her DNA, since both of her Jewish and Sicilian Grandmothers were excellent cooks and bakers! Erica creates whimsical cupcakes and cookies for all occasions. Erica grew up in Ventura and has won multiple ribbons for baking at the Ventura County Fair. Erica's Website: Purpleladybakery.com, Phone: (805) 890-3544, Email: purpleladybakery@gmail.com

Prior to our program, Inessa Gelman prepared a beautiful Mediterranean feast for us, consisting of Baked Falafel, Israeli Salad, Hummus, Pitas, etc. Of course we had lovely hamantashen for desert!

Warmly, Ann & Kathy



Life Cycles

Mazel tov to:

Geri and Sherm Pearl who both celebrated their 95th birthdays; Geri on March 7, and Sherm on Feb. 23!

Harry Rosenberg, who celebrated his 90th birthday on February 17!

Mark and Eleanor Richman on the birth of granddaughter Sofia Francisca born to daughter Ilana and Lucas in Mendoza,Argentina

Ron and Deborah Pollack on the birth of granddaughter Miriam Shira Hodes Pollack to son Aaron Pollack and daughter in-law Susan Hodes. *Condolences:*

Cindy Schneider, on the death of her 95 year old mother, Ceil Gordon, on March 17.



INDEPENDENTLY OWNED SINCE 1911

757 E. Main Street, Ventura, CA (805) 643-8623 | ReardonFuneral.com

TRADITIONAL & CONTEMPORARY JEWISH FUNERAL SERVICES CHEVRA KADISHA SERVICES • PRE-PLANNING SERVICES TO ALL CEMETERIES



WE HELP YOU HIT IT OUT OF THE PARK WITH A VISUAL SOLUTION.

FASTSIGNS[®] experts are more than ready to help.

@2016 FASTSIGNS International, Inc. Each location independently owned and operated.



Have you moved?

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

TRANSPARENT **TBT**

2339 N. Oxnard, Oxnard Ca 93036

Oxnard Location is owned by Jill Bonilla

805-278-7800

fastsigns.com/2034

MICHAEL K. BOYKO

OWNER &

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

During our last board meeting we were very focused on how to proceed with community and programming at TBT during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Much of what discussed has evolved since then. Thank you all for your patience, as we move through this pandemic as a community.

Children's World & TBT Preschools



Marion Levin-Welch

wanted to share with all of you that we, at school, have been very busy with Parent /Teacher conferences at the end of January, planning for our healthy heart day and jog-a-thon (our big fundraiser) and touring new families.

We collected box tops for our schools, had a bake sale, worked a sweat from our Garden Days cleaning and trimming the fruit orchards and thanks to Camilo for cutting and the parents for hauling.We cooled off with eating oranges and kibitzing while we enjoyed our tasks. Speaking of planting: the trees that we planted two years ago are alive and well, and will be bursting with blossoms pretty soon. If you have not visited the tree that you planted, consider doing so.There is a beautiful pathway so you can walk from the backparking lot to the orchard.

We are still very involved in working in our community by doing the following: collecting Tzdakah on Fridays and canned foods for Food Share. Children continue to learn how it is important that we help other people, especially during difficult times. In conjunction with the topics of Torah School we practice Achrayut, doing what we can to make the world a better place.

Please let people know that Children's World Preschool and TBT's preschool registration is taking place now. Please note that we will be operating our preschool from 7:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 4:00 p.m. on Fridays. We are extending our classroom times from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., which we hope will help families that have children at other schools.

We offer not only a Toddler class (child does not have to be potty trained), a Preschool Program, Transitional Kindergarten but also Reggio Emelia. We would be happy to send out information to you, or you can down load an application through the Temple website.

Our children are our most precious gifts, they emulate us and love unconditionally and trust that we will be the best parent one can be to them."Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

I want to say thank you to all the teachers, parents and kids for having made our jog-a-thon a success this year. We could not accomplish all that we do without you. Please come and visit us or tell your friends about our program. We would love to give them a tour. Shalom.

Marion Levin-Welch M.A.

ADULT EDUCATION & PROGRAMS

Expand Your Horizons– Learn Something New!

by Deborah Pollack, VP of Adult Learning and Programs

.....

We have been working to transition some of our Adult Education to Online Learning. Some of our classes, like Yiddish Conversation with Judy Gottlieb, we have postponed and look forward to rescheduling. For April-May, we have three offerings, all on line. Join us for a Short Story Discussion with Deborah Pollack, Introduction to Kabbalah with Rabbi Mike Lotker, and "We are the Weather", a Shabbat Book Discussion connected to our concerns about climate crisis, with Adam Kaiserman.

