

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM Community Guide



2019 - 2020



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MAY THE DOOR of this synagogue be wide enough
to receive all who hunger for love,
all who are lonely for friendship.

May it welcome all who have cares to unburden,
thanks to express, hopes to nurture.

May the door of this synagogue be narrow enough
to shut out pettiness and pride, envy and enmity.

May its threshold be no stumbling block
to young or straying feet.

May it be too high to admit complacency,
selfishness and harshness.

May this synagogue be, for all who enter,
the doorway to a richer
and more meaningful life.

Above and on the cover:
Mezuzah at the main entrance to Temple Beth Shalom
Original fused glass artwork by Gary Rosenthal.

Welcome

Welcome to
Temple Beth Shalom
and Our Temple Home

Welcome to Temple Beth Shalom!

We look forward to sharing an exciting year together as a community!

This booklet provides a gateway into the year ahead. It includes information that will help you enter our community through Prayer and Celebration, Learning, Cultural Activities, Acts of *Tikkun Olam* ("Repairing the World"), Social Opportunities, Community Care, Israel, Interfaith Encounters, *Tzedakah*, and Leadership.

New programs and opportunities will be created throughout the coming year. Please keep an eye on your weekly *TBS This Week* e-newsletter, the *Scroll*, and our website (www.tbsneedham.org) for more information.

As always, if you have questions, please contact any member of our clergy or our lay or professional leadership. We are here for one another. Enjoy!!

With Warmest Wishes and Shalom,
Rabbi Jay Perlman,
Rabbi Todd Markley,
Rabbi Julie Bressler,
Jeffrey Shapiro, TBS President

Our TBS home inspires interaction and encounter. From the moment you walk in the front door and are warmly greeted by a member of our own community at our Welcome Desk, to your passage throughout our building, you are invited to feel at home. In our Community Court, for example, the rhythm of Jewish music can be heard throughout the day and night, new Jewish book titles 'call out' from the nearby shelves, comfy couches invite gatherings of friends and friends-to-be, Wifi is open for all, hot coffee/cappuccino/hot chocolate is available for the taking, a fireplace brings added warmth, a grand piano invites players of all ages and abilities, colorful displays describe the inspirational *mitzvah* projects of our community's *B'nei Mitzvah*, specially designed drawers are available for collecting food, clothing, and other items for those in need, and photos of community life invite us to see beyond our own experiences at TBS and discover new 'faces' in the life of TBS.

Rooms throughout our Temple home were created with many windows and glass walls, both so that the natural light from outside might brightly shine inside and so that the vibrant activity of all that is happening in our social halls, *Beit Midrash*, classrooms, offices, Family Reading Room, and conference rooms is easily seen.

Our building was created through the lens of full inclusion – with spaces that are physically and spiritually accessible for all through thoughtful space design, signage, and technology.

Right:
Rabbi Jay Perlman,
Rabbi Todd Markley, and
Emily Perlman celebrate
havdallah with TBS family.



Three years ago, we blessedly dedicated our new Temple home. Its impact on the quality of our life as a community has surpassed even our own expectations. Our goal was more than simply to expand our building's footprint. Our goal was to create a Temple home which – in every space – would help us to more deeply fulfill our mission as a community.



Temple Beth Shalom is a warm, vibrant and diverse community of individuals and families. We unite in a dynamic, ongoing relationship by a desire to embrace the values, traditions and teachings of Torah through the lens of Reform Judaism.

Above: another busy night at TBS.

especially importantly, with one another. We look forward in the coming year to exploring with you new ways to live most fully and meaningfully as a Temple community.

A Community on a Mission with a Vision

Mission

Temple Beth Shalom is a warm, vibrant and diverse community of individuals and families. We unite in a dynamic, ongoing relationship by a desire to embrace the values, traditions and teachings of *Torah* through the lens of Reform Judaism. Through worship, celebration, lifelong learning and service to others, we seek to inspire spirituality, nurture personal growth, promote social justice, deepen Jewish experiences and enrich the life of each member. We work in partnership with our neighbors to foster a stronger Greater Boston community, particularly in our home of Needham. At the same time, we endeavor to sustain Israel and the Jewish people throughout the world. We are bound together by covenant and strive to be a community of blessing.



Our building reflects the values of the community and enables us to come together. Throughout the year, every day of the week, all ages gather for outstanding programs, activities, classes, seminars, meetings, cooking programs, gardening workshops, teen lounge nights, movie nights, fireside chats, concerts, storytimes, play rehearsals, small theatrical productions, and services – large, very large, and intimate, rituals marking the most important moments in our lives, *Shabbat* dinners, parties, video conferences with those across town or in Israel, speaker series, and more and more.

Our Temple home inspires us to engage meaningfully with Judaism and,

Vision



Above: celebrating with *Torah* atop Masada on the biennial TBS Israel trip.

Vision

Temple Beth Shalom is a warm and vibrant Reform congregation where life is inspired by the values of *Torah*. We feel a deep sense of belonging to our congregation and commitment to one another. We see ourselves as partners – working closely to create a strong Jewish community for ourselves and for our children.

We share our individual skills, talents, stories, and dreams to help make our congregation engaging and meaningful for all.

We are nourished by the relationships that we share, and over time, members of all ages deepen their connection with our community and with Judaism.

We are a community of learners At every age and from every background we grow in knowledge and deepen our understanding of the traditions and wisdom of Judaism. We are a community of prayer and celebration. We gather to experience the joy and spirit of our people's liturgy, poetry and music.

We are a community of *chesed* – compassionate outreach We care deeply about one another, rejoicing in each other's *simchas* and reaching out to support one another in times of need. Together we help to nurture belonging, resilience, and *shleimut* – wholeness in our lives.

We are a community of action We engage in acts of *Tikkun Olam* – healing our world – and pursue *Tzedek* – righteousness and justice – through social action and political activism. We do this individually, as friends, and as families – affirming our responsibility to make a positive difference for others, for ourselves, and for our planet.



Mission

*At every age
and from every
background we grow in
knowledge and deepen our
understanding of the traditions
and wisdom of Judaism.*

We are a community that supports Israel.
We foster a meaningful relationship with Israel, the eternal and sacred home of the Jewish people.

We seek a relationship with God
that is personal. Living in the tradition of being *Yisrael* – “one who wrestles with God” – we cherish our diversity of belief and Jewish expression. Each of us thoughtfully searches for understanding, guidance, and inspiration from the teachings and many voices of our tradition.

We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation –
blessed to share in the life of a community that is diverse by age, family, religious background, unique needs and abilities, ethnicity, gender identity and sexual orientation. We see each other as having been created *B'tzelem Elohim* – in the image of God – with a spark of the sacred in each of us. Membership in our congregation and education for our children are accessible to all, regardless of financial circumstance.

We recognize and celebrate our commonalities, while honoring and cherishing our differences. We support all of these ideals by engaging and nurturing the best possible leadership for our community – clergy, professional and support staff, educators, and lay leaders. Our leadership blends organizational innovation with the inspirational values of our tradition.

So too are we committed to maintaining and building a Temple home that warmly and comfortably houses the myriad souls who inhabit our sacred space throughout the year. Ours is a covenantal partnership dedicated to creating a *Kehillah Kedoshah* – a holy and radiant Temple Beth Shalom community.



Board of Trustees Governance & Leadership

The By-laws of Temple Beth Shalom establish an 18-member Board of Trustees that includes 10 Officers and 8 Trustees who are each elected by the congregation at the annual Congregational Meeting and Celebration. The exact responsibilities of the Board are enumerated in the by-laws but generally involve hiring clergy, fiduciary oversight, governance, compliance and community oversight for the long-term health and stability of our community. The Board meets year-round at least monthly. Historically, in our community, the Nominating Committee (traditionally chaired by the immediate past president with eight elected members) propose a slate of candidates for consideration by the congregation and a vote by the members of the congregation present at the annual Congregational Meeting and Celebration. The Board works with our clergy, professional leaders, staff members and other lay leaders in leading our community and creating the overall spirit, culture and relational community that is the fabric of TBS.

If you have ideas, questions or concerns please feel free to contact Jeffrey Shapiro, TBS President at president@tbsneedham.org.

Left: Masada, overlooking the desert, the Dead Sea and Jordan.

Above: Rabbi Jay and the congregation celebrate the installation of TBS President, Jeffrey Shapiro, and our Board of Trustees.



T'filah Prayer and Celebration

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES at Temple Beth Shalom are a time for spirited song, prayer, and sharing as a community. We invite you to end your week with us as together we seek rest, renewal, and inspiration.

Our *Shabbat* evening services are joyful, participatory, and rich with beautiful music led by our Cantorial Soloist, DJ Fortine, or Cantorial Soloist, Emily

Perlman. Our services feature guitar, piano, percussion, oftentimes flute, and always our voices raised together in song.

The prayer book's poetry and a thought-provoking weekly *D'var Torah* ("Torah Teaching") inspire reflection and provide timely insight as we consider how Jewish wisdom might inform our own life journeys.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

From September through June:

First and Second Friday of the Month
7:15 – 8:30 pm

These 'later' services are followed by a delicious *oneg* (a joyful reception complete with sweet refreshments).

Third, Fourth, and Fifth Friday of the Month
6:15 – 7:30 pm

These 'earlier' services are preceded by a delicious "pre-service *oneg*" (hors d'oeuvres [egg rolls, mozzarella sticks, cheese, cut vegetables, etc., wine, juice) beginning at 5:30 pm in our beautiful Community Court. The earlier service time more easily allows families with children to attend and provides an opportunity for *Shabbat* dinner outside Temple following services.

During the Summer
Every Friday: 6:00 pm

Between the last Friday in June through the first Friday in September, we share *Shabbat* with song and prayer during a simpler, yet uplifting service. Perfect for all ages, our services are approximately 45 minutes in length, providing a wonderful 'gateway' into *Shabbat* evening.

SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

First Friday *Simchat Shabbat* service:
The first Friday of the month features our very popular TBS *Simchat Shabbat* – a spirited, music-filled service; our wonderful Youth Choir; and the participation of the children in our TBS *Mayim* (K–5th grade) program. While these services do involve families and children, they are inspirational for all ages!

First Friday "Contemplative *Shabbat*" Service

On the first Friday of the month beginning in October, in our beautiful *Beit Midrash* ("House of Study"), we offer a more intimate *Shabbat* service of prayer, reflection, and contemplation.

Tot *Shabbat*
On the first Friday of the month, beginning at 6:15 pm, families with young children are invited to share in an age-appropriate *Shabbat* service led by our very own Josh Shriber. Each *Tot Shabbat* service is filled with energy, family warmth, song, dance, and light. We enjoy a delicious treat after our service.

Tot Shabbat
Friday, September 6, 2019
Friday, October 4, 2019
Friday, November 1, 2019
Friday, December 6, 2019
Friday, January 3, 2020
Friday, February 7, 2020
Friday, March 6, 2020
Friday, April 3, 2020
— No Tot *Shabbat* in May —
Friday, June 5, 2020

Josh Shriber: Our *Tot Shabbat* Leader
Josh loves music and kids! Josh received his first guitar for his 13th birthday and began



teaching himself from songbooks of his favorite musicians. After graduating from college, Josh began giving piano and guitar lessons to support himself. His popularity as a teacher grew throughout his local towns of Newton and Wellesley, and thus, 'Jammin' With You!' was born. In 2005, Josh became a founding member of the kids rock band 'Flooky and the Beans,' in which he performs regularly as guitar hero 'Jojo Bean.' In addition to 'Jammin' with You!' and 'Flooky,' Josh teaches Music and Movement classes every morning for children 1–5 years old.



Above: some very special *b'not mitvah* atop Masada.



T'filah continued...

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Congregational Shabbat Morning Services
Most Saturday mornings, our congregational Shabbat morning service is held in our Sanctuary beginning at 11:00 am. Poetry, music, prayer, and song blend as our B'nei Mitzvah join Rabbi Perlman, Rabbi Markley, Cantorial Soloist DJ Fortine, and Emily Perlman to make these Shabbat morning services extra special.

Shabbat Morning Minyan

Every Saturday morning at 8:30 am, an informal, participatory, lay-led Shabbat morning minyan service is held in our Beit Midrash ("House of Study"). This minyan service is immediately followed at 9:00 am by a lively Torah Study discussion led by either Rabbi Perlman or Rabbi Markley, and a fascinating Torah Study discussion entitled "Finding our Jewish Values in Torah" led by Rabbi Bob Orkand.

During the summer these lay-led minyan services continue, though they begin at 9:00 am and lead into a wonderful lay-led Shabbat morning Torah Study discussion. On Shabbat mornings during July and August, lay leaders in our community create an intimate and beautiful community of prayer in our Beit Midrash ("House of Study"). All are warmly welcomed.

Minyan Services

Morning Minyan

Every Monday and Thursday morning beginning at 7:00 am

Weekday Evening Minyan

Every Monday through Thursday evening: 6:45 – 7:15 pm

During these minyan services, lay leaders create an intimate and beautiful community of prayer in our Beit Midrash. All are warmly welcomed.

Holiday Services & Celebrations

Throughout the year we celebrate the vibrant rhythm of Jewish time. Please join us as we bring our holidays to light and life as a community.



Left: celebrating Tashlich at Elm Bank.

High Holy Days

Several weeks before the High Holy Days, a complete guide to how the TBS community celebrates the High Holy Days is sent. A brief summary of our High Holy Days Service Schedule appears below:

Selichot

Saturday, September 21, 2019

A special way to gather with our community in learning, prayer and sweetness to prepare for the beginning of the Holy Days.

7:00 pm – "Apples and Honey for the Soul" –

Interactive Learning/Discussion

8:30 pm – A sweet oneg to welcome the New Year

9:00 pm – Selichot Service

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

Sunday, September 29 – Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Our gateway into a sweet and meaningful year.

Sukkot Morning Service

Monday, October 14, 2019 – 7:00 – 8:00 am

We share prayer, song, and Torah in celebration of our holiday of gratitude.

TBS Sukkot-Fest BBQ and Block Party

Monday, October 14, 2019 – 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Sukkot Evening Service

Monday, October 14, 2019 – 7:00 – 8:30 pm

A beautiful service during which we express our gratitude for life's bounty and many blessings.

Erev Simchat Torah

Sunday, October 20, 2019 – 6:00 – 7:15 pm

Joy, dancing, song... During this service we celebrate our completion of the reading of the Torah with spirited klezmer music. We unroll the entire Torah around our sanctuary reading Torah's last words and first words – beginning our cycle anew. We celebrate those beginning their formal Jewish learning in our TBS learning programs with special blessing! An evening not to be missed!

Holidays continued...



Above: Pesach in the Children's Center.

