



TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

March • April 2025 | *Adar • Nisan • Iyar* 5785



Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 9th • 10:30 AM - 1 PM

Purim Costume Parade, Cupcake Decorating,
Interactive Games, Prizes, Arts and Crafts and Tons of Fun
Admission - \$20 per child ages 2 and up



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

by Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon

FROM PURIM TO PESACH: BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF GENEROSITY AND WELCOME

As we move from Purim to Pesach, we transition from one holiday of joy and redemption to another. Each of these holidays has its own set of *mitzvot*—commandments that shape not only our observance but also our relationships with one another. Two key *mitzvot* of Purim, *Mishloach Manot* (sending gifts to friends) and *Matanot La'evyonim* (gifts to the poor), find a beautiful echo in the *mitzvah* of Pesach to invite guests to our *seder* table. Taken together, these *mitzvot* teach us essential values about community, connection and responsibility for one another.

Purim is a holiday marked by celebration and unity. *Mishloach Manot*, the sending of food gifts to friends, is not simply a way to spread joy—it is a means of strengthening communal bonds. It ensures that no one celebrates alone, reminding us that friendship and connection are fundamental to Jewish life. At the same time, *Matanot La'evyonim*, giving to the poor, reinforces our commitment to those who are struggling, ensuring that all members of the community can share in the joy of the holiday. This dual obligation—to those we know well and to those we may not—forms the foundation of a caring and cohesive community.

As we prepare for Pesach, these same values reemerge in a new form. The *seder* begins with a bold invitation: *Kol Dichfin Yeitei V'yeichol—Let all who are hungry come and eat*. This is more than an expression of hospitality; it is a declaration of responsibility. Just as on Purim we ensure that everyone has both friendship and sustenance, on Pesach we reaffirm that our tables—and our hearts—are open. Our *seder* is not just a personal or family experience; it is an opportunity to extend our care outward, embracing those who might otherwise be alone.

Taken together, these *mitzvot* challenge us to build a vibrant

community that thrives on generosity and welcome. The gifts of Purim remind us to actively reach out, not waiting for others to seek our help or companionship but offering it freely. The *seder* invitation teaches us that true hospitality is proactive and inclusive, ensuring that everyone has a place at the table. In a world where loneliness and isolation are all too common, these values are more vital than ever.

How can we put these lessons into practice beyond the holidays themselves? First, we can make an effort to strengthen our relationships within the community.

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Taken together, these mitzvot challenge us to build a vibrant community that thrives on generosity and welcome. The gifts of Purim remind us to actively reach out, not waiting for others to seek our help or companionship but offering it freely.

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon

Just as we exchange *Mishloach Manot* on Purim, we can check in on one another regularly, extending warmth and care in ways both big and small. Second, we can remain mindful of those in need, not just through holiday giving but through ongoing support for *tzedakah* and communal initiatives. Finally, we can embody the spirit of the *seder's* invitation year-round, making space in our homes, our synagogue and our lives for new friendships and deeper connections.

Purim and Pesach remind us that a strong Jewish community is built on

the principles of generosity, inclusion and shared responsibility. As we move from one festival to the next, may we carry these lessons with us, creating a community where no one is left out, no one is forgotten and everyone has a seat at the table.

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon



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CANTOR'S NOTES by Cantor Ofer Barnoy

HISTORY IS FLEXIBLE

Just read a peculiar statement in an article about Israel: history is flexible. How could history be flexible? Isn't history fixed in time? According to this article history is not fixed but is a living thing, changing and adapting in the minds of those who ponder it and re-express it after digesting it. Yes, there are historical facts that may be recorded and therefore immutable but most of the time the history we know is the history we are fed by the media and alas it isn't always real. It is the history expressed by journalists, reporters and writers who are undeniably biased one way or another and their bias is what shapes the history we are led to believe is real but may not be.

Israeli affairs are the perfect arena for this – the true historical book of Jewish history is the Bible itself but even that is refuted as to its validity and while we as a people believe in the absoluteness of the Bible and it having been written by God and delivered by Moses, not everyone in the world believes this to be so. A book that has been around 3500 years is bound to have controversy regarding its true origin and if one indeed believes it is a human production and not divine then its validity can be questioned and thereby completely rock Jewish history and a connection to the land mentioned in it as having been promised by God to our ancestors for all time. What are we to do when our people's very connection to our ancestral homeland as expressed in the Bible comes into question? This is indeed a dangerous place for us to be in and our enemies are very keen to this danger we face and have weaponized it against us. They constantly spew what we believe to be lies in the media and promote professors at the higher education institutions that we attend and send our children to so they can poison their young minds with their *flexible history* - and dare I say that they have been somewhat successful at turning them against themselves and against their own roots which we have tried so hard to instill in them at home and at Hebrew School. Why are they so easily turned? Because they are able to be convinced that history is flexible – that the history we taught them as absolute is actually one created to support our false narrative linking us to a land which our enemies want them to believe we have no right to.

We must find a way to better combat these assumptions being taught to our students at college and the lies spread in the media but we must admit first that this is becoming very hard because the argument that history is flexible is one that our youngsters are apt to believe since while at college they are at an age and a place where they are likely to want to challenge every assumption ever taught to them - and what is more satisfying to challenge than history itself if one can assume that it might have been 'flexed' to support our narrative? Dangerous indeed.



What are we to do when our people's very connection to our ancestral homeland as expressed in the Bible comes into question? This is indeed a dangerous place for us to be in and our enemies are very keen to this danger we face and have weaponized it against us.

Cantor Barnoy

In the months spanning this bulletin article we will celebrate Purim and Pesach, two holidays that celebrate our victory over evil – but did you know that many refute their validity? Some archeologists claim that there is no real historical evidence that Jewish slaves built the cities of Pithom and Ramses even though our Bible tells us so, and the existence of Haman, Mordechai and Esther are also refuted by historians who will have us believe that we made up these communal stories to support our narrative that we were victims who were able to rise above and be victorious because of God's affection for us over other nations. This, of course creates greater animosity and jealousy towards us and has led to terrible consequences for our people throughout the ages.