Register for all three programs by emailing Deborah at rp5dp@sbcglobal.net in advance. She will email "The White Heron" to those who sign up for the short story class, and she will email the Zoom link to those who have pre-registered. In addition, Online links for all programs will be sent in the Thursday T'kiah prior to their beginning.

I am also beginning to plant the seeds for next year's adult education classes, so if you or someone you know is interested in teaching your fellow congregants, please let me know. If a subject fascinates you, it may very well benefit us all.

Beginning Yiddish Conversation POSTPONED **Judy Gottlieb**

Saturdays, 12:30-1:30 p.m. April 4, 11, 18, & 25

Vi zogt men af Yiddish? How do you say it in Yiddish? This spring, we will spend 4 weeks together learning some basics of Yiddish conversation. By

inquire about our health, family and what's for dinner? Together, we will learn a "bisel" and enjoy a lot. Az men zitst in der heym tserayst men nit di shtivl. If you sit at home, you won't wear out your boots.

Online Story Discussion

with Deborah Pollack via Zoom Tuesday, 2:00-3:00 p.m. April 21 "The White Heron" by Sarah Orne Jewett

Introduction to Kabbalah

Rabbi Mike Lotker Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m. May 5, 12, & 19

Are you ready to explore Judaism's own mystical tradition? In our 3 week exploration of the world of Kabbalah we will explore the simple (is it kabb-a-LAH or ka-BAL-ah?) to the deep (how does the interpretation of word echad in the Shema affect our understanding of God's nature and our relationship with God?). We will address the history and practices of kabbalah and have lots of time for questions and discussion of this fascinating subject. Our first class will be an Introduction to some of the key ideas of Kabbalah and to its interesting history. Class #2 will introduce the central text of Kabbalah, The Zohar which is a work of pseudepigrapha (don't know what that means? Come and find out!). We will discuss the 10 Sefirot, the world of Gematria, the mystical names of God

the end, we should be able to greet each other, and more. In the next class, we will explore Lurrianic Kabbalah, the Soul, Angels, Hasidim and focus on enhancing our own Jewish spirituality.

> Reserve your place in the class by May I; email Deborah Pollack at rp5dp@sbcglobal.net

Understanding the Impact of Going Green: Shabbat Book Discussion We Are the Weather by Jonathan Safran Foer

Adam Kaiserman. **Discussion Leader** Saturday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. May 16

In We Are the Weather. Ionathan Safran Foer explores the central dilemma



of our time-that we can accept the fact of global warming, but don't really fully believe it-in a deeply personal way. The task of saving the planet requires a great reckoning with ourselves and our all-too-human reluctance to sacrifice immediate comfort for the sake of the future. As a lew, a father, and a member of Gen X, Safran Foer writes a guick but deep read using narratives and facts to lead us into the right conversations about responding to the climate crisis.

This is not the book originally publicized in our Adult Programs booklet, but was added as a part of Temple's initiative to learn about and make choices that may alleviate the climate crisis.

A Story of the Importance of Community

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller

How important is community? Let me share a personal story. You may know that my one and only uncle, Ray Marcus, died last March. My father died when I was 20 years old, and my mother died when I was 21; so my uncle and aunt have been extraordinarily important people in my life. Never trying to step in to become my parents, they have been the best of what an aunt or uncle could strive to be- always supportive, always there for me, always willing to give advice and talk. They took care of so many parts of my life when I was a young woman, overwhelmed with legal and financial decisions. My aunt and uncle gave me a beautiful wedding, complete with kosher food (they did not keep kosher), and my Uncle Ray walked me down the aisle, just as he did with his own two daughters.

After his funeral last March, it felt right for me to say kaddish for him. I said his name for the first month of shloshim. And then I continued. Without really thinking about it, I just continued to say his name every Friday and Saturday, here in our Temple Beth Torah community. After I would read the

Kaddish list, when I asked others to share names of loved ones they were saying kaddish for during this year, I would say his name. Then, in January, I was at a rabbinic conference followed by a clergy retreat. We prayed two, and three times daily. The process of saying my uncle's name multiple times daily, besides just our weekly Shabbat services, was intense. It filled me with a deep sense of gratitude for community- I literally felt held and supported by the community of friends and strangers around me. Saying kaddish daily elevated my loss to a level of legitimate acknowledgment of this being a period of loss, rather than just an "oh yea" at the end of Shabbat each week.