Simchat Torah Morning Service

Monday, October 21, 2019 – 7:00 – 8:00 am
We share prayer, song, and *Torah* to conclude the *Sukkot* festival. We recall the memory of loved ones through the recitation of *Yizkor*.

Purim Carnival and Kids' Shpiel

Sunday, March 8, 2020 – 11:00 – 11:30 am
Sunday, March 8, 2020 – 12:30 – 2:00 pm
Games, costumes, music, food, a sea of smiles, and MORE!!

1st Day of Passover Morning Service

Thursday, April 9, 2020 – 7:00 – 8:00 am
We share prayer, song, and *Torah* in celebration of our holiday of freedom.

7th Day Passover Morning Service

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 – 7:00 – 8:00 am
We share prayer, song, and *Torah* to conclude the Passover holiday. We recall the memory of loved ones through the recitation of *Yizkor*.

Yom HaShoah / Holocaust Commemoration

Monday, April 20, 2020 – 7:30 pm at Temple Aliyah
Join us for our annual Needham-wide commemoration of *Yom HaShoah* as we join with our neighbors from Temple Aliyah for a special program of remembrance, held this year at Temple Aliyah.

Shavuot Morning Service

Thursday, May 28, 2020 – 7:00 – 8:00 am
We share prayer, song, and *Torah* to celebrate our holiday of the receiving of the *Torah*.

Shavuot Service

Thursday, May 28, 2020 – 7:15 pm
We celebrate the giving of the *Torah* with inspired reflections and readings crafted by our 10th grade Confirmants. Beautiful music, artistic expression, prayer and poetry blend as we celebrate *Torah*. Cheesecake will be served!

***Programs and service details may change during the planning of the year. Please consult the latest "TBS This Week" e-mail or the TBS website for up-to-date information.*

Some Often-Asked Questions

What are services like?
Do I need to know Hebrew to appreciate the experience?

What is the dress for Shabbat Evening Services?

Dressy casual is perfectly fine for *Shabbat*. However, if at the last minute, the spirit moves you to come to services and you do not have time to change, please come as you are. We want you to be with us! During the summer, especially, many come more informally and casually dressed.

What if it is difficult for me to arrive at Temple by 6:15 pm?

Don't worry. A number of our members come to services directly from the end of their work day. Please feel comfortable arriving any time after the service begins. It is wonderful to see our Sanctuary gradually fill as more and more people arrive to join their loved ones and friends for *Shabbat*.

What are services like? Do I need to know Hebrew to appreciate the experience?

All of our services feature song, warmth, and spirit and are accessible to everyone. Our prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*, is transliterated for those who do not read Hebrew. Our rabbis and musical leaders guide us through the service thoughtfully with explanations and teachings to ensure that everyone is sharing in a meaningful way. For more information about *Mishkan T'filah* please go to www.ccarpress.org and search for *Mishkan T'filah*.

Is the Sanctuary accessible and accommodating to everyone?

Our Sanctuary is located on the first floor of our building – there are no steps into the building or into the Sanctuary. We have large-print prayer books and hearing-assisted devices which are easily accessible. We also have a ramp up to the *bimah*. We welcome everyone to join us for *Shabbat*!

How can I celebrate a life moment with a special blessing during services?

If you are interested in celebrating a life moment (birth, anniversary, special life change) with a blessing during our *Shabbat* services, please contact either Rabbi Perlman (jpperlman@tbsneedham.org) or Rabbi Markley (tmarkley@tbsneedham.org). They will be happy to help!

Is it possible to purchase my own copy of our prayer book Mishkan T'filah?

Of course. To order your own copy of *Mishkan T'filah* (and/or a number of other Jewish books and resources) please go to www.ccarpress.org.

Community-Wide Events

Save the Date

Gersten-Hoisington Scholar-in-Residence Weekend



The Jews of Italy: History, Culture, Literature, Arts, Music and Food

Friday, December 6 –
Sunday, December 8, 2019

Professor Marc Michael Epstein, a renowned scholar of Jewish art and illustrated manuscripts, will be joining us for an inspiring weekend.

Winner of the 2015 Jewish Book Award in Visual Arts for “*Skies of Parchment, Seas of Ink: Jewish Illuminated Manuscripts*”, Marc Michael Epstein is the product of a mixed marriage between the scions of Slonimer and Lubavitcher Hassidim and Romanian socialists, and grew

up, rather confused, but happy, in Brooklyn, New York. He is currently Professor of Religion at Vassar College, where he has been teaching since 1992, and was the first Director of Jewish Studies. At Vassar, he teaches courses on medieval Christianity, religion, arts and politics, and Jewish texts and sources. He is a graduate of Oberlin College, received his PhD at Yale University, and did much of his graduate research at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has written numerous articles and three books on various topics in visual and material culture produced by, for, and about Jews. His prior book, “*The Medieval Haggadah: Art, Narrative, and Religious Imagination*” (Yale, 2011), was selected by the London Times Literary Supplement as one of the best books of 2011. During the ‘80s, Epstein was Director of the Hebrew Books and Manuscripts division of Sotheby’s Judaica department, and continues to serve as consultant to various libraries, auction houses, museums and private collectors throughout the world. Among them are the Herbert C. and Eileen Bernard Museum at Temple Emanu-El in New York City, for which he curated the inaugural exhibition. He currently serves as a consultant for the Fowler Museum at UCLA, where he is in the process of helping plan a major exhibition on aspects of Kabbalah and its relationship to visual culture.

Annual Brotherhood Blood Drive

Date – Sunday, December 8, 2019

Time – 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where – TBS, Simon Hall

PLEASE REGISTER at: <http://tiny.cc/tbsblood>

While you are learning all about Italian Jews, take a break, step out for a bit, come early, or stay late to donate blood. No guilt (although that is our custom). Just walk down the Community Court to Simon Hall to give the gift of life! We’ll even feed you bagels & lox, and more!

Please join us in in this priceless act of *tzedakah* at this critical time of the year. Give the gift of life and enjoy a complimentary breakfast of lox, bagels, sweet treats, and sincere appreciation. In partnership with



The American Red Cross, ours is one of largest and most effective blood drives in New England. Come out to support this effort as a blood donor and/or as a volunteer. Please contact our Chief Phlebotomists at: donateblood@tbsneedham.org.

Joint Event – with: Brotherhood, Sisterhood, & Three Score / More or Less

“An Amazing Evening Out” with Brotherhood, Sisterhood, & Three Score / More or Less

Date – Saturday, March 7, 2020

Time – 7:00 – 11:30 pm

Where – TBS, Community Hall

Every year, we get together for a great, fun social evening! Join with longstanding friends and meet wonderful new people during this popular annual event! More information to follow.



Adult and Family Learning



Our TBS Adult and Family Learning Committee works throughout the year to create an incredible array of programs, events, and activities for our community. Our offerings bring together all ages in our community. Our 2019–2020 learning tracks include:

- Jewish Spirituality and Text
- Health and Wellness
- Science and Technology
- Jewish History, Politics, and Israel
- Jewish Art, Music, Literature and Cooking
- Outdoors and Travel

Our outstanding Adult and Family Learning programs are made possible by TBS member commitment, tuition, and donations to funds dedicated to adult learning (**The Richard Todd Sacks Lifelong Learning Fund** and the **Gersten-Hoisington Scholar-in-Residence Fund**.) Please join us for an exciting year!

FALL 2019 OFFERINGS

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Led by Rabbi Perlman, Rabbi Markley, and Rabbi Bressler

Every Saturday morning beginning September 7, 2019 – 9:00 – 10:00 am

Join us for our very popular weekly discussion of the week’s *Torah* portion. Each week dozens of members from our community gather to learn, share, question, laugh, and encounter the stories of the *Torah* in ways that help shape how we see the world, each other, and our lives. All are welcome! Bagels, spreads, coffee, and juice are served!

We are proud to offer many outstanding learning opportunities throughout the year. Our venues for Jewish exploration are open, accessible, and engage participants in a journey of Jewish discovery. Our rabbis and our many visiting teachers and speakers from inside and outside of our community inspire us with everything from single-session presentations and discussions to multiple-session seminars.. All of our programs focus on both learning and enhancing the spirit of community at TBS by enabling our members to meet one another. We look forward to learning with you!

Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah

Led by Rabbi Bob Orkand

Saturday mornings

beginning September 7, 2019 – 9:00 – 10:00 am

Each week we will focus on a single Jewish moral or ethical value found in that week’s *parashah* (*Torah* portion). These will include, but are not limited to: Justice, Compassion, Environmental Ethics, and Business Ethics. A variety of rabbinic sources will enrich our exploration as we seek to apply each week’s value to our lives today.

Friday Morning Pre-Shabbat Yoga

Led by Stephanie Javaheri

Every Friday morning, beginning

September 6, 2019 – 9:00 – 10:00 am

Join Stephanie Javaheri for a mindful and invigorating yoga flow to build strength and flexibility of body and mind. This is a perfect way to get ready for *Shabbat*! Come with an open mind and experience what yoga can

Adult and Family Learning continued...

do for you! Stephanie Javaheri: “My yogic journey began nearly 20 years ago. Initially, it was just a physical practice to complement my busy and athletic lifestyle. While I still enjoy and benefit from this physical practice, yoga has undoubtedly transformed my inner being. Yoga has brought a passionate shift in mindfulness and a discipline of gratitude. It is this passion as a student of yoga that brought me to teaching. I aim to create classes for every student that leaves them feeling calm, centered, and energized. My belief is that yoga is for everyone, not just yogis or athletes.”

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Bob Orkand
“How Jesus Became God in Christianity”
Beginning, Monday, September 16, 2019
Monday afternoons in the fall of 2019 – 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm
(Part 2 of this series will take place in the spring.)

RSVP: Please contact Tiziana Getz at tgetz@tbsneedham.org.
Participants may come to all or any of Rabbi Orkand’s sessions.

It goes without saying that Jesus and his teachings have had a profound influence on the world. It is important to realize that his actions and teachings didn’t emerge in a vacuum. Rather, they were a product of a dialogue with – and reaction to – the traditions, cultures, and historical developments of ancient Jewish beliefs and practice. In fact, early Judaism and Jesus are two subjects so inextricably linked that one cannot truly understand Jesus without understanding the time in which he lived and taught. Join us for this exploration of Jesus and, in doing so, discover new insights on Judaism as well.

If Jesus of Nazareth had not been declared God, his followers would have remained a sect within Judaism, and the massive conversion of Gentiles, the Roman adoption of Christianity, and the subsequent unfolding of the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, and modernity would never have taken place. For that reason, the question of how Jesus became God is one of the most significant historical questions of Western civilization.

This world-shaping occurrence, viewed historically, was monumentally unlikely. Within Judaism, there could be no question that Jesus was not the Messiah, who was envisioned as a powerful warrior-king. Jesus’s own followers, in fact, did not conceive of him as divine during his lifetime. His crucifixion, ignominious and degrading, ended his

life in a way reserved for the lowliest criminals. How could something this unforeseeable, this improbable, have occurred at all – much less in a way that would shape Western history? What exactly happened, such that Jesus came to be considered “God”?

This course will look at the historical background of ancient understandings of the divine and what the historical Jesus said or indicated about himself. Finally, we will study the circumstances surrounding Jesus’s death and burial, how early Christians came to believe he was raised from the dead, and how his disciples came to view him as a divine being.

Note that for those who took “The Jewish Jesus” class, this course can be seen as a continuation of that class. However, this new course stands alone, and the earlier class is not a prerequisite for this one.

Melodic Jazz with Soul
Sunday, September 15, 2019, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Join the Elliot Steger Band as we enjoy a wonderful afternoon of jazz favorites. Wine, cheese, crackers, and other light refreshments will be served.

RSVP and other information to appear in “TBS This Week” in August.

Weekly Israeli Dance (Intermediate)
Teacher: Emily Perlman

Every Monday Evening
Beginning on Monday, September 9, 2019
7:15 – 9:00 pm
Cost: \$5.00 per class (at the door)
RSVP: No registration necessary

Israeli dance is a wonderful way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. For all those who love Israeli dance or who have said that they would love to learn, this class is perfect for you! This is an intermediate level class for those who have some Israeli dance experience. Those who are willing to learn by watching others are also encouraged to attend

Emily is an outstanding teacher of music and dance to both adults and children. She has loved Israeli dance since her time living on a kibbutz almost twenty years ago. Emily looks forward to sharing the joy of dance with one and all.

For more information, please contact Emily Perlman at ebpharmony@aol.com.

“2020 TBS Israel Adventure”
Informational Meeting
Wednesday, October 23, 2019 – 7:15 pm – 8:30 pm

TBS will once again be organizing an exciting congregational trip to Israel in December 2020. From December 24, 2020, until January 3, 2021, we will walk the streets of Jerusalem, Haifa, and Tel Aviv, while also exploring the beauty and history of Masada, the Golan Heights, and the Galilee. Our trip is an amazing multi-generational experience – bringing together all ages for a truly transformative adventure. During each trip, we joyfully celebrate children wishing to celebrate *Bar/Bat/B’nei/B’not Mitzvah!*

This meeting is informational and open to all. No commitment need be made. Questions? Please contact Rabbi Jay at jperlman@tbsneedham.org.

The Jewish Road to Character:
A Taste of *Mussar*
Teacher: Rabbi Eric S. Gurvis
Fall 2019

In his 2015 book, *The Road to Character*, NY Times writer David Brooks posits that we live our lives by two different sets of virtues: what he calls “Resume virtues” and “Eulogy virtues.” Brooks writes, “Resume virtues are the ones you list on your resume, the skills that you bring to the job market and that contribute to [your] external success. The eulogy virtues are deeper. They’re the virtues that get talked about at your funeral, the ones that exist at the core of your being – whether you are kind, brave, honest or faithful; what kind of relationships you formed. Most of us would say that the eulogy virtues are more important than the resume virtues.” Brooks contends that we live in a world which celebrates the resume values, and demands that we enhance those values.



In our confusing and contentious time, many are seeking to find a greater sense of grounding in core virtues which can guide us, uplift us and inspire us to become the best persons we can be.

For the Jewish world, asking such a focus is hardly new. Yet, in our time, we have the uncovering of a rich part of our Jewish heritage which was nearly lost to our people – the study and practice of *Mussar*. In large part inspired by the work of The *Mussar* Institute and other contemporary efforts at reclaiming *Mussar* for our day, an ever-expanding number of communities and individuals are bringing the study of *Mussar* teachings and their accompanying practice into their lives.

In this series, we will delve into the study and practice of some of the *Mussar* traditions and wisdom for our lives in our times. Come travel the “Jewish Road to Character” along this journey into what promises to be a profoundly meaningful and nourishing spiritual practice for our Jewish souls, hearts and minds.