I am not proclaiming to have an answer – indeed, I do not. But, if we do not ponder this assumption of "flexible history" and find a way to teach our children to distinguish between it and real history, I am afraid they may be quick to choose the flexible history because it offers them a way to challenge the very real assumptions that support the basis for our religion, our culture and our very right to claim the land of Israel as our own. We must do a better job somehow if we and our beloved homeland are to survive into the future. May God who we believe gave us the Torah as a guide also give us the wisdom to know how to teach our children to believe in its truths as we do.

Cantor Ofer Barnoy



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK by Debbie Dubowsky

WHY SHOULD YOU VOLUNTEER?

Why do I choose to volunteer my time? I've been asked this question numerous times, and my answer is simple: I gain more from it than I give.

I believe everyone has several components to their identity: a social aspect, which involves spending time with family and friends; a professional aspect; and a philanthropic aspect. Together, these elements contribute to a well-rounded individual. I was taught that being part of a community means giving back in any way possible, whether that involves donating time or money.

So, why do I do what I do? I enjoy making a difference, and I feel good about myself after completing a volunteering task. Additionally, by volunteering, I am teaching my children a valuable lesson: leading by example. Through my work at the temple, I have met new people from different backgrounds, and I am better for it. I have opened my mind to new ideas and experiences.

Temple Beth Sholom offers various ways to give back. We have groups dedicated to *chesed* and outreach, as well as to our

religious life, educational programming, social activities and maintaining our building. An easy way to help is by attending a daily *minyan*. We hold *minyan* twice daily, and on many days, it only takes 15-20 minutes of your time. However, the benefits you receive in return are far greater. When I attend, I feel spiritually refreshed, and I also know that I have contributed to a minyan of ten, allowing those who wish to say *kaddish* the opportunity to do so. If we all committed to attending just one *minyan* a month, we would never lack for attendees, and those in need would receive tremendous support.

So, please consider volunteering your time and resources to Temple Beth Sholom. Not only can we fulfill the needs of our community, but you can also fulfill your own spiritual journey and communal connection. We need you, but trust me when I say that you need us, too. By giving, you will discover that you receive so much more in return.

Debbie

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**B'NAI MITZVAH
MARCH/APRIL 2025**



MAX LEVINE
son of Hilary & Jacob
March 1



DYLAN DAVIDSON
son of Marisa & Harold
March 1



JACOB FELDSTEIN
son of Roxanne & Richard
March 8



LIAM EDELSTEIN
son of Janna & Jeremy
March 15



JORDAN WASSERMAN
son of Jocelyn & Jared
March 29



ZOE LEVINE
daughter of Jordana & Spencer
April 24



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR by Eileen Olan Bohrer

A LITTLE PURIM FOLLY

Every two months senior leadership and professionals write their articles for the TBS Bulletin. It is safe to say that most of us spend a significant amount of time choosing our topics and words carefully so that hopefully they will resonate with our membership. Purim, the official *Jewish day of laughter* takes place almost immediately after the bulletins arrive in your mailbox. Since as part of the celebration of the Purim holiday we wear masks, get dressed in costumes, take on different identities and act silly (which is surprising since the Purim story is all about an impending annihilation of the Jewish people), I thought for a change it might be entertaining to see the otherwise masked side of the professionals in the building. To that end I have asked some of our staff members to provide **2 Truths and a Lie** and see if you can unmask which is the falsehood.

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon

- Rabb Ben-Gideon has attended Grateful Dead performances.
- Rabbi Ben-Gideon taught Religious School in two continents on the same day.
- Rabbi Ben-Gideon has attended Dave Matthews Band concerts.

Cantor Ofer Barnoy

- Cantor Barnoy likes to wear dresses on Wednesdays.
- Cantor Barnoy is from a blended family. His father's first wife died, his mother got divorced and then they got together and had him. He has 3 - ½ siblings.
- During college Cantor wasn't kosher until he took his first cantorial position.

Eileen Olan Bohrer, Executive Director

- Eileen was the Head of Sales for a phone meat distributor in her twenties.
- Eileen was accepted to the New York City Corps de Ballet.
- Eileen racewalked the LA Marathon for her 60th birthday.

Dina Yakar, Administrative/B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator

- Dina once went to a Latin Kings gang party.
- Dina once got lost in Israel, couldn't find her tour group and was almost sold to an Arab for her hair.
- Dina once yelled at Barry Manilow.

Ellen Unger, Accountant

- Ellen babysat for Bill Murray's son.
- Ellen had dinner with Alan Alda.
- Ellen had lunch with Dustin Hoffman.

Barbara Cooper, Communications Coordinator

- Barbara has been to Israel 5 times.
- Barbara has never been drunk.
- Barbara completed a triathlon.

Stephanie Whalen, Director of Early Childhood Center

- Stephanie ran in two marathons.
- Stephanie can play the piano.
- Stephanie has two pet guinea pigs named Jerald and Jax.

Leah Tobin, ECC Administrative Assistant

- Leah swam 600 miles over the past year.
- Leah met the Queen of England twice.
- Leah has never drunk a cup of coffee in her life.

Susan Daniels, Religious School Liaison

- Susan loves flying and heights.
- Susan loves spiders and will help others if they get too near them.
- Susan's favorites are potato chips and coffee but not together.

Ravit Penias, Religious School Administrative Assistant

- Ravit sat on a bench with Tom Hanks in central park.
- Ravit injected herself with EpiPen by mistake.
- Ravit is a terrible baker.

Amy Gortler, Makom Coordinator

- Amy speaks 5 languages.
- Amy has been an extra in a movie.
- Amy is a night owl.