By mid-January I began to dread mid-February, when I would conclude the 11 months of saying kaddish. Jewish tradition teaches that we say kaddish for II months and then stop, with the belief that if our prayers were accumulating merit points for our loved one whose soul was awaiting God's judgement, that it would not take all 12 months for God to render a positive verdict on their deeds. (I know this is a quaint way of thinking about this period after death, of standing in God's judgement.) I prefer to focus on the fact that, if we stop at 11 months, it means that saying kaddish for the first yahrzeit, on the 12th month, isn't the end of the year, but the beginning of a new practice, the annual recitation of kaddish for a yahrzeit.

The Shabbat mid-February that ended shloshim was very hard. I said "Ray Marcus" on Friday night at kaddish. On Saturday morning, the congregation stood for kaddish. I read the list. And then I began to cry. Filled with tears, I explained to the congregation that this was the end of my 11 months of saving kaddish. But what I wanted to tell them was how grateful I was to them for being there, week after week, creating the sacred and supported community where I could stand and say kaddish for my loved one. They had enabled me to fulfill the mitzvah of kaddish, and they had given me strength, through the weeks where my voice had been trembling, through the spring, and summer and fall and now back to winter. I took a deep breath, and then I began: "Yitgadal, v'yitkadash...' Robin stood by me and put her arm around me. Sara Alviani came down the aisle and stood on the other side. Others came and joined arms. I felt the love of everyone in that room as they carried me through kaddish. The hugs that came afterwards were each wrapped in this message: that there is so much sacredness in community. There is nothing like a spiritual community, nothing like being together in the sanctuary, praying, studying, singing, sharing, supporting, knowing. If I have known that for most of my life- I knew it again, on that February Shabbat morning.

Education & Family Programs

Marisa Schrier

Purim Carnival 2020, Under the Sea, was an incredible success! Thank you so much for coming out and helping us celebrate. I was told that the excitement began to build the moment you drove in to the Temple parking lot. Vashti, the hot pink octopus, was out front making sure that King Ahashverosh was minding his manners. The ocean came crashing into the walkway, and sea animals were welcoming guests as they arrived.



Our lobby was transformed by jelly fish, ocean views, coral and portholes. Incredible volunteers came in to help

make the day a success. Brotherhood made all of us a delicious lunch and made sure that no one was hungry!



Some of the activities included an ultimate obstacle

course, minute to win it games, bubble eels and bubble science with Debbie Zaritzky.

Our wonderful teens performed a silly Purim Spiel, *I Swim for Purim.* Eric Rosenberg kept the music going all morning long and led our Freeze Dance party!



A huge thank you to Taylor Paskin and Deborah Randolph!! They put in countless hours, tons of creativity and thought, and really made this the best Purim Carnival ever!



The Purim Carnival is a success every year due to the Torah School Committee and the unending dedication of Danielle Stoyanoff.

Thank you to the community for your generous donations, endless volunteer hours, attending the Carnival and for having fun!



l'shalom, Marisa



Pick your base + your favorite mix-ins, then watch your creation freeze right before your eyes!

AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS AND SCIENCE SHOWS

607 E MAIN ST E VENTURA | LOCATED IN BETWEEN STARBUCKS AND THE LIBRARY | (805) 667-9355





Torah School Notice

To our Torah School Community,

Over the last few weeks I have been in constant contact with the URJ professional staff, and Religious School educators over the country, and even in Israel. We have shared best practices, resources and talked about how to pivot our Religious School programs to continue to educate Jewish children, when in-person learning is not an option. Needless to say, the fluidity of the past few weeks has asked alot of the staff and the families. I am grateful for everyone's support as we reimagine Jewish education.

I am thrilled to share with you that talented and creative Jewish Educators have already begun to produce online educational opportunities for families. We are looking forward to sharing these websites and links with you in the coming weeks.

I challenge you, more than ever; to actively and thoughtfully enrich your family with Judaism. Listen to a Jewish Kids station on Spotify, pull out your PJ Library books, practice tikkun olam (healing the world) by writing get well cards to the ill, and celebrate Shabbat. Share with me what you will be doing to encourage Jewish learning in your home. Show us how you are staying connected, send in your pictures to inspire our community.

I am excited to announce that we are meeting with students 3rd-6th Graders, weekly, utilizing a form of video chat, to ensure that everyone continues to build on their Hebrew reading ability. We are sending a weekly signup form with day and time slots for parents. It is essential that students utilize the Behrman House website to practice their Hebrew reading skills (directions are below). If you have any questions or concerns regarding this program, please get in touch with me.