Apples and Honey for the Soul
A beautiful evening of learning, music, prayer, and sweet desserts to help prepare for the High Holy Days
Saturday, September 21, 2019
7:00 pm – Exploring the Spiritual Meanings of the High Holy Days
8:30 pm – Sweet dessert buffet
9:00 pm – *Havdallah* –Service of *Selichot* – Changing of our *Torah* covers, special prayer,

poetry, and music to inspire us for the High Holy Days
10:15 pm – Final *Shofar* Blast
RSVP: None necessary

In Jewish tradition, the weeks leading up to *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* are a time for introspection and study. Our annual “Apples and Honey for the Soul” program is a gem in our TBS calendar. Join with friends for a wonderful night that helps to set the spiritual tone for the approaching High Holy Day season. Please join us for all or any part of this special evening.

Shofar Blowers Workshop
Sunday, September 15, 2019
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
RSVP: Please contact Tiziana Getz, TBS Office Administrator, at tgetz@tbsneedham.org or 781- 444-0077.

Join us to learn how to blow the *shofar* and then, if you would like, participate in the final *shofar* blast of *Yom Kippur*. Rabbi Perlman and one of TBS’s own ‘Master *Shofar* Blowers’ lead this fun and interactive workshop. All ages are welcome! No experience necessary!

Also... those who wish to do so are invited to bring their *shofar* to the closing service (*N'ilah*) on *Yom Kippur* to participate in the final blast of the Holy Days.

Adult and Family Learning continued...

Yom Kippur Afternoon Learning with Rabbi Sonsino
Wednesday, October 9, 2019
3:00 – 3:50 pm
Register: When you register to join us for the High Holy Days

Questions: Please contact Rahel Gruenberg at rgruenberg@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0077.

Join with Rabbi Rifat Sonsino for an engaging and informative High Holy Day seminar. All are welcome!

“Sharing Our Stories”
Wednesday, October 9, 2019
3:00 – 3:50 pm
Register: When you register to join us for the High Holy Days

Questions: Please contact Rahel Gruenberg at rgruenberg@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0077.

Each year, several members of our Temple community are invited to share their Jewish journey with us. The program has become a favorite during the High Holy Days as we turn from learning from the stories of *Torah* to learning from the stories of each other’s lives. All are welcome! Please join us!

Fall “Sparks of Insight” Series

“Considering God Critically”
An Exploration of the Meaning of God
Thursdays, October 17, 24, November 7, and 14, 2019
7:30 – 9:00 pm
Teacher: Rabbi Jay Perlman

Throughout Jewish history, the concept of God has shifted and changed. The *Torah*, rabbinic sages, later commentators, and modern thinkers have envisioned God in a variety of ways – with some sharing that belief in God is not necessary to living a meaningful Jewish life. Join us as we consider various understandings of God and spirituality. The purpose of our course is to invite participants to expand their own personal understanding of what God is and is not.

Winter and Spring “Sparks of Insight” Series:
Titles and Dates to Be Announced

TBS Health and Wellness Series

Dr. Robert Brooks – The Power of Resilience for all Ages
Sunday, September 15, 2019, 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Begin this year with a positive approach to relationships and our community! Dr. Robert Brooks is one of today’s leading speakers and authors on the themes of resilience and family relationships. Dr. Brooks is on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and has served as Director of the Department of Psychology at McLean Hospital. Practical strategies backed by extensive research are presented with Dr. Brooks’ warmth and humor to bring us anecdotes and insights into life. Parents at all stages - new/early parents through grandparents - mentors, and educators will enjoy and benefit from exploring balance in our personal and communal lives.



For further information about Dr. Brooks’ many publications and awards, please visit his website: www.drrobertbrooks.com.

Please register in advance for this presentation. To RSVP, go to: bit.ly/bob_brooks.

Dr. Alan Stern, MD – How do we define Anxiety and Depression in the Modern Age?
Sunday, September 22, 2019
Many of us know people dealing with some type of behavioral health disorder. Why does it seem to be occurring with greater frequency in the younger population? Does social media contribute to this increase? Come to a talk and discussion with Dr. Stern on this increasingly prevalent topic.



Jewish Art, Music, and Literature

“What it’s like working the part of a Jewish Mother” with Carrie Aaron (Joel’s Mother in *the Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*).
Date to be determined

Aaron portrays Shirley Maisel, Joel’s mother on the hit Amazon Prime

show *the Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Hear about her experiences playing a Jewish mother on TV.

Carrie also has an interesting life having grown up in the south. Her late mother, Nina Friedman Abady, was a Selma, Alabama, civil rights activist who walked with Martin Luther King Jr. and she had to endure cross-burnings on her Virginia front lawn.

Carrie Aaron next will be seen in the Sundance midnight selection *Bitch* and indie feature *Breakable You* with Tony Shalhoub. She has a recurring role on Amazon’s *Transparent* and Showtime’s *Episodes* and plays Annie Schmidt in the 21 Jump Street franchise. She played Woody Allen’s sister in both *Crimes and Misdemeanors* (1989) and *Deconstructing Harry* (1997). She has appeared in four films directed by Woody Allen: *Crimes and Misdemeanors* (1989), *Alice* (1990), *Husbands and Wives* (1992) and *Deconstructing Harry* (1997).



Comic Strip Author Terri Libenson – The Pajama Diaries
Sunday, November 3, 2019

Please join us on Sunday morning, November 3rd, for breakfast with Terri Libenson, Jewish author of the award-winning syndicated comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries*. A funny, art-imitating-life comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries* centers on Jill Kaplan, an independent and introspective suburban mother who balances a career as a graphic designer with family life with her husband, Rob, and their teenage daughters, Amy and Jess. Terri weaves Jewish themes into *The Pajama Diaries* with great humor.



Terri graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a BFA in illustration and developed her first professional comic strip, *Got a Life*, in 2000. *The Pajama Diaries* launched in 2006 and appears daily in *The Boston Globe* and other newspapers throughout the country and abroad. *The Pajama Diaries* was nominated twice for the prestigious Reuben Award for “Best Newspaper Comic Strip” by the National Cartoonists Society and won in 2016.

Terri has also authored several books, which will be available for purchase, including Jewish-themed *The Pajama Diaries: Bat-Zilla*, and two middle-grade novels called *Invisible Emmie*. Terri is an entertaining speaker and promises to answer all of our questions about comic strip writing and Jewish life!

Jewish History, Politics and Israel

“Mystery and History: George Washington’s Letter to the Jews”
with Rabbi Charlie Savenor
Sunday, January 12, 2020
Washington’s letter to the Jews of Newport, RI, creates a precedent of



equality unknown to Jews during centuries of exile. However, many questions exist about this 1790 document, including who actually wrote the letter and whether our first president meant it.

Rabbi Charles E. Savenor serves as the Director of Congregational Education at the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City. Rabbi Savenor has also served as

the Director of Kehilla (Congregational) Development for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Prior to serving the USCJ, Rabbi Savenor was the Associate Dean and Director of Admissions at the Jewish Theological Seminary and Associate Rabbi at Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago (1996–2001).

Jewish Spirituality and Culture

Find the “Mitzvah that Fits Ya” with Kris DeGraw Dana
Date To Be Determined

So many Social Action events and *Tikkun Olam* projects to choose from...how do you make sure it’s the right one for you? Goals and takeaways of this program specially designed for the TBS community include:

- An ability to “translate” the language of volunteer opportunity listings (online and other) into a realistic understanding of how your personal catalysts, commitments, and characteristics might match up to what you would actually be doing.
- A snapshot of the specific values you bring to any volunteer role based on the creation of your personal Volunteer Avatar™.

Presented by Kris DeGraw Danna, TBS member and Volunteer and Community Services Specialist.

Gersten-Hoisington Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

Friday, December 6 – Sunday, December 8, 2019
Professor Marc Michael Epstein, a renowned scholar of Jewish art and illustrated manuscripts, will be joining us for an inspiring weekend. See full detail in Community-Wide Events, on page 16.

Chesed

Compassionate Outreach

In times of need and in times of celebration our Chesed program expresses how much our community cares. Our community outreach includes:

- Bikkur Cholim**
Delivering home-cooked or store-bought meals during times of illness or recovery.
- Shiva Outreach**
Offering compassionate outreach during times of loss, including delivery of meals and a Rosh Hashanah remembrance of loved ones.
- Caring Wraps, Baby Blankets, and Knit Hats**
Offering a hand-knit caring wrap or lap blanket to those who are recovering from surgery or serious illness, reminding them that our community cares. Knitting mavens also create beautiful baby blankets for our newest members and knit hats for Israeli soldiers that are delivered in person by TBS members. Knitting mavens gather socially several times a year to knit together. Please contact Margie Glou at mglou@comcast.net for more information.
- Simcha ("Joy!")**
Celebrating births, *B'nei Mitzvah* (through our Brotherhood and Sisterhood) and weddings in our community with lovely gifts, including hand-knit baby blankets for our newest members, and beautiful artistic honey pots to celebrate the sweetness of marriage.
- Caring Cups**
Delivering a *Chesed* mug filled with comfort items for anyone at any age experiencing an illness or injury.
- Clergy Care & Counsel**
Our clergy visit us when we are in need, support our families, offer prayers and hands to hold, and are always available to provide helpful counsel and guidance.
- Caring Connections**
Reaching out to our more vulnerable, isolated members with cards, calls, and visits.
- Educational Programs**
Providing educational programming around issues of health, aging and care-giving.

- TBS Cancer Survivorship Community**
A group of TBS cancer survivors and caregivers dedicated to supporting others and celebrating life. During the coming year we will be offering social outings and other meaningful programs to bring our community closer together. If you are interested in becoming part of our community, or have any questions, please contact Adam May (amay@macwholesale.net).
- Chesed Youth Engagement**
Connecting with our kids in the Children's Center, in *Mayim* and in our *Etzim* teen programs to encourage participation in activities that support members of our Temple family of every generation.
- Would You Like to Help?**
You can help with specific, time-bound tasks. Drive, deliver, call, visit, cook, knit, shop, or plan events – it's up to you. Choose from among the many arms of our *Chesed* outreach program (above) and begin making a difference – one person at a time! To help, contact Mindy Pasco-Anderson at chesed@tbsneedham.org.
- Please Help Us to Support Others.**
If you or someone you know is in need of support and/or comfort – or you know of a birth, wedding, or other *simcha* in the community – please contact either Rabbi Perlman (jperlman@tbsneedham.org) or Rabbi Markley (tmarkley@tbsneedham.org).
- Donation to the Chesed Fund Supports Our Efforts.**
Watch the *Scroll*, weekly emails, and the TBS website (www.tbsneedham.org) for up-to-date information about all our *Chesed* initiatives and additional opportunities for involvement.



Left: sorting donations and stocking the pantry at the Boston Food Bank.

Tikkun Olam

Social Action Outreach

Our community – as a whole and in smaller groups – regularly engages in the work of helping those who are in need. To help focus our community efforts, our congregational “Tikkun Olam” outreach is directed towards three important causes/organizations that help to feed the hungry, provide for the homeless, and support the learning of children. These organizations and the volunteer/giving opportunities of each are clearly described below.

Please consider how you and your family might make a difference in the lives of others during the coming year... and beyond!

Project #1

Jewish Family & Children's Services (“JF&CS”) Family Table Food Pantry
A core Jewish value is to help those in need, especially those who are hungry. The farmer is obligated to leave a portion of his field for the poor and we are called upon to invite the “stranger in our midst” to our table and to share with them our meal. Family Table, a program of JF&CS, provides more than 500 families every month with healthy kosher foods, creates a caring Jewish connection and empowers people to make healthy eating part of their daily lives. They also provide personal hygiene products and special Jewish holiday items.

Support for “Family Table” offers our congregation many ways to fulfill this *mitzvah* throughout the year, including:

Donating Tuna and Salmon

The Need – Providing healthy, nutritious food to those in need

As part of our community's commitment to feeding the hungry, Temple Beth Shalom collects and donates 100 of cans of tuna and 25 cans of salmon each month. Each month, please bring a can (or two or three) to TBS and place them in the *Tikkun Olam* Collection Drawers just outside the Community Hall. The food that we provide is critical in Family Table's

effort to provide nutritious groceries to families in need.

Volunteering at the pantry and/or Delivering Groceries to a Family in Need

The Need – Helping to provide healthy food and a connection to a caring Jewish community for those in need.

The volunteer opportunities include:

- Helping to set up for food distribution
- Packing grocery bags
- Sorting donations
- Delivering groceries to people's homes

Even young children can participate by helping to set food out or by placing *Shabbat* candles into small plastic bags. There's a job for everyone!

Is there training?

Family Table staff and other regular volunteers provide all of the necessary instruction. It is a very friendly and helpful environment. The staff makes sure that everyone is comfortable with the jobs that they are doing.

Tikkun Olam

Social Action Outreach continued...

Would You Like to Help?

2019–2020 schedule available online:

www.jfcsboston.org/familytableschedule

9:00 – 10:00 am – Setting Up

10:00 am – 12:00 pm – Packing groceries and delivering to clients or helping with pantry tasks such as sorting donations

12:00 – 1:15 pm – Restocking the Pantry

What would be my time commitment?

Usually, individuals and families volunteer for about one to two hours, though some do like to stay longer.

Volunteers are welcome to come once, or as often as they like.

Where – Jewish Family & Children’s Service

Headquarters (1430 Main Street, Waltham, MA)

Age? – All ages are welcome!! Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Delivery drivers must be at least 18 years old.

RSVP – To volunteer, please contact

familytable@jfcsboston.org at least two weeks in advance.

Please note: All adults age 18 and over must be CORI’d by JF&CS.

More Information: Please go to <http://www.jfcsboston.org/OurPrograms/BasicNeeds/FamilyTable>, or

please contact one of our TBS “Family Table” Project Coordinators, Linda Mesnik (linda@mesnik.com),

Lori Shaer (lshaer@me.com), or Bernice Sue Behar

(bbehar@jfcsboston.org).

Project #2

Circle of Hope

Greater Boston Community Exchange

Headquartered in Needham (65 Rosemary Street), “Circle of Hope’s” Greater Boston Community Exchange collects, sorts and distributes new and gently used clothing – as well as linens and toiletries to men, women, and children. The organization is affiliated with Christ Episcopal Church in Needham. Donated items are gathered and transported by volunteers and distributed immediately to people in need. The Greater Boston Community Exchange serves individuals and families living in homeless shelters, as well as those in transition and struggling for independent lives. Its distribution center in Needham accepts donations on a weekly basis. The items are then sorted and delivered to various programs throughout the Greater Boston area.

“Circle of Hope” is especially aligned with our TBS mission in that it is a Needham community interfaith effort that makes a positive difference in the lives of others.

For more information, please contact our TBS “Circle of Hope” Project Coordinator, Peggy Lowenstein (pelowenstein@gmail.com).