Becky Firestone, Beth Sholom Day Camp, Director

- Becky was the MVP of the camp staff softball team this past summer.
- Becky has been part of Beth Sholom Day Camp for 27 years.
- Becky was on stage at a Bruce Springsteen concert in Rome, Italy.

DeeDee Horowitz, Beth Sholom Day Camp, Assistant Director

- Dee Dee worked with Gary Sinise at Steppenwolf Theater.
- Dee Dee was a competitive dancer.
- Dee Dee was a Future Farmer of America.

If this game provides you with a small chuckle and you enjoy laughing, I hope you're joining your TBS family and the larger community for MODI Live at TBS. I laughed till the tears streamed down my face during his performance at the Paramount in Huntington last year. Not only has MODI been voted one of the top 10 comedians in New York City but he is sought after to perform at venues across the US and the globe. I can guarantee that after hearing MODI's sharp wit and astute perceptions, you will relive and repeat many of the stories you hear long after the performance is over.

As long as the world remains chaotic, unfair, and occasionally ridiculous, there will always be a need for Jewish humor. It may change, adapt and reinvent itself, but its essence-sharp, self aware and deeply human will endure. - Bret Primack

Try to find an opportunity to laugh every day.

Eileen

**The lies are listed on page 14 of the bulletin.*



THE JOSHUA SOCIETY

LEVELS OF GIVING

(ABOVE MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT AS OF 2/28/25)

We would like to express our appreciation to those who have already pledged to participate in the Joshua Society and look forward to many more congregants taking part in this philanthropic effort over the course of the year. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Circle of Guardians (32,600-46,599)

Debbie and Jay Dubowsky
Marilyn and Barry Rubenstein

Circle of Builders (21,600-32,599)

Batsheva and Ronald Ostrow

Circle of Founders (14,600-21,599)

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Arlene and Daniel Fisher
Norma Grill z"
Susan and Jonathon Held
Jill Naviasky
Doris Tolins

Circle of Heroes (6,600-14,599)

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Rose and Alan Schechter
Tinette Sterling
Jocelyn and Jared Wasserman
Phyllis Wertenteil

Phyllis Wolpert

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Carrie and Harold Gordon
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Jennifer and Matthew Weinberg
Emily and Mitchell Weiser
Shoshanna Wingate
Elaine Wohlmut Perry
Dorine and Robert Wulwick
Roberta and Steven Zeldis



BARNET & ANNETTE OSTROW EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

by Stephanie Whalen, Director of Early Childhood Center

AND SO, WE PRAY...

And so, we pray is the powerful refrain repeated by Chris Martin, in Coldplay's most recent song, We Pray. As I sit down to write this article, it is that phrase, *and so we pray* that repeats in my head and resonates with me now more than ever. The lyrics articulate prayer as a natural reaction to the brokenness and challenges of the world. Whether it is the song's upbeat, vibrant, positive energy, or perhaps the frequency it is played on the radio, it leaves listeners with a feeling of hope. The song hits on a shared human need for support and guidance, especially in times of uncertainty and hardship.

Can you imagine a life without music? We are constantly surrounded by song. Music is healing. Music unites us and holds things together. And so, in our ECC, we sing. Music regularly permeates from the classrooms each day. The children seemingly move from activity to activity with songs in their hearts and on their lips.

music, prayer is also something we learn and inherit. One generation passes on its most powerful and beloved memories to the next. And so, we do the same in Judaism. The children learn about the holidays of Purim and Passover, in not just stories, but in music and song.



With the days getting longer and springtime just around the corner we leap into March with a renewed sense of excitement. The children's joy could be felt as we approach the holiday of Purim. Purim is one of the most joyous holidays of the Jewish calendar. It is a holiday of costumes and carnivals, treats and feasts, acts of kindness and a spirit of unity. The children learned the story of Esther, made groggers and Haman hats, built their own palaces in Shushan and baked delicious *hamantaschen*. The holiday culminated with a school-wide Purim carnival.

After Purim, we immerse ourselves in preparing for Passover. From simulating the baking of *matzah*, to practicing the four questions, the rituals of Pesach are woven into our school activities for children to bring home to their own Passover holiday tables. Music will again take center stage for our very first ECC Passover Musical!

And so, we pray...and we sing.

Much Love, *Stephanie*



We sing about everything. We welcome Shabbat, teach the holidays, find out the weather, learn the days of the week, sing to clean up, line up and express kindness to friends. The situations that cause us to break into songs are endless.

The power of song and prayer is deeply intertwined and can have a profound healing and therapeutic effect. It can uplift spirits, bring peace amidst chaos and provide comfort during difficult times. Both music and prayer are natural expressions of humans. Both unite us regardless of our differences. Like

March/April Highlights

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Sat., 3/22 | Mini Minyan |
| Thurs., 4/10 | Passover show |
| Fri., 4/11-Mon, 4/21 | School Closed |
| Tues., 4/22 | School Resumes |
| Sat., 4/26 | Mini Minyan |
| Wed., 4/30 | Yom Ha'Atzmaut |
| Fri., 5/2 | Parent Teacher Conferences
(No school for children) |



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

by Talya Lederman, VP of Education
and Amy Guttell, Chair of Board of Education

SPRING IS COMING (I PROMISE!)

Over the past few months, at times this winter has felt eternal. With predictions for more snow as we write this, it's hard to believe that spring will ever get here. However if we look around just a bit, there are indications of spring everywhere. The days are getting longer, the birds are getting louder and the Religious School is making plans for Purim, Passover and beyond!