Our B'nei Mitzvah Families will continue to meet with Cantor Michael as scheduled. He will be tutoring students over video chat.

The Torah School office will continue to be open and I will be available to meet over the phone, through email or via video chat. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

The health and safety of our community is always at the forefront of our mind. Please take good care of yourself and your family as we move through this season.

l'bri-ut (to your health), Marisa Schrier Director of Education & Family Programs

...........................

** TRIBUTES

Brotherhood

y name is Bill Jacobs, and I joined TBT in the summer of 2018, after being called by Bob Braitman and having a lunch with Bob and Ron Halpern, who is currently the President of the Brotherhood. In the following months, I was asked to join the Brotherhood Group of TBT, and shared with Ron, that since they needed another cook for various events, I have volunteered to help in that aspect of the events. It has been also my pleasure to cook for the Pre-School Parents picnic at the Temple School facility for the last two events, and joined in helping the "Families to Families" monthly breakfast for the homeless at the Catholic Charities facility in Ventura. This monthly event which was founded by TBT's leadership over two dozen years ago, and has the participation of different churches who have also committed to feeding the hungry and homeless each of the three other Sundays. Jay Kosoff has been the leader of that program for a long time, and is always interested in people who would like to help. These are just a couple of Brotherhood opportunities that a new Temple recruit can look at as membership in the Brotherhood group of TBT, and enjoy the fellowship of the Brotherhood group, and meeting regular members of the Temple who have been participating in these activities for, in several cases, more than 40 years.

This Temple organization and the other groups

of TBT members, have been committed to helping people of any background, and current circumstances, in order to fulfill a desire to support our community, and its citizens or non-citizens, who need help or assistance within our reach. Service to others seems to be a proud aspect of this temple's commitment, and I am proud to be a new member of this group of dedicated participants.

For any member who would like to find out more about the Temple Brotherhood Group, I would suggest that they get into contact with Ron. PS, with Ron if you like wine, bring that up to him, since he has been in that business for a long time.

SPONSORS

We gratefully acknowledge the sponsors of our Shofar. Please show your appreciation with your patronage.

If you would like to become a sponsor, please call the Temple office at (805) 647-4181 for more information.





VENTURA COUNTY JEWISH COUNCIL

Temple Beth Torah Inspiring people to lead meaningful Jewish lives

7620 Foothill Road Ventura, CA 93004 (805) 647-4181 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material - Do Not Delay

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 431 Oxnard, CA

Torah School Dates May 2020

May 2020

Upcoming Events:

Please stay tuned as we move forward through the pandemic.



The Shofar is published 11 times per year, by Temple Beth Torah, 7620 Foothill Rd., Ventura, CA 93004-1125. Issue #4-2020. Subscriptions for nonmembers are available at \$25 per year.

Sign up to receive our weekly **T'Kiah** and **Lifecycle** notices by email.

Send your email address to Martha@TempleBethTorah.com

PURPLE LADY BAKERY



Erica Walsh (805) 890-3544

purpleladybakery@gmail.com purpleladybakery.com "A home bakery where everything is made with a little whimsy and love"

TEMPLE BETH TORAH SHOFAR

How to reach us

Phone: (805) 647-4181 Email: TBTVentura@TempleBethTorah.com Web: www.TempleBethTorah.com

Temple Auxiliaries & Affiliates

Brotherhood Ron Halpern (805) 647-5278 Women of TBT (Sisterhood) womenoftbt@gmail.com Children's World & TBT Preschools Marion Levin-Welch (805) 647-3798

Senior Youth Group/VCTRY (9th–12th grade) Marisa Schrier educator@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



Check out the Shofar, photos, and lots more about TBT at www.TempleBethTorah.com. LIKE us on FACEBOOK!

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller

Director of Education and Family Programs Marisa Schrier

Director of Early Childhood Education Marion Levin-Welch

> Cantor Emeritus Ralph Moses z"l

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President Pam Small

VP of Communications Jackie Stone

> VP of Governance Nancy Marcus

VP of Worship and Celebrations Sara Alviani

> VP of Finance Joel Goldenberg

VP of Facilities Berta Steele

VP of Member Engagement Allan Paskin

VP of Education and Family Sloane Burt

VP of Adult Learning and Programs Deborah Pollack

> VP of Community Deni Jones

Past President Representative Alberto Kywi

> Member at Large Heidi Sohn