How Can You Help?

You can help out “Circle of Hope” by:

Gathering and Sorting Donations

The Need – “Circle of Hope” needs help putting together the specific orders of clothing and supplies needed by individuals and organizations. This involves “shopping” at “Circle of Hope” to fulfill specific requests for homeless shelter residents or organizing business clothing on racks for delivery to programs assisting in job training and placement.

Training? – A single, one hour session is all you need.

When? – You may come when it is convenient for you – a weekday morning or afternoon.

Where? – At the Circle of Hope in Needham.

How Long? – Two hours per week (number of weeks can vary).

Age? – Varies.

Please contact Peggy Lowenstein, TBS Project Coordinator at pelowenstein@gmail.com if interested.

Sponsoring Clothing and Toiletry Drives or Making “Circle of Hope” Your Go-To Organization For Individual Donations

The Need – “Circle of Hope” is in constant need of donations. If you are discarding gently used clothing, consider dropping items off at “Circle of Hope.” If you are looking for a family or individual service project, collections for “Circle of Hope” are an easy option.

Training? – None

When? – Drop-off hours are found at:

<http://www.circleofhopeonline.org>.

Where? – At the “Circle of Hope” in Needham.

Age? – Any age

If you need more information regarding potential service projects, please contact Peggy Lowenstein, TBS Project Coordinator at pelowenstein@gmail.com.

Delivering Donations

The Need – “Circle of Hope” needs drivers to make deliveries to one or more shelter locations in Boston, Cambridge, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, and Roxbury.

How Long? – Drop offs usually take about two hours – round trip.

When? – Typical delivery days are Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings – 9:00 to 11:00 am. (Other options can be arranged!)

Commitment? – Preferred commitment of at least one or two trips in a month – lasting for a couple of months or a season.

Where? – Pick up at the “Circle of Hope” center in Needham – drop off depends on need and preferences of the volunteer driver.

Age? – Adult

Notes – “Circle of Hope” provides a GPS for volunteer drivers to borrow, if necessary.

Below: packing materials for Cradles to Crayons.



If You Are Able to Help.

The Following Are Ongoing Needs for “Circle of Hope”

- Funds to purchase items that are not donated, for example, new underwear and socks (children, women, men)
- Funds to purchase items needed for emergency requests (specific sizes for domestic violence shelters, etc.)

Project #3

Reading with Students at the Mozart School in Roslindale (the Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy)

The Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy was established by the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of Greater Boston in 1997 based on the principle that reading is fundamental to the advancement of our society. Temple Beth Shalom adopted this mission with the assigned partnership of the Mozart Elementary School in Roslindale – a kindergarten through fifth grade elementary school (a six room schoolhouse!) that serves Roslindale and neighboring Boston School catchments.

Jewish tradition teaches us to value education and to pursue social justice. Our strong educational values and commitment to Tikkun Olam (“Repairing the world”) encourage us to reach out to students who will benefit from classroom literacy support and working with a literacy mentor-tutor, so that they will be successful in school and beyond.

For more information, please contact our TBS “Literacy Initiative” Project Coordinator, Nancy Krieger (npkmk1@gmail.com).

Tikkun Olam

Social Action Outreach continued...



Left: Story Time

How Can You Help?

The following are ongoing needs of the students at the Mozart Elementary School:

Reading to Children

The Need – K-5 students and classes are in need of volunteer readers and helpers at the school.

When? – One hour per week for one-on-one reading or tutoring through the school year. Volunteers may miss a week here or there without a problem. However one cannot be away for an extended time.

Training? – Two hour training workshop provided by the Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy

Where? – At the Mozart Elementary School – 236 Beech Street, Roslindale, MA 02131

Program – In mid-October, most volunteers are assigned to individual students in grades K-5 for tutoring, for 30 minutes each, as assessed by their classroom teachers. The classroom teacher often gives the tutor guidance and goals for the student, but the tutors are also encouraged

to create their own motivational techniques and strategies in their interactions with the student towards those goals.

Some volunteers spend additional time at the school and work with more children in small groups or assist a teacher to enable the classroom to work smoothly and enrich the children’s educational experiences.

Requirements – A CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) check is required and will be run through either the JCRC or the school administrator before volunteers will be allowed to enter the school.

If You Are Able to Help

The Following Are Ongoing Needs for the Mozart Elementary School

- Books, CDs, MP3 players for school classes and library
- Funds to support field trips or basic classroom supplies

TBS Provides Other Community-Wide “Tikkun Olam” Opportunities

High Holy Day Food Drive

When? – Each year, during the High Holy Days, the TBS community donates hundreds of bags of food to the Needham Community Council Food Pantry. As part of our commitment to making a difference and supporting our neighbors, we have held this food drive for many years – inviting our members to bring bags of canned food and other goods to services on the morning of *Yom Kippur*. Special bags are distributed on the morning of *Rosh Hashanah* and collected at our “HHD Food Drive Tent” on *Yom Kippur* morning.

For more information, please contact our “HHD Food Drive” Coordinator, Kris DeGraw Danna at kddanna@gmail.com

Project Ezra

Preparing and Delivering Homemade Holiday Meals for Our Needham Neighbors

Date – Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Time – Throughout the day

Where – TBS

Every year, the TBS community prepares over a hundred hot, delicious meals on Christmas Day for those who are in need. This program engages dozens of Temple Beth Shalom members in preparing food at home, preparing and assembling full turkey dinners in the TBS kitchen, and then delivering these meals to the homes of our Needham neighbors.

Supported by our congregation’s own “Feldman Community Outreach Fund” and coordinated in partnership with the Needham Community Council, “Project Ezra” touches the lives of hundreds of our friends and neighbors throughout our Needham community.

For more information and to participate, please contact Lois Sockol at lsockol@comcast.net or Anne Braunstein at 617-462-2214.



The Knitting Mavens

Tgather throughout the year to create hats for Israeli soldiers, baby blankets for our newest TBS members, and caring wraps for people in our community who are dealing with a medical challenge and need a “hug” from their temple family. New and experienced knitters are welcome.

Watch TBS communications for meeting dates for this fun and gratifying experience with wonderful friends.

For more information, please contact Margie Glou (617) 921-8565 or mglou@comcast.net or Bobbie Niss (617) 620-0476 or bobbinniss@yahoo.com



Tzedek

Social Justice

Temple Beth Shalom is a community that is committed to the pursuit of “Tzedek” – “Righteousness.” We believe that all peoples – regardless of faith, race, national, ethnic, gender identity, or socio-economic background – have been created in the Divine Image and are therefore worthy of honor. As individuals and as a community we stand against intolerance and hatred. As individuals and as a community we promote causes and engage in action that leads to a more just society. As a community, we inspire our members to engage in activism (legislative and other) that will help to achieve the goal of greater justice for all.

Organizing as a Community
To do this, Temple Beth Shalom is proud to sponsor “TBS Tzedek” – a social justice program for our community. TBS Tzedek enables our community to identify societal issues that are important to us as a congregation. We do research and learn about these issues. We explore how Jewish values call upon us to respond. We organize specific actions for justice and we join with other mission-aligned organizations and communities to leverage power through partnership. In 2018, TBS became a Brit Olam congregation, joined in partnership with other congregations through the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism to engage our community in conversation and activism. Learn more about Brit Olam at: <https://rac.org/brit-olam-instruction-guide>.

Our “Communal Ethic for Activism”
As a component of our “Communal Ethic for Activism”, TBS is a “Big Tent” Community. A strength of the Temple Beth Shalom community is its diversity of opinion. TBS Tzedek is not bound to a single political philosophy, party, or approach. TBS remains a “big tent” community that encourages the respectful sharing of differing ideas.

As part of its mission, TBS Tzedek creates community platforms for conversation, promotes open and honest discussion, encourages the sharing of the ideas of many, and calls for thoughtful listening to the perspectives of others. TBS Tzedek invites feedback, questions, and suggestions from our entire community. Thus, TBS Tzedek seeks to deepen understanding, awareness, and perspective.

Strength through Partnership
Temple Beth Shalom works to develop power through partnership with other congregations and organizations whose social justice/civil rights missions are in alignment with our own. Coming from Jewish, interfaith, and secular backgrounds, these organizations provide information, expertise, experience, insight, strategic advice, and ultimately the power to make a difference that is beyond the scope of any single community of action. Currently, “TBS Tzedek” is learning from and, in some cases, actively partnering with the following organizations:

1. Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)
2. Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
3. Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA)
4. Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC)
5. Kids4PeaceBoston
6. League of Women Voters of Needham
7. MA Coalition Against Gun Violence
8. Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)
9. Needham Area Immigration Task Force
10. The Needham Clergy Association (NCA)
11. Needham Social Action Network
12. Progressive Needham
13. Religious Action Center of the Reform Movement (RAC)
14. Tzedek Reflection (A social justice consortium of over 30 congregations in the Boston area)

We will seek partnership with other congregations and organizations as opportunities arise.

Opportunities to Get Involved
As a congregation, our three areas of activity involve:

1. Education (teaching our community and each other about issues, causes, and the Jewish wisdom that calls upon us to act)
2. Activism (engaging in specific acts as a community that will make a difference), and
3. Community Conversation (structuring healthy discussion, dialogue, and debate in which our TBS members listen to and grow through varying perspectives).

The three “justice” arenas that TBS Tzedek is currently focusing upon are:

1. Immigration/Refugee Justice, and
2. Jewish-Muslim-Christian/Interfaith Relationship Building.
3. Gun Violence Prevention

Each of these areas also has sub-areas for action related to our three areas of activity outlined above. Under “Immigration/Refugee Justice”, we work to support legislative efforts as we continue to hold educational and action events for the community. Under “Building Jewish-Muslim-Christian Interfaith Relationships” we have an ongoing “Daughters of Abraham” book and discussion group. We host as well as participate in Interfaith actions and events in the community with our Christian and Muslim partners. “Gun Violence Prevention” is the newest area of Tzedek and we have partnered with community and youth groups to increase awareness of ways to advocate for change.

We also consider and act for a broad range of other social justice topics as the need arises, including LGBTQIA issues, racism, climate change, and antisemitism.

To get involved contact: tzedek@tbsneedham.org

In the Torah, the Children of Israel were commanded “Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof” – “Justice, justice shall you pursue!” (Deuteronomy 16:20). When asked why the word “justice” is repeated, one sage replied: “This is to emphasize the importance of the mitzvah. We must promote justice for ourselves, for this reflects the kind of people that we aspire to be. And we must pursue justice for the sake of others!”

Below: Clergy from local houses of worship join TBS on Shabbat.



Inclusion

What is Inclusion?
A philosophy and set of practices that ensure full accessibility to individuals with special needs or requirements. At TBS, this includes physical, cognitive, emotional, sensory, and gender-related concerns for members of all ages, as well as guests and employees.

The Mission of the Inclusion Task Force (ITF)
To identify any barriers – physical, social, attitudinal or emotional – that prevent a congregant, his/her guests, or staff from gaining full access to any spiritual, social or educational event or work-related activity at TBS. The ITF also makes recommendations to the TBS leadership about how to reduce or eliminate any such barriers.

We seek to ensure that every modification, adaptation or strategy that makes TBS accessible, is available naturally and consistently. We are guided by the goal of providing full “Access without Asking.”

Who’s on the ITF?
The ITF is made up of congregants, student representatives, and TBS administrators who either have a professional interest in the inclusion of individuals with special needs, are siblings, parents or grandparents of children or adults with special needs, or who have some kind of special need themselves. Several members fit into more than one of these categories. The ITF, which generally meets bi-monthly, is chaired by TBS member and clinical neuropsychologist Dr. Jerry Schultz. Rabbi Perlman serves as Rabbinic Adviser. Sara Berk, a member of the ITF, is the Director of Inclusion (K-12) and the Assistant Director of Mayim (K-5). Sara is our “eyes on” inclusive practices both in the Mayim and Etzim learning programs and for all TBS-sponsored events.

What Have We Done?
TBS has been involved in the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project (RSIP) for the last six years. Based on our pro-inclusion activities and practices, in 2016-17 we were designated as a Partner Congregation by The Ruderman Family Foundation (“RFF”) in conjunction with CJP. We have participated in and presented at several

RFF/CJP sponsored events. We have received funds earmarked for our ongoing inclusive efforts, and we have the honor of serving as a model congregation, committed to assisting other synagogues that are working toward full inclusion. Many ITF members and others regularly attend the Ruderman International Synagogue Inclusion Summits held in Boston. Members of the ITF have presented information sessions to the TBS Leadership Council and Board of Trustees. In February 2018, we hosted a series of informative sessions related to inclusion at TBS

as part of our celebration of Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM).

Want to Know More about the ITF?

Please contact Sara Berk, Rabbi Perlman, or Jerry Schultz at tbs.inclusion@tbsneedham.org for more information, to become a member/supporter of the ITF, or for information on attending TBS/Ruderman/CJP inclusion-related events.



Sisterhood Our Women's Community

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom is a vibrant multigenerational group of women who come together to experience community, connection and involvement. Our Sisterhood provides endless opportunities for participation, sharing, and Jewish discovery through interesting and meaningful programming. Attending events and participating in planning them are great ways to meet new people and become a part of this wonderful group of women. Given our active membership, it's natural that a number of our congregation's strongest leaders have emerged from our Sisterhood. Our Sisterhood also provides support to the congregation in many ways and is an integral part of our Temple's life.

This is not your mother's Sisterhood! Today's Sisterhood is comprised of preschool moms and empty nesters, full-time employees and full-time volunteers. Through Sisterhood, we support our Temple and find friendships as well as a sense of belonging to an extended family. Sisterhood members can become as involved as they want. Some of us rise through leadership quickly and find ourselves chairing an event or sitting on the Executive Board. Others attend social events or help out with fundraisers like our Rummage Sale. Being a member of Sisterhood is an opportunity to connect with other women in a Jewish setting.

Come join us in Sisterhood! Without you, we are one member short!

For more information, please contact Linda Mesnik, Sisterhood President, at sisterhood@tbsneedham.org. To join, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/SisterhoodTBS> or visit our website at tbsneedham.org.



2019–2020 Sisterhood Calendar of Events and Activities



Days for Girls

Dates:

September 18, 2019
October 24, 2019
November 21, 2019
December 8, 2019
January 27, 2020
February 27, 2020
March 18, 2020
April 19, 2020
May 13, 2020
Where – TBD

Hands-on social action project to make feminine hygiene kits for girls in impoverished countries. Sewers and non-sewers needed! Join us and make a difference in a girl's life by allowing her to stay in school!

Membership Dinner

Date – Thursday, October 17, 2019
Time – 6:30 – 9:00 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

We welcome both our new members as well as returning members at a special dinner held each fall. It is an evening to socialize, make new friends, and learn about the upcoming events for the year. We invite new members to attend as our guests.