The past few months have seen a flurry of activities in our school. The students have continued their studies of Israel, Torah, holidays, prayers, history and Hebrew, with learning taking place inside and outside the classroom. Our Pre-Gan class has been busy making friends and beginning their Jewish studies while our Gan class is making their way through the *Aleph-Bet*. Our Aleph class has played Shimon Says to learn the Hebrew words for parts of the body and our Bet class learned about Jewish folklore. Our Gimel class has been hard at work on their Torah mural while our Dalet class is using their Hebrew vocabulary to form sentences. Our Hay class is learning about Jewish laws and making strides on their Family History projects as our Vav class is immersed in their *B'nai Mitzvah* studies, with a *Mitzvah* Project information session and a *Talit* and *Tefillin* lesson. And the Zayin class has delved into the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

One of the highlights of the last two months was the school-wide Lego Build on February 2nd. The entire school, from Pre-Gan through Kita Zayin, participated in creating a model of the city of Jerusalem from Lego, and then we were taken on a tour of some of the main sights, including the Kotel (Western Wall) and the Midat David (David's Tower). It was incredible to see every student focused on their build and then coming together to create Jerusalem. To quote a young child who participated in this activity, *This was the funnest day of Hebrew School ever!*

We're looking ahead to another fun day...the Temple Beth Sholom Purim Carnival is on Sunday, March 9! This is another

great day for families with lots of fun activities, arts and crafts, games, inflatables, refreshments, prizes and raffles. Everyone is encouraged to come in costume, and if you donate a prize for the raffle table you can receive 3 raffle tickets. Thank you to the Religious School PTA for organizing this event! If you have not yet joined the Religious School PTA, it's not too late. The PTA sponsors so many things for our school throughout the year and your PTA dues make that happen for our students.



Also looking ahead, we have Mini Minyan and Mishpacha Services on March 8, March 22 and April 5, and Religious School Youth Group (Machar and Kadima) on March 11 and April 29. We would love to have your children join us for these programs. In addition, we look forward to the Bet and Gimel Class Shabbat Service on Friday April 25. Save the dates for the Gan and Aleph Class Shabbat Service on Friday May 2 and the Dalet and Hay Class Shabbat Service on Saturday May 3.

We continue our search for a Director for our Religious School. We have met with several promising candidates and hope to have more information to share soon. In the meanwhile, we remain in good hands with Susan Daniels as Parent/Teacher Coordinator and Stephanie Whalen filling in for many administrative responsibilities as well as our incredible support staff in the

Religious School office.

Please note that there is no Religious School on the following days:

- Sunday, March 9 (Purim Carnival)
- Sunday, April 13 (Passover)
- Tuesday, April 15 (Passover)
- Sunday, April 20 (Passover)

Talya and Amy



FROM MAKOM

by Amy Gortler, Makom High School Coordinator

PASSOVER: THE ULTIMATE NOSTALGIA HOLIDAY

Every year, when Passover rolls around, I find myself doing the same thing: pulling out an old, slightly worn VHS tape (okay, streaming it online) and watching a group of animated toddlers tell the Exodus story. The RUGRATS Passover special. Need I say more?

For any millennial, particularly those of us who were kids in the '90s, The *Rugrats Passover* episode is practically a sacred text. A group of animated toddlers retelling the Exodus story may not seem ground-breaking, but for a generation raised on Nickelodeon and macaroni and cheese, it was our first introduction to the idea that our traditions could be both meaningful and entertaining. And honestly, isn't that what Passover is all about?

I'm a '90s baby myself, part of a generation obsessed with nostalgia. We live for throwbacks—whether it's current fashion trends (which, let's be honest, are just recycled from our childhood) or the reboots of our favorite TV shows that we wish came out better. No holiday delivers nostalgia quite like Passover.

For as long as I can remember, Passover has been my favorite holiday, and I've realized that its nostalgic pull is a big part of why. Every year, it's a smorgasbord of tradition. Each night, a varied guest list sitting around the *seder* table. Multiple generations, multiple backgrounds, and multiple customs are brought together in a way that feels both familiar and sacred. In my family, the nostalgia is almost tangible, surfacing in everything from the worn *Haggadot* with my childhood doodles in the margins to the Passover crafts my older brother and I made decades ago, which my mother somehow still has.

As soon as Passover rolls around, my mom pulls out the old construction paper *seder* plates, crumbling *matzah* crafts, and many cups for Elijah and Miriam that we created in Hebrew school. At the time, these projects were just fun activities during school. But now, seeing my own children marvel at them, I realize they weren't just crafts—they were windows to the past—preserving the magic of my own childhood Passovers. It's surreal watching my kids—who are now the same age I was when I made many of these crafts—hold them up with the same pride and curiosity I once did.

This is the magic of Passover.

It's a holiday that thrives on nostalgia. It invites us to step back in time—not just to our own childhoods but thousands of years

into our past, to the story of Moses leading our people out of Egypt. We still tell the same story. In awe. We still hold the same *seder*, ask the same questions, sing the same songs, and eat the same symbolic foods that generations before us have eaten. The *charoset* recipe I beg my mom to make every year (even when she's not hosting a *seder*) never changes. It will be the same *charoset* that my granddaughter will make one day. We could all sit at the table and thoroughly discuss the pros and cons surrounding the softness of a *matzah* ball and whether or not to include carrots and celery in its soup.

We live in a world that moves faster every year, where traditions can sometimes feel optional. Passover forces us to slow down, to gather around the table with the people we love, and to participate in a ritual that connects us to something much bigger than ourselves. The *seder* is a multi-generational time capsule, blending our personal past with our shared history as a people.

And of course, there's the RUGRATS episode.

It's been 30 years since it first aired, and yet, it still gets watched in countless Jewish homes every year. It's a reminder that the nostalgia of Passover isn't just about remembering what once was—it's about ensuring these traditions continue to mean something for the next generation. Because one day, my kids will be showing their children the same *seder* plate crafts, passing down my mom's *charoset* recipe, and yes, hopefully watching The RUGRATS Passover on whatever streaming service exists in the future.

I recently asked some of my Makom high school students what special family tradition they'll remember forever, and their answers were amazing. One student shared, *Every Passover, we hit each other with scallions during Dayenu, and my grandma always throws them at us—it's really funny!* Another told me, *When we were little, my mom wrote a play that reenacts the Passover story. Over the years, she's adjusted it to make it more age-appropriate for us, and we've been performing it at our seder with props and fun voices every year since.*

Passover isn't just about telling a story—it's about living it, year after year, with the people who make it meaningful. However you celebrate, may this Passover be filled with laughter, meaning, and moments you'll cherish for generations to come.