New Member Event

Date – Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Time – 7:15 pm
Where – TBD, out of temple

Come join new and "newish" Sisterhood members at a casual event to get to know each other and learn more about Sisterhood.

Sisterhood Rummage Sale

Rummage Sale Drop Off
Date – Sunday, October 27, 2019
Time – 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

Rummage Sale

Date – Sunday, October 27, 2019
Time – 2:30 – 5:30 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

Bag Sale

Date – Monday, October 28, 2019
Time – 6:30 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Clean out your closets and bring your unwanted items to our Rummage Sale on Sunday, October 28th. Items can be dropped off in the morning at TBS. We also need your help as a volunteer – set up, clean up or during the sale. And don't forget to shop – one person's donation is another person's treasure!

Novels at Night

Date – Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Wed., February 5, 2020
Thursday, May 7, 2020

Time – 7:15 pm

Where – TBD

Back by popular demand! Join us for a casual night of discussing a great book. Stay tuned for the announcement of the book!

Chanukah Party

Date – Wednesday, December 11, 2019
Time – 6:30 pm
Where – TBD

Potluck! Come schmooze and taste the many different latkes we all make. Do you have a special family recipe? Bring a batch along to share.

Joint Event – with Brotherhood and Three Score / More or Less

Date – Saturday, March 7, 2020
Time – 7:00 – 11:30 pm
Where – TBS, Community Hall

See *Community-Wide Events*, page 16.

Women's Seder

Date – March 24, 2020
Time – 6:30 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

Experience a beautiful women's seder. This potluck seder is a great way to try new food, share your favorite Passover recipes and socialize.

Donor Dinner

Date – Tuesday, April 28, 2020
Time – 6:30 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

This is our annual opportunity to thank our donors for their generous contributions to Sisterhood. Your donations make all of the wonderful programs throughout the year possible. In addition, each year we donate to our sister congregation in Israel.

Sisterhood Calendar continued...



Sisterhood Rummage Sale

Rummage Sale Drop Off

Date — Sunday, May 31, 2020
Time — 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Where — TBS, Simon Hall

Rummage Sale

Date — Sunday, May 31, 2020
Time — 2:30 – 5:30 pm
Where — TBS, Simon Hall

Bag Sale

Date — Monday, June 1, 2020
Time — 6:30 pm
Where — TBS, Simon Hall

The Sisterhood Rummage Sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Clean out your closets and bring your unwanted items to our Rummage Sale on Sunday, May 31. Items can be dropped off in the morning at TBS. We need your help as a volunteer – set up, clean up or during the sale. And don't forget to shop – one person's donation is another person's treasure!

Installation Ceremony and Celebration of New Officers and Trustees

Date — Wednesday, June 3, 2020
Time — 6:00 pm
Where — TBS, Simon Hall

Each year, we honor our outgoing and welcome our incoming board of directors. Join us for this special ceremony.

Lilith Salons

Consider attending one of the next quarterly “Salons” offered by Sisterhood in conjunction with Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) and Lilith Magazine. These Salons feature thoughtful discussion of an article or idea brought forward in the pages of “Lilith” magazine (www.lilith.org). Even if you are not a Salon member and haven't read the articles, please feel free to attend to learn, share in the community, and have an enjoyable evening. TBS Sisterhood membership is required. For further information about Lilith salons, please contact Eileen Agranat at eagranat@verizon.net.

Kee an eye on your email for other events throughout the year. For any questions or to volunteer contact Linda Mesnik at sisterhood@tbsneedham.org.



Brotherhood Our Men's Community

TBS Brotherhood is not a committee, but rather one of the core “arms” of our congregational community. Brotherhood membership is free to all men in our community.

Curious? Want to know more about Brotherhood and how you can get involved?

Come to one of our open planning meetings. We almost always meet on the second Tuesday of the month from September through June. Check the TBS calendar for details or drop us a quick note at: brotherhood@tbsneedham.org. If you want a new way to engage with the men of TBS, Brotherhood just might be for you. By the way...you can always drop by one of our Schmoozefests (see Events) to stick your toe in the water and meet some of the boys.



Above: the annual Brotherhood retreat on the Cape.

Serving Our Temple Community

Brotherhood supports our temple community in many ways, including:

- Welcoming members and guests to our temple by serving as Shabbat and High Holy Day Service Greeters
- Helping to keep our children (and adults!) safe in the parking lot
- Ensuring that all TBS families who experience the loss of a loved one can have a minyan service leader at home during the period of shiva.
- Building and striking out congregation and Children's Center sukkot.

These are just some of the ways that Brotherhood makes a meaningful difference in our TBS community and beyond:

- Brothers create strong and meaningful friendships through engaging social programming.
- We ensure the vitality of our TBS community through service and volunteerism.
- We develop strong leaders to help guide and inspire our entire Temple community.
- Members build deepening connection to Judaism through engaging programs throughout the year.
- We bring families together for fun and special times as part of our TBS community.
- We support social action and social justice initiatives that significantly help those in need.
- Leading weekday and Shabbat minyan services for those wishing to connect with others in a community of prayer and/or say Kaddish for a loved one.

For more information about how you can help with any of these community services, please contact Glenn Stern, Brotherhood President at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.

2019–2020 Brotherhood Calendar of Events and Activities



Brotherhood Fantasy Football League

Date – Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Time – 6:30 pm
Where – TBS, Community Hall
Register at: <http://tiny.cc/tbsfantasy>

The Brotherhood Fantasy Football League is expanding. There is room for another six to eight teams. Contact Jon Cohan, joncohan@gmail.com, for league details. The live draft is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3rd, at TBS. New owners are accepted on a first come – first served basis. This is a great father – child activity.

Patriots' Opening Night – Patriots vs. Pittsburgh Steelers

Date – Sunday, September 8, 2019
Time – 8:00 pm (kickoff @ 8:20 pm)
Where – TBS, Simon Hall

Please join us for our annual Opening Night get-together. Men (and women) and their football fan progeny are welcome to partake of pizza and other food we really shouldn't eat. Evening ends after the first half (unless we're winning of course, and we want to stay later). All Patriots fans are welcome, without regard to age, gender, or knowledge of the game.

Brotherhood Quarterly Schmoozefests

Date – Sunday, September 22, 2019
Time – 6:00 pm
Where – Mandarin Cuisine: 238 Highland Avenue, Needham

Date – Sunday, December 15, 2019
Time – 6:00 pm
Where – Mandarin Cuisine: 238 Highland Avenue, Needham

Date – Sunday, April 5, 2020
Time – 6:00 pm
Where – TBD

The men of TBS have been known to gather for great food and drink, and generous amounts of schmoozing. Mandarin Cuisine and Acapulcos have been our typical gathering spots – but we are open to your ideas. These have become very popular events, so please RSVP so we know how many we need to feed. If you are new to the Temple and/or Brotherhood, this is a great way to get started and to meet some of the men in the TBS community. If you've been a regular, come...and bring a friend!

Register at: <http://tiny.cc/schmooze>

Brotherhood Sukkah Build

Date – Sunday, October 13, 2019
Time – 8:00 am – until we have a Sukkah
Where – TBS

A TBS Brotherhood tradition. No past experience in Sukkah building necessary. You must be strong enough to wield a slice of pizza or a soft drink (not necessarily at the same time). Come and be ready to help with the construction. Men, women and children of all ages are welcome to join in this mitzvah. It typically takes a few hours and we even provide the snacks and hydration. For more information, please contact Alan Novick at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.

Brotherhood Spirituality Retreat

Date – Saturday, October 19 through
Sunday, October 20, 2019
Time – 8:00 am on Saturday to 12:00 pm on Sunday
Where – Ambassador Inn and Suites, 1314 Route 28, South
Yarmouth, MA 02664
Register at: <http://tiny.cc/bhretreat>

Don't let the name scare you. We actually have fun!

This event is one of the highlights of the Brotherhood events calendar. Socializing and great meals are mixed with terrific discussions and learning led by our Rabbis. All this and some time to yourself make this a memorable and meaningful weekend. This year marks our 14th annual retreat. Got a question: contact Ed Schreider or Glenn Stern at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.

Sukkah Strike

Date – Sunday, October 27, 2019
Time – 8:00 am – until we're done
Where – TBS

What goes up, must come down. Join us to take down the Sukkah and tuck it safely away for next year.

Leroy Davis Sports Breakfast

Date – Sunday, November 17, 2019
Time – 9:00 – 11:00 am
Where – TBS
Register at: <http://tiny.cc/leroy>

Bring your wife, girlfriend, kids, and friends. All are welcome to the annual Leroy Davis Sports Breakfast. We always get a great speaker. Rest assured that you will be well fed, engaged and entertained in the company of your TBS brethren and a prominent Boston sports personality. Don't miss out. Register early.

Annual Brotherhood Blood Drive

Date – Sunday, December 8, 2019
Time – 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Where – TBS, Simon Hall
Register at: <http://tiny.cc/tbsblood>

Please join us in performing the mitzvah of giving blood! We provide bagels & lox, juice, other sweets, and our sincere appreciation for all donors and volunteers. We are looking for your support as blood donors and/or as volunteers for this special event. Please contact our Chief Phlebotomists at: donateblood@tbsneedham.org, or Glenn Stern at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org.

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

(with Adult Learning Committee)
Date – Friday, December 6 – Sunday December 8, 2019
Time – Events throughout the weekend
Where – TBS

See the full description of this special joint event in the Community-Wide Events section on page 16 of this Community Guide.

Brotherhood Quarterly Schmoozefest

Date – Sunday, December 15, 2019
Time – 6:00 pm
Where – TBD

Poker Night – Texas Hold'em

Date – Sunday, March 1, 2020
Time – 6:00 – 10:00 pm
Where – TBS, Community Hall

Texas Hold'em Tournament will start at 6:00 pm, with first hand drop at 6:30 pm. Please join your fellow Brothers for a "friendly" game of Poker! For more information and to register in advance please go to <http://tiny.cc/tbspoker>

Joint Event with Sisterhood and Three Score / More or Less

Date – Saturday, March 7, 2020
Time – 7:00 – 11:30 pm
Where – TBS, Community Hall

We get together with the other "arms" of TBS throughout the year to bring programming and events to the broader TBS community. Programs have included: guest speakers, learning opportunities, comedy nights, a Murder Mystery night, and much, much more.



Left:
a little shmear,
a little kibbitz, maybe
another shmear...

Brotherhood continued...



Left: Torah Study and discussion on the annual Brotherhood Retreat.

Rabbis' & Marc Comras Award Breakfast

Date – Sunday, March 15, 2020

Time – 9:00 – 11:00 am

Where – TBS, Community Hall

Register at: <http://tiny.cc/comras>

This is our annual 'free-form' conversation with our esteemed rabbis. Discuss anything from *Torah*, to politics, to the coming baseball season. At this breakfast, Brotherhood is proud to present the "Marc Comras Award" to an inspirationally dedicated member of the Temple community. Named in memory of beloved Brotherhood leader, Marc Comras (ז"ל), the recipient of the Comras Award is one who gives graciously and unconditionally to others in support of the mission of Brotherhood, just as Marc had done throughout his life. We can always use some help in the kitchen! Please contact us at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org for more details.

Brotherhood Quarterly Schmoozefest

Date – Sunday, April 5, 2020

Time – 6:00 pm

Where – TBD

Brotherhood BBQ

Date – Thursday, June 11, 2020 – rain or shine!

Time – 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Where – TBS parking lot

(Simon Hall, if it's monsooning)

Burgers, music, brothers.....This end of the year event celebrates the accomplishments of the past year, looks forward to the next year, and ushers in the summer season. It is a great way to end our calendar year of activities. This is always a well-attended event.

TBS "Bashers" Softball Teams

Date – Registration begins March 1, 2020

Are You Ready for Some Softball? This year we had three teams play for the "Kiddush Cup." All of the teams were competitive. If you enjoy playing softball, then we will have a spot for you! Please contact the Brotherhood at brotherhood@tbsneedham.org and we will be sure to pass your name on to our softball team managers.

Three Score / More or Less

Three Score/More or Less is the Temple Beth Shalom group that includes all members of our Temple family who are age 55 and over – hence the name, Three Score More or Less. No need to register or pay a membership fee. If you're in the demographic, you're in!

Our programs, held regularly throughout the year, are a diverse blend of social, cultural, spiritual, and educational events that strongly connect us to TBS and to each other. A nominal fee for each event covers the cost.

With a large active and inclusive Board, many enthusiastic voices contribute to ideas for new initiatives. And, there are some annual events, always well-attended, that we look forward to with great anticipation, i.e., an educational program with Rabbi Orkand, Rabbi Emeritas Rifat Sonsino's Adult Kallah, and our annual night at the Boston Pops.

Many of our programs, unless otherwise designated, are open to the entire adult TBS community. In addition, we jointly hold at least one event each year with TBS Brotherhood and Sisterhood.

Events are publicized in all TBS Communications, so look for more detail on our upcoming 2019–20 planned programs. New to TBS or don't want to attend alone? A Three Score board member would love to welcome and accompany you. Please let us know if you would like someone to contact you.

For more information, contact Co-Presidents Gary and Shelley Goldman, 781-449-6583, or threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org

Programs Planned For 2019 – 2020

An Educational Program with Rabbi Bob Orkand

Date – Sunday, October 27, 2019

Time – 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Where – TBS

Joint Event with Temple Aliyah – Frank King, entertainer

Date – Saturday, November 3, 2019

Time – 9:30 am

Where – Temple Aliyah

Piper Hopkins Folk Music Coffee House

Date – Saturday, November 23, 2019

Time – 7:00 – 11:00 pm

Where – TBS, Community Hall

Chai/cappella concert featuring several college groups

Combined event with:

Sisterhood/Brotherhood/Adult Learning

Date – March 28, 2020

Time – TBD

Where – TBS

Rabbi Sonsino's Adult Kallah

Date – April 5, 2020

Time – 9:30 am

Where – TBS

Annual Night at Boston Pops

Date – TBD

Where – Symphony Hall

(This event is limited to members of Three Score / More or Less.)

Below: guests attending a musical program sponsored by Three Score/More or Less.



Garden Club

The Beth Shalom Garden Club is open to all floral arrangers and non-gardeners alike. One doesn't need to be an expert in flowers to be a member. You just need to appreciate their beauty.

The objective of BSGC is to promote an interest in flower arranging, gardening, horticulture and conservation. Being one of the communities of Temple Beth Shalom, we lend our creativity to enhancing various Temple events and holidays throughout the year. The most visible examples of our work are the weekly Sanctuary floral arrangements.