Warmest regards, *Amy*



SOCIAL ACTION

TORAH TEACHES...

If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?
Hillel - Ethics of the Fathers, 1:14

This year has been challenging for our community. The war in Israel and the 73 remaining hostages still in captivity – including several Americans – weigh heavy on our hearts. It's easy to feel hopeless in a time that is supposed to be filled with light and celebration.

We do have an outlet to engage directly in the Zionist arena and make a real, positive impact on Israel and the global diaspora. The World Zionist Congress elections begin March 10th and go through May 6th, and we will have the opportunity to make our voices heard and advocate for democracy, pluralism and unity.

MERCAZ USA is the American slate of the Conservative/Masorti movement for the World Zionist Congress. MERCAZ USA advocates for the values of the Conservative/Masorti community, as embodied by Conservative organizations like the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the Rabbinical Assembly and National Ramah Commission.

MERCAZ USA works with its global counterparts to enable Jewish people of all backgrounds to realize the Zionist dream of a secure, pluralistic Jewish and democratic Israel for generations to come. We deserve a seat at the table and to have our say in these impactful funding decisions

The World Zionist Congress and its affiliates provide millions of dollars in funding and support the programs that enrich our community and Jewish life in the U.S.

As extremists threaten to assert their narrow view of Judaism on us all, MERCAZ USA works with the World Zionist Congress and its affiliates to:

- Advocate for our shared values of democracy, inclusion and respect and preserve a pluralistic Jewish society
- Secure **millions** in funding for comprehensive Israel education through Ramah (especially the shlichim program), USY, synagogue programming and more

- Rebuild Israel in the aftermath of October 7 and support our hostages
- Direct resources into our communities to combat antisemitism
- Promote an understanding of the Zionist vision and counter misinformation

The voting period begins on March 10, 2025, and no preregistration or organizational membership is required beforehand. Any Jewish adult over 18 who lives permanently in the U.S. and didn't vote in the last Knesset election can vote for MERCAZ USA in the World Zionist Congress elections.

To vote simply go to votemercazusa.org fill in your basic information and confirm your eligibility, and click yes to affirm the Jerusalem Platform: a basic, consensus definition of Zionism acceptable to everyone – right and left, religious and secular – that has been in place since 1949. Pay the \$5 administrative fee - which covers the cost of administering the online election and prevents voter fraud since each credit card can only vote a certain number of times. Go and vote for MERCAZ USA. **You do not need to be a member of MERCAZ USA to vote. ANY eligible voter can go and vote in the process that takes under 10 minutes.**

Please let us know if you have any questions about the upcoming elections or want to get involved with our campaign. wendejagerhyman@gmail.com.

If you were unable to join us for any of our inspiring programs, recordings are available on TBS's website at <https://tbsroslyn.org/whats-happening/past-programs/>

Wende



SISTERHOOD SCOOP

by Lisa Sakol, President

ISRAEL'S RED-SOUTH BLOOMS BRIGHTEN SISTERHOOD'S TU BISHVAL SEDER!

On February 11th, under the leadership of Bat-Sheva Slavin, curator of the Rabbi Ario S. & Tess Hyams Judaica Museum at TBS, together with Roya Mizrahi and Sanford Berger, close to 45 TBS members and their guests gathered for the museum exhibit opening of *Darom Adom - Red South*, followed by Sisterhood's Tu Bishval Seder.

The traveling art installation, on loan from the Suffolk Y JCC, highlights the renewal of life through the red anemones that pop-up in southern Israel beginning mid-January through the end of February—just in time for Tu Bishvat. The *kibbutzim* of the south are featured in the exhibit as they were before October 7th, with the promise that they will be reborn, as the fields are renewed in nature each year.

The Tu Bishvat Seder, underscored this theme, with a table set to mimic the fields of red anemones in southern Israel. An interactive *seder* engaged every participant, with a taste of the land's bounty, included wine, figs, dates, red and green grapes, olives, orange wedges, almonds and walnuts. Noticing and appreciating the miracle of the cycle of life was the theme that bound each participant to our homeland's spring, as well as to each other. There was poetry and song interwoven between the Tu Bishvat story. The melodious voices of Sandy, Roya, and those in attendance celebrating the rebirth of the trees, filled the Gallery with hope for the rebirth of life in southern Israel. During the *Seder*, each participant was asked to share the type of tree that best represented their values and personalities—a thoughtful way to connect each of us to the land.

Although a snowstorm was brewing outside, there was a warmth that filled the synagogue inside. It is such communal moments of learning that make our Sisterhood so special. Much gratitude to all who donated time and sponsorships to bring this to the community.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS, CHESED, & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES and You're Invited!

- **Tuesday, March 11** (5:30 PM for ECC families & 6 pm for the Community): Z'havah Young Leaders Group of Sisterhood sponsors **Hamantaschen Baking**, led by Elaine Benlevi.
- **Thursday, March 13** (before the *Megillah* reading & additional prior dates to TBA): **Mishloach Manot reimagined!** Food packages will be lovingly hand-packed for every local congregant (& cards to our out-of-town members) to remember and include every synagogue member. Along with treats will be a card inside each bag, thanking sponsors by level of support, along with Sisterhood's donation card to Kosher Troops, sending Jewish US military personnel Purim treats this year. A double-mitzvah!

- **Thursday, March 27** (7 PM): **The Jewish Food Society Pre-Passover Cooking Event** with Naama Shefi. Includes a conversation with Naama led by short-story author and TBS congregant, Michele Lang Palter, followed by a cooking demo & tasting with recipes from Naama's 2024 release, *The Jewish Holiday Table*, with a signed copy included with every ticket! (See TBS website for pricing and sous chef opportunities.) **Limited seating available.**
- **Thursday, April 17 at 1 PM: Day Trip to The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County** with a private docent for the special exhibit featuring Salvador Dali's, *Aliyah, the Rebirth of Israel*. (Details TBA.)
- **March & April Adult Learning Classes:** See Programming & Education weekly announcements.

Looking forward to you joining Sisterhood for the 21st century.

Lisa



Sanford Berger and Roya Mizrahi lead the Sisterhood Tu Bishvat Seder



Hope for southern Israel's rebirth fills hearts at Sisterhood's Tu Bishvat seder table, set to mimic its red anemones



MEN'S CLUB CORNER

by Evan Wagner, President

Men's Club is thriving more than ever. We have a nice mix of seasoned veterans to go along with the newer and younger group of guys who have gotten very involved. We just had our first ever Bowling Night which was a huge success and will take place again next year. Thank you to Adam Lilling for setting this up and filling in for me while I was ill. A huge thank you to everyone who did Super Bowl boxes. Because of all of you, we were able to raise over \$5000 for the Temple. On March 17th we plan on having our annual Bourbon Tasting with food (menu to be determined). It is always a fun night. We also plan to go to Lab 18 (indoor golf), in the town of Roslyn. More on that to follow. Our Men's Club Seder will be on Monday, April 7. We can always use more Men's Club members and more ideas for outings or events.

If you have any ideas or questions please contact me at Evan@gustbuster.com

Evan



L'DOR V'DOR – From Generation to Generation

Create a lasting legacy of your family's connection to Temple Beth Sholom with the purchase of an engraved brick for the Courtyard in our Early Childhood and Lifelong Learning Center.

CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO SIZES:

Size 4"x 8": Cost: \$180 per brick or 3 for \$500
(Each brick can include 3 lines of text with up to 14 characters)

Size 12"x12": Cost: \$540 per brick
(Each brick can include 8 lines of text with up to 16 characters)

Characters include letters, numbers, symbols and spaces.

To purchase bricks go to: www.tbsroslyn.org

Click on Learning - Ostrow Early Childhood Center - Brick Purchase Form Button

WHO WILL BE THERE FOR YOU?

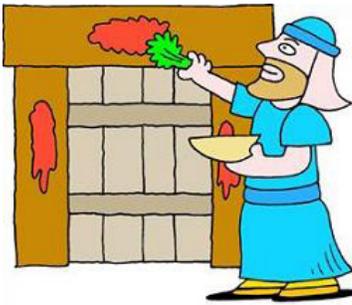
Saying the *Kaddish* in memory of a loved one passed, is a beautiful and meaningful ritual tradition in Judaism. Our tradition is to say the *Kaddish* with our community, which to do so, requires the presence of a *Minyan*, 10 individuals of *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* age.

TBS is lucky to have a dedicated group of *Minyanaires* who recognize the responsibility to the community to be present for their fellow community members. But despite their dedication, this group cannot guarantee the presence of a *Minyan* twice daily, 365 days a year.

To do so, TBS needs your support. Please make an effort to attend a morning or evening *Minyan* to help support others who need your presence to say *Kaddish* for their loved one.

Because without the support of others, Who Will Be There For You?

Siyum and Break(fast) of the First Born & Burning of the Chametz



THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 10 AT 6:45 AM

Join Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon as we celebrate his completing the study of a book of rabbinic wisdom. A celebratory breakfast will follow.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 11 AT 10 AM

Burning of the *chametz* from the previous evening's search will be at 10 am in the parking lot.



Answers to 2 Truths and 1 Lie (See the lies below)

Stephanie Whalen, Director of Early Childhood Center
Stephanie ran in two marathons.

Leah Tobin, ECC Administrative Assistant
Leah swam 600 miles over the past year.

Susan Daniels, Religious School Liaison
Susan loves flying and heights.

Ravit Penias
Ravit is a terrible baker.

Amy Gortler, Makom Coordinator
Amy has been an extra in a movie.

Becky Firestone, Beth Sholom Day Camp, Director
Becky was the MVP of the camp staff softball team this past summer.

DeeDee Horowitz, Beth Sholom Day Camp, Assistant Director
Dee Dee was a competitive dancer.

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon
Rabbi Ben-Gideon has attended Dave Matthews Band concerts.

Cantor Ofer Barnoy
Cantor Barnoy likes to wear dresses on Wednesdays.

Eileen Olan Bohrer, Executive Director
Eileen was accepted to the New York City Corps de Ballet.

Dina Yakar, Administrative/B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator
Dina once got lost in Israel, couldn't find her tour group and was almost sold to an Arab for her hair.

Eileen Unger, Accountant
Eileen had dinner with Alan Alda.

Barbara Cooper, Communications Coordinator
Barbara completed a triathlon.



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DAY CAMP NEWS

by Becky Firestone, Day Camp Director & Dee Dee Horowitz, Day Camp Assistant Director



We're still buzzing with excitement from our recent Camp Reunion on January 26th! It was an incredible day filled with fun, laughter and special moments as our camp family came together once again. From inflatables and games to arts & crafts and face painting, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

One of the biggest hits of the day was the photo booth, where campers, counselors and families snapped pictures to capture the joy of the event. These photos will surely be treasured for years to come!

Our raffle was also a huge success, thanks to the generosity of local businesses and community members who contributed amazing prizes. We are so grateful for their support!

Looking Ahead to Summer 2025!

As we celebrate the success of our reunion, we're also gearing up for an unforgettable summer at Beth Shalom Day Camp! Spots are filling up quickly, especially in certain age groups, so don't wait to register. Temple members receive exclusive discounts for children and grandchildren—be sure to take advantage of this opportunity!

Join us at our Open House on March 9th to learn

more about camp. If you'd like to schedule a tour on that day or another date, give us a call at 516-620-2022.