We present monthly programs and workshops designed to educate and inform members about flower arranging as well as container gardening, horticulture, and other flower related topics. This is done through hands-on learning experiences, demonstrations and programs with expert speakers. We also go on field trips to places such as Tower Hill Botanical Gardens and Worcester Art Museum Flora in Winter. Many of our members, both experienced and novice, participate in judged Design Competitions at regional flower shows each year. In addition, some of our members are represented annually at “Art in Bloom” at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

We are proud to have started Needham's Art in Bloom in 2008 and we just celebrated our 11th Anniversary of this wonderful event. For Art in Bloom, we work in conjunction with Needham High School's Fine Arts Department. We design floral interpretations of over 70 works of art created by Needham High School students. This event takes place in early March at the Needham Public Library. This past year over 3,000 people attended. It has become well-known throughout Needham and our neighboring towns.

Each November we hold our only fundraiser, “The Antique Show”, which takes place at the high school. This one event enables us to raise the funds necessary to bring fun and interesting programs to our

members. We beautify Needham's Vietnam Memorial each May. We attend regional symposiums and workshops. The Beth Shalom Garden Club is a member of the National Garden Club, Inc. (www.gardenclub.org) and the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. (www.gcfm.org). Visit their sites for more information.

The Garden Club does so many great things. We hope you will join us for one of our programs.

For more information about becoming involved in the Beth Shalom Garden Club, please contact BSGC CEO Lori Markell or President Carol Gershman at gardenclub@tbsneedham.org.

Below is our upcoming schedule. All programs take place in Simon Hall at Temple Beth Shalom. All programs are open to members and non-members unless otherwise noted. Workshops are members only.

Opening Program:
Fall Inspired Designs
September 17, 2019 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Jimmy Guzman

Club Mixer
(Members Only)
October 15, 2019 at 7:15 pm
No Speaker

Beth Shalom Garden Club
Antique Show & Sale
Sunday, November 3, 2019

Ikebana Demonstration
November 12, 2019 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Tomoko Tanaka

Thanksgiving Workshop -
Members Only
November 19, 2019 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Margo Yie and Thu-Hang Tran

Introduction to Bonsai
November 17, 2019 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Michael Levin of Bonsai West

Learn All About Bees & Honey
January 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Speaker: Susan Robinson of Buzz 10 Honey Co

Luncheon and Workshop
Members Only
February 4, 2020
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Art in Bloom
March 7 and 8, 2020
Needham Public Library

Tri-Club Meeting and Program
March 17, 2020 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: TBD

Designs for Entertaining
April 21, 2020 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Maureen Christmas

Container Planting
May 19, 2020 at 7:15 pm
Speaker: Michael Paduch of Chrystal Lake Garden Shop

Annual Meeting & Dinner
(Members Only)
June 9, 2020
Location: TBA



Above: Art in Bloom – after all the planning, now it's time to make the magic!

How We Communicate with You

Our goal in communicating with you, our members, is to inspire you to step into any of the many exciting learning, prayer, social activism, and social experiences we offer at Temple Beth Shalom. We do our best to correspond efficiently, keeping our mailings to your inbox and mailbox comprehensive and compact. This list should help you understand the nature and scheduling of the various communications that you receive.

By Email

Shabbat Shalom!
Every Friday, Rabbi Perlman, Rabbi Markley, or Rabbi Bressler emails a brief pre-Shabbat message and heartfelt Shabbat Shalom!

TBS This Week
Every Wednesday, our e-newsletter lists upcoming services, events, activities, and announcements.

A Loss in Our Community
You will receive an email when someone in our community has lost a loved one. Our clergy and Chesed Committee lead our congregation in supporting those who have suffered a loss.



Above: examples of how we communicate...The Scroll, TBS This Week, www.tbsneedham.org, TBS on Facebook.

How We Communicate

continued...

Other Announcements

You will occasionally receive important announcements such as staffing changes or Temple closings due to weather.

The TBS Community Bulletin Board

The TBS “Community Bulletin Board” is an optional email list serve that allows members to ask from and share information with one another. It is a wonderful and friendly tool for everything from finding a plumber to selling Red Sox tickets to sharing a job opening. To join the Community Bulletin Board community, just email communitylist@tbsneedham.org.

Children/Family/Youth Learning Community Emails

The Temple Beth Shalom community offers a vibrant and nationally recognized array of learning and community-building programs for children of all ages and their families. Families involved in our Children’s Center, Early Engagement, *Mayim*, *Etzim*, and/or Jewish Day School communities receive regular emails with important information and updates.

By Mail

The Scroll

The *Scroll*, our Temple magazine, comes to you by mail each month except July and August. In the *Scroll*, you’ll find articles and photos featuring various aspects of our congregation and information about Temple events.

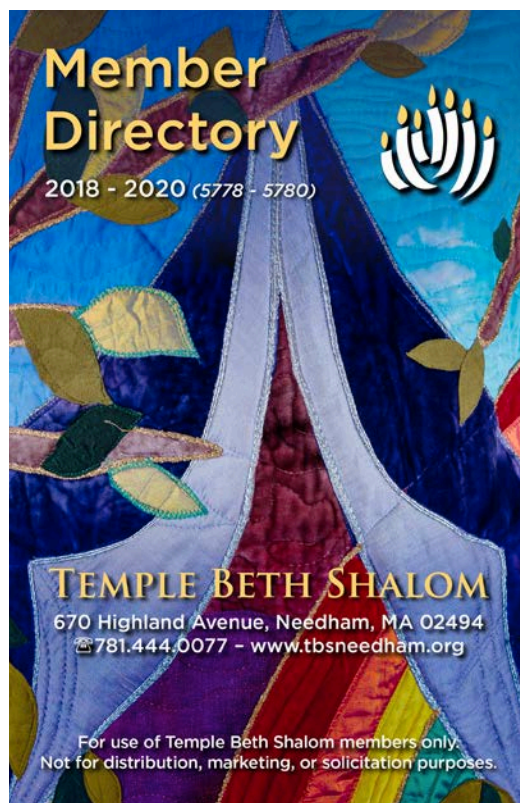
Other Mailings

You can look forward to receiving annual mailings such as the Member Directory, and the Community Guide which provides a glimpse into all that goes on in the Temple community, and the High Holy Day brochure, with detailed information about the High Holy Days at TBS.

On the Web

The TBS Website

You’ll be surprised at all you can learn about our Temple on our website, www.tbsneedham.org. To access private portions of the Temple website such as the electronic version of the “*Scroll*,” you can register for a login at <https://www.tbsneedham.org/user/register>.



TBS Member Business Directory

On the website, you will find a directory of businesses owned by Temple members as well as instructions for listing your own business.

Children/Family/Youth Learning Community Websites

Information on all of our programs is available at these websites:

www.tbsfamily.org.

Early Childhood programs and programs for Families with Young Children

www.tbsmayim.org.

Mayim (Kindergarten through 5th Grade)

www.tbsetzim.org.

Etzim (Grades 6 through 12 – including Youth Programs)

Friend Temple Beth Shalom on Facebook

Temple Beth Shalom has an active Facebook page. “Friend” Temple Beth Shalom to be part of our FB online community connection.

Children & Family Learning Programs & Youth

At Temple Beth Shalom learning is grounded in the riches of Jewish tradition in ways that are accessible, relevant to our lives, and applicable beyond the walls of our temple home. In these ways we inspire our community to develop relationships with Judaism that are ever evolving and growing. Offerings for our youngest learners through our teens can be found online:

Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center – tbsfamily.org

At Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center children are thinkers who construct knowledge through interacting with the world around them. Working together as a community of learners they ask questions and explore big concepts. Jewish values are woven into the daily curriculum as the children learn to live by our guiding principles: We take care of ourselves, we take care of each other, and we take care of our world. From joyful holiday celebrations to supporting each other through life transitions, the families of Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center form a warm and welcoming community extending beyond the classroom. At Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center learning comes alive. Enrollment for the 2020–21 school year for children ages 12 months to 5 years begins October 15.



Bumps Babies & Beyond – tbsfamily.org

Dedicated to providing you with the tools and resources you need to raise healthy, successful children, Temple Beth Shalom offers a range of programming options for pregnancy through toddlerhood. From music classes, to Jewish learning, to parenting classes, our talented child development specialists will guide you through the joys and challenges of parenting and support you along this important journey ... all with a Jewish twist! Open to all! Now enrolling for fall and winter sessions.

Families with Young Children – tbsfamily.org

From *Chanukah* Art Parties, to an outdoor *Sukkot* Block Party, there is always something to celebrate at TBS! Our families are Jewish and interfaith and members of Temple Beth Shalom and members of the community at large. All are welcome! Young children are sponges, soaking up the world around them. We offer regular activities that support your efforts in cultivating a spirit of giving in your children. From our monthly Temple Tots classes that focus on holidays to music and dance classes, TBS is filled with opportunities for Jewish learning.

Children's & Family Learning Programs & Youth continued...

Mayim (Kindergarten–Grade 5) – tbsmayim.org

Mayim is Temple Beth Shalom’s learning program for children in grades K–5. Our children participate in active, meaningful Jewish learning experiences in a welcoming and nurturing environment that reflects the character of our entire community. At *Mayim*, our educators and learners collaborate to:

- foster deep, joyful community with one another and between our families;
- discover and explore Jewish identity, practice, and Hebrew language in immersive, interactive – and fun – ways;
- engage in innovative project-based, hands-on learning that gives each learner a role, a contribution, and a voice;
- embrace and affirm each child as an individual with a personal learning style, unique needs, challenges and opportunities;
- connect more deeply with the entire Temple Beth Shalom congregation and the Jewish community as a whole.
- There are multiple options within *Mayim* to meet the diverse needs of our community:
- *Mayim* – our mainstream learning program, which children attend once per week
- *Mayim Tamid (Mayim Always)* – our integrated program of Jewish learning and afterschool care, which children attend 2-5 times per week
- *Mayim B’Yachad (Mayim Together)* – a kindergarten family learning program that includes child-only, parent-child, and parent-only learning sessions

We still have a few spaces remaining in all programs for the 2019–2020 school year. Call or email mayim@tbsneedham.org to learn more!



Etzim (Grades 6–12) – tbsetzim.org

Etzim is Temple Beth Shalom’s learning program for pre-teens and teens in grades 6–12. *Etzim* is a welcoming and safe space that fosters leadership development and Jewish identity in a joyful and family-like environment. Together, we aim to provide this generation of teens with an inclusive, accepting space to learn and build relationships while enjoying a rich experience of Judaism that will serve as a foundation for Jewish living for years to come. Call or email etzim@tbsneedham.org to learn more!



Tzedakah

Creating a vibrant and rich community requires adequate resources. Like alumni contributions to a college or university, the annual membership commitment contributions that we receive from our members only take us part of the way. Our community invites member philanthropy/tzedakah to support all that we do. Numerous members of our community support TBS because they are actively engaged in congregational life. Many choose to support the Temple – through membership and/or through tzedakah because TBS helps to ensure a strong Jewish present and future – in Needham and beyond – for ourselves, for our neighbors, for our children, and for future generations.

The generosity of our members enables us to maintain the excellence of all that we do together – including engaging outstanding staff and clergy, caring for our wonderful Temple home, and providing inspirational services and programs for all ages and life stages.

We hope that you will find opportunities to contribute that speak to your values and that you will support them with enthusiasm.

Annual TBS Membership Commitment
Your annual Temple membership commitment is considered “charity” (Tzedakah – “Righteous Giving to Help Others”) and, as such, may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor or the IRS.

Annual Fundraising Programs
Temple Beth Shalom sponsors two primary community tzedakah/fundraising programs during the year, and the community has always responded generously. These campaigns provide needed resources for renovations, projects and operating expenses and are important in supporting the life of our Temple community:

Shofar Appeal
Hear the Call to Support the Ongoing Activity and Operations of Our Temple Community
When – High Holy Day Season
Program – You will receive a brochure in the mail during the High Holy Days.

L’Chaim! Annual Gala
Our annual spring FUN-and-fundraiser is a time for eating, sharing, schmoozing and supporting all that we do together as part of our TBS community!
When – Saturday, May 4, 2019
Where – Temple Beth Shalom

Temple Beth Shalom Tzedakah Funds
Our community is blessed with a number of different funds which support various aspects of community life. Individuals and families give tzedakah to these funds to remember a loved one, to celebrate a special life moment or accomplishment, to offer thanks, or to support the fund’s purpose.

If you wish to contribute to any of these funds, please contact Tiziana Getz, TBS Office Administrator, at tgetz@tbsneedham.org (781-444-0077) or go to https://www.tbsneedham.org/Get_Involved/Donate/How_To_Donate. Your tzedakah is always greatly appreciated.



Above: 2019 L’Chaim Gala

Amey Sanker Kappel Fund
This fund is used to provide special youth programming for children and teens when our community members travel together as part of a “TBS Israel Adventure.”

Being Jewish in America Fund
This fund is used to provide special programmatic opportunities for our teens which specifically expose them to Jewish American leadership or cultural role models.

Chesed (“Caring Community”) Fund
This fund supports the activities of our Chesed (“Caring Community”) program.

Children’s Center Fund
This fund is used to support the work of the Children’s Center.

Elementary Education Fund
This fund is used to support Mayim, our Kindergarten – 5th grade learning community program.

Endowment Funds
Funds are used to create a permanent endowment for the Temple’s needs. We have two primary endowment funds – General and Educational. We also offer several opportunities for planned giving to the Temple community.

Families with Young Children Fund
This fund is used to support the programming for families with young children, outside of the Children’s Center.

Feldman Community Outreach Fund
This fund supports the important interfaith outreach efforts of the TBS community.

General Fund
This fund is used for the general operating needs of the Temple.

S. David Goldberg Memorial Fund
A named General Fund of TBS

Gersten-Hoisington Scholar-in-Residence Fund
The “Gersten-Hoisington Scholar-in-Residence Fund” has been established in loving memory of Shirley Gersten-Hoisington and Sumner Hoisington. As Shirley and Sumner were deeply dedicated to the Temple Beth Shalom community and to adult learning in particular, this fund helps to support Temple Beth Shalom’s annual hosting of an outstanding guest scholar or presenter as part of a weekend program.

Jerry Aransky “Passport to Israel” Fund
This fund supports our TBS “Passport to Israel” fund, which helps TBS high school students participating in the “Passport to Israel” program to go to Israel.

Kivi Grebber Memorial Fund
This fund provides assistance for TBS children to attend a Jewish summer camp, participate in a special educational program, or participate on a trip to Israel.

Library Fund
This fund is used to maintain and supply the TBS library with texts, computers, software, and other technology.

Music Fund
This fund provides for the musical enrichment of Shabbat and holiday services.

Ned Saltzberg Memorial Fund
This fund is used to subsidize special activities and field trips for Kindergarten through 5th grade students.

Patti and Louis Grossman Education Scholarship Fund
This fund provides scholarship to families in need to enable children to participate in our TBS preschool through 12th grade learning programs.

Prayer Book Fund & Dedication
This fund supplies new prayer books to our community. A \$54 donation enables the donor to place a personalized bookplate in a prayer book in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Rabbi Perlman’s Discretionary Fund
This fund is used at the discretion of Rabbi Perlman to support both those who are in need and the ongoing work of the TBS community.

Rabbi Markley’s Discretionary Fund
This fund is used at the discretion of Rabbi Perlman to support both those who are in need and the ongoing work of the TBS community.

Rabbi Bressler’s Discretionary Fund
This fund is used by Rabbi Bressler to help those who are in need in our TBS community and beyond, as well as to support the enrichment of Jewish community life in our community.

Richard Todd Sacks Jewish Lifelong Learning Fund
This fund supports the vibrant adult learning program at TBS.

Tzedakah more ways to give...

Safety and Security Fund

Funds are used for security and safety enhancements to the Temple's physical plant and parking infrastructure as well as for safety preparedness planning.

Sanctuary Flower Fund

Funds are used by the Beth Shalom Garden Club to provide flowers for all Temple worship services.

Social Action Fund

This fund supports the ongoing work of *Tikkun Olam* – “Repairing Our World” done by our Temple community.

TBS Oneg Fund

Funds are used by the Sisterhood to provide an *oneg* for all Friday Night and special holiday services throughout the year.

Dr. Ted Chamberlain Interfaith Fellowship Fund – provides significant financial resources to support and grow an interfaith partnership of shared learning and growth between TBS teens and Eastern University (outside Philadelphia, PA) students.

Torah and Sanctuary Fund

This fund helps to care for our *Torah* scrolls and maintain our Sanctuary.

Torah Commentary Fund & Dedication

This fund supplies new *Torah* Commentaries to our community. A \$72 donation enables the donor to place a personalized bookplate in a *Torah* Commentary in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Youth Education Fund

This fund is used to support *Etzim* – our 6th – 12th grade learning community programs.

Dedicating a Plaque, a Sacred Text, Sanctuary Chair or a Leaf in Memory or Celebration

For assistance with any of the dedications below, please contact Tiziana Getz, our TBS Office Administrator, at tgetz@tbsneedham.org or at 781-444-0077.

Memorial Board Dedication

The name of a loved one who has passed can be listed on our TBS community's Memorial Board, located in our sanctuary. The memorial board plaque requires a donation of \$360.

Below: Sanctuary chair dedication plaque.



Tree of Life Dedication

To commemorate a *simcha* (“joyous occasion”) or memorable occasion, a leaf can be purchased on our community's Tree of Life, for \$250.

Sanctuary Chair Dedication

A Sanctuary Chair can be dedicated with a donation of \$1,800. The chair can be dedicated to remember a loved one, to commemorate a special occasion or an important event, or to honor a person in your life.

Also...

The various communities of Temple Beth Shalom (Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Three Score / More or Less, Garden Club, *Etzim*/BESTY, Youth, Children's Center) also occasionally sponsor their own smaller fundraising programs during the year.

Leaving Your Legacy

We hope that Temple members will consider the advantages – to the Temple and to themselves – of special gifts, which may include gifts to one of the Temple Endowment Funds or other major cash gifts. Whether given to an Endowment Fund or some other Temple fund or arm, special gifts may include cash gifts or non-cash gifts structured to achieve targeted results (often referred to as “planned giving”). Such gifts may be lifetime gifts or gifts pledged to be made by the do-



nor upon his or her death (by will, life insurance, retirement plan or another method).

Legacy Circle

The Temple is creating a “Legacy Circle” to recognize those individuals who have made a bequest in their will, or made the Temple a beneficiary of their life insurance or retirement plan. At this time, the minimum bequest for membership would be \$1,000. Our objective is to create a broad constituency who are committed to providing the long-term financial safety net for the Temple's continued growth, future option and financial well being.

Lasting Tribute

Any gift can be made in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Your gift will be a lasting tribute to your loved one, enduring, in effect, as long as the Temple.

Endowment Funds

Our General Endowment Fund and Education Endowment Fund are intended to afford the Temple an enhanced sense of financial freedom, providing opportunities to:

1. offer additional programs,
2. more easily weather any economic downturns or revenue shortfalls, and
3. take advantage of unexpected or one-time purchase opportunities.

Planned Giving

There are many vehicles for “planned giving.” These include:

- **Bequest (via will or trust):** You can name Temple Beth Shalom in your will (or trust) as a beneficiary for a specified amount or for a percentage of your estate. Any charitable gift should be eligible for an estate tax deduction.
- **Life Insurance Beneficiary Designation:** You can name the Temple as a beneficiary of a specified amount or percentage of

the proceeds of any life insurance you own or control, including your group life insurance. Any proceeds will go directly to the Temple and should provide an estate tax deduction.

- **Gift of Life Insurance Policy:** You may transfer an existing life insurance policy to the Temple while you are still alive. The current cash value of the policy may be a tax-deductible gift based upon IRS guidelines. You and the Temple may arrange a program whereby you continue to make contributions sufficient to pay the ongoing insurance premiums. Any such ongoing contribution should qualify for an additional income tax deduction. As long as the policy is maintained, the proceeds will ultimately go to the Temple, free of income tax.
- **Retirement Plan Beneficiary Designation:** As with life insurance, you can name the Temple as a beneficiary of your retirement plan(s), including any IRA or qualified plan (such as a pension plan or 401(k)). The specified amount (or percentage) will be paid directly to the Temple and should not be subject to either income or estate taxes.
- **Gifts of Securities:** You might find it advantageous to transfer publicly-traded securities, especially appreciated stocks, directly to the Temple. You would get a tax deduction for the contribution for the fair market value of the stock, based upon the IRS guidelines. You would thereby avoid paying the capital gain tax that you would have incurred had you first sold the appreciated stock and given the equivalent amount of cash.
- **Gifts of Property:** There are special rules concerning the transfer of property (art, real estate, etc.) to a charitable institution, including certain appraisal and reporting rules. In addition to an outright gift, you and the Temple, in appropriate circumstances, could consider entering into a “bargain sale” – that is, a transaction which is part-sale, part-gift.

- **Charitable Remainder Trust:** A charitable remainder trust (CRT) is a separate non-taxpaying entity that will convert assets to a specified income stream payable to you and/or your spouse (or family members) for life or for a specified term. The income stream may be fixed at the outset or fixed as a percentage of the annual value of the trust (thus providing you with inflation protection). When you transfer assets to a CRT, you will also obtain an income tax deduction. If properly structured, it may serve as a vehicle for gifting one or more appreciated assets before a sale, permitting you to avoid paying any direct tax on the gain from the sale. The proceeds are invested by your trustee to provide the specified cash flow, with an accompanying goal of increasing the proceeds that ultimately will go to the Temple.
- **Charitable Lead Trust:** A charitable lead trust (CLT) is basically the flip of a charitable remainder trust. A CLT distributes a specified stream to the designated charity (the Temple) for a specific period of time or the life of the donor (and/or family members). The principal ultimately reverts back to the donor or family. A gift to a CLT generally is not eligible for any upfront income tax deduction. However, by the same token, its ongoing income is no longer taxed to you. Alternatively, you can obtain an upfront deduction for a gift to a CLT structured as a “grantor trust,” but then the CLT income would be taxed back to you, without any offset for the trust’s annual charitable distributions. By using a CLT, you may be able to pass assets to your family members while being assessed gift or estate tax at a fraction of the assets’ current values. A CLT therefore may represent a powerful long-term planning strategy for a family that is in a position to defer the return of a portion of its wealth, while providing a substantial benefit to the Temple in the meantime.
- **Donor Advised Fund:** A donor advised fund is established to collect individual contributions and invest them for the benefit of one or more charities. Donor advised funds are sponsored both by certain large non-profit organizations (including Combined Jewish Philanthropies) and certain mutual funds and brokerage houses. As a donor, you get an upfront tax deduction based upon



the IRS guidelines at the time of the gift to the fund. The funds are invested and dedicated to eventual distributions to one or more charitable organizations. You (and your family) decide how and when the funds are distributed. Such a fund therefore bears some resemblance to a private foundation, but avoids much of the complexity and expense that private foundations entail. Although the Temple does not administer any donor advised funds, we hope you will consider the Temple when selecting recipients from any fund you might establish, and we would be happy to work with you in making any such arrangements.

Further Information: If you would like to learn more about any of the above planned giving options, please contact any of the following members of the Endowments, Gifts and Memorials Committee:

Ken Davis, Chair at kdavis@bulfinchgroup.com
Judy Chudnofsky at judyhud@comcast.net
Ed Ginn at edward@edwardginn.com
Louis Grossman at louis@grossmanco.com

Legal Notice: This information set forth in the preceding pages is provided as aid to persons considering a possible gift to the Temple. It is intended only as a summary and not as any definitive legal or tax advice. Though the Temple believes such information to be accurate, the rules regarding charitable donations are complex and changing, and special rules may apply in your particular circumstances. Therefore, you should not rely on this information to make any final decisions. Rather, it is essential that you consult with, and rely on, your own legal or tax advisor. Insofar as any member of the Endowment Committee is acting on behalf of the Temple with

respect to any prospective gift to the Temple, such member is not authorized to represent you or to provide any formal legal or tax advice to you.

Community Accessible to All – Regardless of Finances

Community membership at TBS is about meaningful relationship. Together, we share a journey as a community – seeking to bring meaning, healing, inspiration, and joy to our lives and to the lives of others. Membership in our community and education for our children (K – 12th grade) is accessible to all. We do not allow finance to be a barrier. For more information on how to receive financial assistance, please contact Joe Morency, Controller at 781-444-0077 or jmorency@tbsneedham.org.

Our Temple Beth Shalom community invites and encourages anyone who wishes to participate in community leadership to do so. In addition to our Board of Trustees and our Leadership Council (both described below), TBS has a wide variety of committees dedicated to bringing the mission and vision of our community to life (see pages 6 through 9 for more information). If you are interested in getting involved in any of our committees/teams, please feel free to reach out to the appropriate chairperson listed for each committee.

If you are not sure what committee might be right for you, please feel free to contact Temple President, Jeffrey Shapiro, at president@tbsneedham.org.

Senior Lay Leadership Groups

Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees is the senior leadership team of the Temple community. Our Board is entrusted with much of the overall decision-making for the congregation according to our TBS By-Laws. Our Board members keep the Mission and Vision of the congregation before them and set road maps for both the near and far term to help us accomplish our community’s goals.

Our Board works in close partnership with our clergy, professional staff, educators, support staff, and our many committees/teams to support alignment of purpose, leadership development, and overall community enrichment. Our Board members serve for a two-year term, are nominated by our Nominating Committee (whose members are also nominated and elected) and are elected by our TBS membership at the Annual Meeting in the spring. Our Rabbis are non-voting members of our Board.

Our Board includes a President, an Executive Vice President, seven Vice Presidents, each corresponding to a core aspect of our community mission: Learning, Religious & Cultural Practices,



Above: TBS President – Jeffrey Shapiro, Rabbi Todd Markley, URJ President – Rabbi Rick Jacobs, and Rabbi Jay Perlman.

“Tikkun Olam” (“Repairing the World”), Early Childhood Learning, Caring Community, Finance & Treasurer, and Administration, a Secretary, and eight Trustees. Each of our congregation’s committees/teams works closely under one of these Vice Presidents. The several committees under a single Vice President make up a “leadership circle.” The leaders and their Vice Presidents that make up these “circles” meet several times a year to coordinate efforts, collaborate, and plan in alignment with our Temple mission and vision.

Leadership Council

Article VII, Section 1 of the TBS by-laws create a Leadership Council. The Council was created to serve as a forum for ideas, issues, trends and goals affecting congregational life and for a means to share ideas, information and viewpoints. The Council meets throughout the year and is comprised of members of the BOT, the presidents of the Arms of the Temple, the chairs of all Standing Committees, all past presidents of the Temple, Clergy, the senior professional staff and other lay leaders as appointed by the President.

Section on Task Forces

The President creates special Task Forces, from time to time, to study, evaluate or provide assistance for specific issues or matters. If you are interested in being considered for such service please contact Jeffrey Shapiro, Congregational President.

Leadership Directory

Trustees		
President	Jeffrey Shapiro	president@tbsneedham.org
Executive VP	Eugene Stein	eugene.p.stein@gmail.com
Secretary	Gail Lustig	gaillustigtbs@gmail.com
VP of Administration	Bruce Tribush	btribush@comcast.net
VP of Caring Community	Wendy Gutterson	wendygutterson@pmrconsulting.net
VP of Early Childhood Learning	Peggy Lowenstein	pelowenstein@gmail.com
VP of Finance and Treasurer	James Masur	jemasur@comcast.net jmasur@crosscoastaladvisors.com
VP of Learning	Marlene Schultz	marlene_schultz@verizon.net
VP of <i>Tikkun Olam</i>	Linda Hill	LindaHill14@comcast.net
VP of Religious and Cultural Practices	Carol Bolton Kappel	carolbk@comcast.net
Trustee (Term Ending 2020)	Patti Grossman	grossclan@comcast.net pgrossman2@partners.org
Trustee (Term Ending 2020)	Meredith Fried	meredith_fried@yahoo.com
Trustee (Term Ending 2020)	Jeffrey Popkin	jeffpopkin@gmail.com
Trustee (Term Ending 2020)	Sharon Salinger	sharonsalinger@gmail.com
Trustee (Term Ending 2021)	Jeremy Cramer	jeremy_cramer@facinghistory.org
Trustee (Term Ending 2021)	Alan Stern	alankstern@gmail.com
Trustee (Term Ending 2021)	Marty Goldberg	mjgoldberg95@gmail.com
Trustee (Term Ending 2021)	Jillian Erdos	jillianerdos@gmail.com
Committees and “Arms” of the Congregation		
Adult and Family Learning Committee	Peter Mesnik	
Archives Committee	Florence Schumacher	
BESTY/ <i>Etzim</i>	Zoe Hill	
Brotherhood	Glenn Stern	
<i>Chesed</i> Committee	Mindy Pasco-Anderson	
Children’s Center Learning Committee	Shimrit Black	
Communications Committee	Steve Sherry	
Community Advancement Committee	Beth Pinals	
Elementary Learning Committee	Dan Ripin	
Environmental Action Committee	Jane Evans & Michael Bailit	
Finance and Budget Committee	Jim Masur	
Financial Assistance Committee	Marcie Akell	
Garden Club	Carol Gershman	
House, Safety & Security Committee	Marc Friedman & Loren Shapiro	
Investments Committee	Elliot Herman	
Israel Committee	Rabbi Jay Perlman	
Leadership Development Committee	Eugene Stein	
Library Committee	Roberta Gerson	