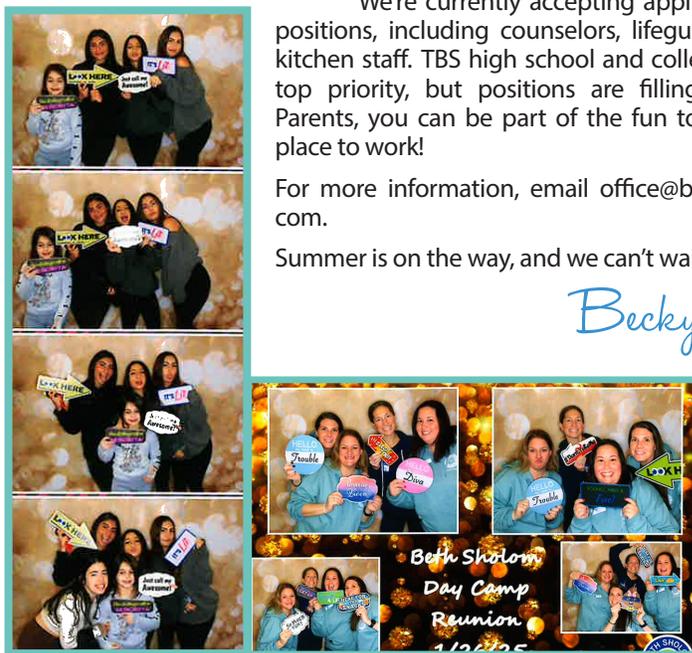
We're Hiring!

We're currently accepting applications for all camp positions, including counselors, lifeguards, specialists and kitchen staff. TBS high school and college students receive top priority, but positions are filling fast—apply soon! Parents, you can be part of the fun too—camp is a great place to work!

For more information, email office@bethsholomdaycamp.com.

Summer is on the way, and we can't wait to see you there!

Becky & Dee Dee



Graduation Announcement

If you have a 2025 graduation announcement, please email us your student's name and school to mainoffice@tbsroslyn.org by April 25th. Graduation announcements will be highlighted in our May/June News Bulletin.



TORAH FUND

by Janet Cohen Eder & Nadine Kesten

AM YISRAEL CHAI THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL LIVE!

Torah Fund strives to make a significant impact through scholarship and programs that benefit students at the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York; Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Los Angeles; Schechter Institute, Israel; Seminario Rabinico Latinamericano, and Zacharias Frankel College in Germany. Thanks to your generous donations, we help committed Jewish students become Rabbis, Cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, social workers, researchers and our future lay leaders. Our donors align with all students who value learning, and we provide the future generation with relevant skills to fortify the Jewish people. These are the individuals who guide, teach and uplift our people, one at a time, whether in person, or remotely, during these challenging times.

This year, more than ever, our theme is so very important to us and to the State of Israel. Am Yisrael Chai is an expression of Jewish solidarity for the Jewish nation and the continuity of the Jewish people. We help ensure the future of worldwide Jewish communities through our support of the Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.

We ask you to step forward and donate to the annual Torah Fund campaign. This makes it possible to help to continue the pursuit of the Jewish journey for the future leaders of Conservative/Masorti Judaism. Only you can ensure the success of this current campaign. All Sisterhood members work together to support Torah Fund by making important contributions to the Jewish community and synagogues in the United States, including Temple Beth Sholom. **The most significant way to ensure the**

success of our Torah Fund campaign is by your contributions. Today more than ever – ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL MUST LIVE...

Enjoy celebrating Purim with us and wishing you and yours a joyous Passover season. Please feel free to contact either one of us should you have any questions. Thank you for your generous **fully tax-deductible** donations in support of Torah Fund.

Janet & Nadine

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MARCH 2025



Adar/Nisan 5785

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> Max Levine Babysitting Havdalah <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> Dylan Davidson
2 B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop 5 - Torah & D'var Torah <i>M'dabrim b'l'vrit - HaMifgash</i> H.S. Hamantaschen Bake	3	4 Sisterhood Adult Education Rosh Chodesh with Wende Jager-Hyman	5	6 Purim Program with Holocaust Survivors Sisterhood Board Meeting	7	8 <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> Jacob Feldstein <i>Mishpacha</i> Family Service Mini <i>Minyan</i>
9 BSDC Open House Purim Carnival <i>M'dabrim b'l'vrit - HaMifgash</i>	10 Executive Committee Meeting	11 Sisterhood Adult Education Hamantaschen Baking	12 LiteraryLikes: Virtual Book & Author Series	13 Purim-A-Lot Erev Purim <i>Megillah</i> Reading	14	15 <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> Liam Edelstein Babysitting
16 <i>M'dabrim b'l'vrit - HaMifgash</i>	17	18 Sisterhood Adult Education	19	20 Board of Education Meeting	21	22 <i>Mishpacha</i> Family Service Mini <i>Minyan</i>
23 B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop 6 - Yad Program <i>M'dabrim b'l'vrit - HaMifgash</i>	24	25 Sisterhood Adult Education Executive Committee Board of Trustees Meeting Congregation Meeting	26	27 Sisterhood Author Talk with Chef Naama Shefi Hot Off the Press	28	29 <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> Jordan Wasserman Babysitting
30 <i>M'dabrim b'l'vrit - HaMifgash</i>	31 Religious Affairs Committee Meeting					

APRIL 2025



Nisan/Iyar 5785

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Sisterhood Adult Education	2 MODI Live at TBS	3	4	5 Mishpacha Family Service Mini Minyan
6	7 Men's Club Seder	8 Sisterhood Adult Education Executive Committee Meeting	9	10 Siyum Habekhorim Fast of the First Born	11	12 Erev Passover - First Seder
13 Passover - First Day Second Seder	14 Passover - Second Day	15	16	17	18	19 Passover - Seventh Day
20 Passover - Eighth Day	21	22 Sisterhood Adult Education Executive Board Meeting Board of Trustees Meeting	23 Yom HaShoah Speaker	24	25	26 Mishpacha Family Service Mini Minyan
27	28 Board of Education Meeting	29 Sisterhood Adult Education Lunch & Learn	30 Yom Ha'Atzmaut Program			

MARCH 2025/5785 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Please Note: Schedule of Services are subject to change.
Please refer to the **Schedule and Link for Services** button on the homepage of our website
at www.tbsroslyn.org for up to date information.

Saturday, March 1

Shabbat Shekalim

Rosh Chodesh Adar

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM

Parashat Terumah

Bar Mitzvah of Max Levine

Babysitting 9:30 AM

Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon

following *Kiddush*

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 5:00 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Davidson

Shabbat Ends 6:27 PM

Friday, March 7

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 5:30 PM

Candle Lighting Time 5:34 PM

Saturday, March 8

Shabbat Zachor

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM

Parashat Tetzaveh

Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Feldstein

Mishpacha Family Service 10:30 AM

Mini Minyan 11:00 AM

Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon

following *Kiddush*

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 5:30 PM

Shabbat Ends 6:35 PM

Thursday, March 13

Erev Purim

Megillah Reading 7:00 PM

Friday, March 14

Purim

Megillah Reading 6:45 AM

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM

Candle Lighting Time 6:42 PM

Saturday, March 15

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM

Parashat Ki Tisa

Bar Mitzvah of Liam Edelstein

Babysitting 9:30 AM

Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon

following *Kiddush*

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 6:30 PM

Shabbat Ends 7:42 PM

Friday, March 21

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM

Candle Lighting Time 6:50 PM

Saturday, March 22

Shabbat Parah

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM

Parashat Vayakhel

Mishpacha Family Service 10:30 AM

Mini Minyan 11:00 AM

Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon

following *Kiddush*

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 6:45 PM

Shabbat Ends 7:50 PM

Friday, March 28

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM

Candle Lighting Time 5:34 PM

Saturday, March 29

Shabbat Mevarchim Chodesh Nisan

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM

Parashat Pekudei

Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Wasserman

Babysitting 9:30 AM

Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon

following *Kiddush*

Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 6:45 PM

Shabbat Ends 7:58 PM

APRIL 2025/5785 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

DAILY MINYAN SCHEDULE

Sunday Mornings 9:00 AM ◊ Monday - Friday Mornings 6:45 AM ◊ Sunday - Thursday Evenings 7:30 PM

Friday, April 4

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM
Candle Lighting Time 7:04 PM

Saturday, April 5

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Parashat Vayikra
Mishpacha Family Service 10:30 AM
Mini Minyan 11:00 AM
Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon
following *Kiddush*
Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 7:00 PM
Shabbat Ends 8:05 PM

Thursday, April 10

Fast of the First Born
Minyan including
Siyyum Habeckhorim 6:45 AM

Friday, April 11

Burning of Hametz 10:00 AM
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM
Candle Lighting Time 7:12 PM

Saturday, April 12

Shabbat HaGadol
Erev Passover
Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Parashat Tzav
Mincha after Kiddush
Candle Lighting 8:13 PM
First Seder

Sunday, April 13

Passover Day 1
Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Candle Lighting 8:15 PM
Second Seder

Monday, April 14

Passover Day 2
Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Ma'ariv 8:00 PM
Holiday Ends 8:16 PM

Friday, April 18

Erev Passover Day 7
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM
Candle Lighting Time 7:19 PM

Saturday, April 19

Passover Day 7
Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv 7:15 PM
Candle Lighting Time 8:22 PM

Sunday, April 20

Passover Day 8
Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Yizkor 10:45 AM
Ma'ariv 8:15 PM
Holiday Ends 8:22 PM

Wednesday, April 23

Evening Service followed 6:00 PM
by Yom HaShoah Program

Friday, April 25

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:00 PM
Candle Lighting Time 7:26 PM

Saturday, April 26

Shacharit, Sermon and Musaf 9:00 AM
Parashat Shmini
Mishpacha Family Service 10:30 AM
Mini Minyan 11:00 AM
Humash with Rashi and Rabbi Ben-Gideon
following *Kiddush*
Mincha/Ma'ariv/Havdalah 7:30 PM
Shabbat Ends 8:30 PM

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(from 12/28/24 through 2/21/25)

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Dr. Politi is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist and is a fellowship-trained retina specialist. With over 10 years of experience in treating a wide range of eye conditions, Dr. Politi is dedicated to helping patients maintain healthy vision, providing the highest quality, retinal, and comprehensive ophthalmologic care.

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TEMPLE FAMILY

If you have news to share, please email us at mainoffice@tbsroslyn.org.

Our Sincere Condolences To:

Howard Rachlin on the passing of his beloved mother, Sylvia Rachlin
Ronnie Goldpin-Mandel, Bari Goltzman, Cheryl Mendez and Stephanie Dowdle on the passing of their beloved father, Maxwell Goldpin
Susan Stack and Lawrence Stack on the passing of their beloved mother, Harriet Stack.

Ari Katzap on the passing of his beloved father, Izea Katzap
Helene Abiri on the passing of her beloved mother, Ziona Hackel

Thank You:

to the TBS clergy and members who participated in the *minyan* while we were *sitting shiva* for Sylvia Rachlin. With our appreciation, The Rachlin Family

Minyan Breakfast



Become a Sunday Morning Breakfast Sponsor to mark a *yahrzeit* or to share a *simcha* after *minyan*!

The name of the person you are honoring or remembering will be shared in the Programming and Education and *Shabbat Shalom* e-blast prior to the Sunday breakfast that you are sponsoring.

Go to our website at tbsroslyn.org and click on **donate from the main menu then Sunday *Minyan* Breakfast Sponsor** to see sponsorship options or call Eileen Bohrer at 516-621-2288 ext. 113.

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April 12, 2025
14 Nisan 5785

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you shall tell your
children on that day,
A Ziessen Pesach!*