Committees and “Arms” of the Congregation		
Long Range Planning Committee		Eugene Stein
Member Relations Committee		Robyn Glazier & Sarah Mesnik
Music Committee		Rob Sutherland
Nominating Committee		Bernice Sue Behar
Personnel Practices Committee		TBD
Sisterhood		Linda Mesnik
Teen Engagement Committee		Jenny Small & Michelle Zaff
Three Score / More or Less Committee		Gary & Shelley Goldman
Tikun Olam / Social Action Committee		Heidi Shaff & Caryl Mayer
TBS Tzedek / Social Justice Committee		Randi Lite, Rick Moody, Elise Gottesman, Stacey Smalley & Carole Mittleman
Worship Committee		David Grebber
Clergy, Faculty and Staff		
Jessica Baim	Program and Communications Coordinator	jbaim@tbsneedham.org
Sara Berk	Assistant Director of Mayim and Director of Inclusion for K-12	sberk@tbsneedham.org
Liz Berkman	Parenting and Child Development Specialist	lberkman@tbsneedham.org
Rabbi Julie Bressler	Assistant Rabbi	jbressler@tbsneedham.org
Savita Brewer	Learning Administrator	sbrewer@tbsneedham.org
Leonard Carrasquillo	Custodian	
Sarah Damelin	Director of Bar/Bat Mitzvah Journey Program	sdamelin@tbsneedham.org
Callie Davis	Children’s Center Curriculum Director	cdavis@tbsneedham.org
Ellen Dietrick	Director of Early Childhood Learning	edietrick@tbsneedham.org
Dawn Ellis	Parenting and Child Development Specialist	dellis@tbsneedham.org
Jodi Fletcher	K-12 Administration and Logistics Coordinator	jfletcher@tbsneedham.org
DJ Fortine	Cantorial Soloist & URJ Camp Liaison	djfortine@tbsneedham.org
Tiziana Getz	Office Administrator	tgetz@tbsneedham.org
Marlene Greenstein	Children’s Center Curriculum Director	mgreenstein@tbsneedham.org
Rahel Gruenberg	Community Engagement Manager	rgruenberg@tbsneedham.org
Rachel Happel	Director of K-12 Learning	rhappel@tbsneedham.org
Deb Hecht	IT Systems Administrator	dhecht@tbsneedham.org
Rosie Kahan	Clergy Administrative Assistant	rkahan@tbsneedham.org
Sue Kost	Accountant	skost@tbsneedham.org
Rabbi Todd Markley	Clergy	tmarkley@tbsneedham.org
Joe Morency	Controller	jmorency@tbsneedham.org
Nate Medrano	Custodian and Director of Facilities	
Rabbi Jay Perlman	Clergy	jperlman@tbsneedham.org
Leandro Restrepo	Custodial Supervisor	
Suzanne Stein	Learning Administrator	sstein@tbsneedham.org
Jesse Tobin	Children’s Center Curriculum Director	jtobin@tbsneedham.org

Committees

The Temple Beth Shalom community has a number of leadership opportunities for those who wish to help guide the life of the congregation. The following pages describe a number of these committees. To participate on any committee, please contact TBS President, Jeffrey Shapiro, at president@tbsneedham.org.

Adult and Family Learning Committee

In partnership with our clergy, we craft the learning vision of the TBS community and make it happen. The saying goes that 'through prayer we speak with God and through study God speaks to us.' We seek to create numerous opportunities for inspiring the mind and deepening one's connection to Jewish tradition, culture, teaching, history, and practice through learning.

Our goal is to inspire engagement in Jewish learning throughout our Temple Beth Shalom community. We do this by:

- Providing a variety of programming which touches the diverse interests within our community.
- Supporting the different learning opportunities offered from within our TBS community (offered by Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Three Score / More or Less, Israel Relationship Team, TBS Tzedek, etc)
- Promoting new programs, speakers and opportunities within the greater Boston community.

Join Us! For more information on how to become part of the Adult and Family Learning team, please contact 2019-2020 Committee Chair Peter Mesnik at adult_learning@tbsneedham.org. We are always seeking new members who can bring their unique perspective and talents to our committee. Get started by joining us at a monthly meeting or give us your email to add to our mailing list.



Archives Committee

We preserve materials that document the history of our Temple community. We have organized available materials that record our past, and now we continue to collect and preserve the memories of today for tomorrow in the dedicated Archives Room on the lower level of the Temple.

Our goal is to preserve the history of Temple Beth Shalom, from its past through its present, for our future. We do this by:

- Encouraging Temple committee members to submit materials from their programs and events to the archives,
- Identifying and collecting current materials that will preserve Temple life and history, and
- Serving as a resource to all Temple committees about the history of TBS.

To join us or for more information, please contact: Florence Schumacher at archives@tbsneedham.org.

Chesed ("Caring") Program

Chesed outreach helps to organize community-wide efforts that support part of Temple Beth Shalom's vision statement: "We are a community of chesed – compassionate outreach. We care deeply about one another, rejoicing in each other's simchas and reaching out to support one another in times of need. Together we help to nurture belonging, resilience, and shleimut – wholeness in our lives."

We are less a committee than we are an ever growing circle of temple members who actively engage in acts of compassionate outreach. We work to inspire our entire community to do the same. We reach out and offer assistance to members of our community in times of difficulty, and celebrate simchas.

To join us or for more information, please contact Mindy Pasco-Anderson, Chesed Chair at chesed@tbsneedham.org.

Children's Center Learning Committee

The Children's Center Learning Committee is a group of dedicated members of the Temple Beth Shalom community who share a commitment to making the Children's Center a program of excellence. Guided by Jewish tradition, we study educational practices, assist with policy development, and make connections to the larger temple community.

To join us or for more information, please contact Shimrit Black at childrenscentercommittee@tbsneedham.org.

Communications Committee

We are responsible for creating engaging communication between and among our TBS members and the community. We develop, maintain, and support traditional media and electronic channels. We also serve as the information technology support group for TBS.

Our goal is to enhance the ease, effectiveness, and consistency of TBS communications and member interactions. We do this by:

- Publicizing congregational news and events to the congregation and the community-at-large.
- Managing a variety of printed and electronic communications including the monthly *Scroll* magazine, Member Directory, weekly e-newsletter, weekly clergy *Shabbat Shalom!* e-letter, our Facebook and Twitter activity, our website, etc.
- Enhancing our TBS website, with links to online class and event registration, blogging, social and community networking, multi-media and other capabilities.
- You can look forward to receiving annual mailings such as the



Above: Adult Learning Committee, joined by astronaut, Dr. Jeffrey Hoffman

Member Directory; this Community Guide, which provides a glimpse into all that goes on in the Temple community; and the High Holy Day brochure, with detailed information about the High Holy Days at TBS.

To join us or for more information, please contact Steve Sherry at communicationscommittee@tbsneedham.org.

Community Advancement (CA) Team

The financial needs of the TBS community are not sufficiently met through annual membership commitment and tuition payments. In order to remain a vibrant, successful community TBS relies upon the generosity of our members and others. The TBS Community Advancement Team supports the financial position of the TBS community by organizing and expanding our congregation's philanthropic giving. In doing so, we build upon existing successful programs, apply creative thinking to help our community achieve its goals, and establish a financial foundation to support continued growth.

We do this by:

- Creating a holistic, mission-driven, entrepreneurial approach to strengthen our congregation's financial position – ensuring the financial resources to meet our needs
- Fostering a culture of giving at TBS that inspires meaningful, joyful philanthropy
- Ensuring personal leadership growth through mentorship relationship

To learn more about our Community Advancement work, please contact Beth Pinals at bpinals@comcast.net.

Committees

continued...

Elementary Learning Committee

The Elementary Learning Committee is a group of dedicated members of the Temple Beth Shalom community who share a commitment to making *Mayim* (TBS’ K-5 Learning Program) a program of excellence. Guided by Jewish tradition, we study educational practices, assist with policy development, and make connections to the larger temple community.

To join us or for more information, please contact Dan Ripin at elementary_learning@tbsneedham.org.

Environmental Action Committee

Jewish tradition teaches that taking care of our natural environment is a *mitzvah* – a sacred responsibility. We believe it is ethically imperative for Jews to work toward lessening our environmental impact and thus uphold the Jewish ideals/*mitzvot* of *Tikkun Olam* (“Repairing the World”), *Tzedek* (“justice”), and *Bal Tash’chit* (“prohibition against wanton destruction”).

Our goal is to educate our community about environmental initiatives and make hands-on positive change at Temple Beth Shalom and the greater community in our use of energy and natural resources. We do this by:

- Making sustainable changes in our TBS building and how we “live” together.
- Participating in hands-on environmental initiatives in the greater community.
- Providing lectures, movies, and events to educate our community about “green initiatives.”
- Creating opportunities to encounter nature’s wonder.

To join us or for more information, please contact Jane Evans or Michael Bailit at environmental_action@tbsneedham.org.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee serves as a resource to assist the financial leaders and the board with understanding the finances, reviewing and suggesting approaches to long-term planning, and overseeing the financial functions of TBS. The Finance Committee takes an active role in the preparation of the annual budget and during that process, explores alternatives or options with the professional staff, and makes recommendations to the board based on its guidance and direction. The committee also oversees the annual financial audit conducted by an independent auditor. If interested, please email Jim Masur at finance@tbsneedham.org.

Financial Assistance Committee

The role of the Financial Assistance Committee is to provide financial assistance to our temple community in accordance with our mission and vision statements. It is a core value of our congregation that a family’s financial limitations should never become a barrier to TBS membership and the education of our children. All applications received are confidential and reviewed with sensitivity. Applications are reviewed in the Spring and throughout the year as there are needs. The committee is comprised of a Chair, the President, and two congregants appointed by the President. The Controller serves as an ex officio member of the committee. For more information or for an application, please contact Joe Morency at jmorency@tbsneedham.org.

House/Safety/Security Committee

We are the ‘caretakers’ of our temple building and facilities. We ensure that all in our community have a suitable environment in which to plan and produce activities in the realms of worship, education, social, and administration.

From making our parking lot safe for our children, to arranging security for major congregational services and events, we also seek to enhance the warm and inviting atmosphere of our congregational home by ensuring that the temple is safe and secure as well.

Our goal is to conduct comprehensive reviews and implement safety, security and loss prevention policies and procedures that encompass all functional areas and physical needs of our congregation. We do this by:

- Identifying and implementing physical plant security and upgrades.
- Developing and implementing safety and security policies and procedures for all aspects of Temple operation including the Children’s Center and the *Mayim/Etzim* programs.
- Developing and implementing ongoing security awareness programs.
- Developing and implementing safety planning, evacuation, medical emergency and recovery procedures.
- Serving as liaison to Needham Police and Fire Departments.

To join us or for more information, please contact House/Safety and Security Committee Chairs, Loren Shapiro or Marc Friedman at house@tbsneedham.org.

Investment Committee

At the Direction of the Board, the Investment Committee provides oversight for the TBS Endowment Portfolios, as well as supports other investing activity. We do this to help ensure that the goals and financial objectives of the Temple are being met. TBS currently engages an outside investment adviser to handle the day to day management responsibilities of the Endowment portfolio. The Investment Committee interfaces with the outside manager and the Board, providing



Above: The Dome of the Rock under a full moon, as seen by the TBS Israel Adventurers.

updates during the year. The Committee is available to provide additional investment insight and advice to the Board on other Temple investments as needed. If interested, please email Elliot Herman at investments@tbsneedham.org.

Israel Committee

Recognizing that Israel is the eternal and sacred home of the Jewish people and that a meaningful relationship with Israel is important for our community, we help our congregation create the best possible opportunities for engagement and connection. Our goal is to be a catalyst for all congregants of Temple Beth Shalom, both individually and collectively, to deepen their relationship with Israel and her people. We do this by:

- Engaging Modern Israel – Providing opportunities to deepen our understanding of modern Israel through educational and cultural offerings that will bring religious, political, and historical issues into context and focus.
- People to People – Exploring how we, as individuals and as a congregation, can directly engage and build relationships with Israelis and Israeli organizations.
- Family Education – Creating exciting new ways to bring Israel to life for our children and, in doing so, inspiring our parent/adult community to learn with and through our children.
- Helping Israel – Extending assistance through advocacy as well as philanthropy.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Perlman at jperlman@tbsneedham.org.

Leadership Development Committee

A strong congregation is critical for our Jewish community, now and in the future. Today, there are many roads to becoming a congregational leader. In the Biblical narrative, succession plans were seemingly predetermined – from Jacob to Joseph, from Sarah to Rebecca to Rachel and Leah, from Moses to Joshua. In our contemporary Jewish community, outstanding leaders need to be identified and supported in their growth. Seeking new leaders is crucial to the creation of a pipeline of leadership, yet finding potential leaders is not sufficient. Leadership training develops the foundation that all leaders need by teaching them about TBS’s history, values, and beliefs. It also helps emerging leaders better understand themselves as leaders, recognize their strengths and areas of growth, and appreciate how their leadership style will impact the sacred work of the congregation. This is especially important in the case of lay leaders, who need to understand what it means to be a leader in a sacred community.

Emerging and current lay leaders in our congregation need to develop general leadership skills, immerse themselves in Jewish learning, and become knowledgeable about our community. The Leadership Development Committee is responsible for helping all current and future leaders learn these things so they can embark on their journey and inspire sacred action within our community.

For more information, please contact Eugene Stein, Executive Vice President, at leadership_development@tbsneedham.org.

Committees

continued...

Library Committee

With both a circulating collection as well as a reference collection, the mission of the Temple Beth Shalom Library is to provide our Temple members with a wide variety of materials of Judaic interest in a warm and relaxing atmosphere that encourages reading for pleasure, enrichment, and learning.

Our Library is located in two areas: the Community Court and the *Beit Midrash*. The Community Court is a place where you can pull a book or two off its shelves to read in comfort or check out and take home. We rotate books in and out of the Community Court, displaying our most recent acquisitions under “New Arrivals” or “...As Featured in the Scroll.” In our *Beit Midrash*, two walls are lined with shelves of additional readings, including an extensive, stimulating collection of sacred texts. Special displays of holiday-relevant books and books about current events can be found on the windowsills.

We feature a selection of books on subjects as diverse as biographies, fiction, spirituality, health and meditation, family and life cycle events, inter-faith relations, Israel, the Holocaust, U.S. and international Jewish life, anti-Semitism, cooking, Temple authors, and art/photography. We welcome suggestions for new books from Temple members.

We encourage you to borrow books from both locations. Instructions are posted in large picture frames on the shelves in the Community Court and on the desk in the *Beit Midrash*.

An easy-to-use, searchable interface to the online database of our book collection is available on the Library web page of the TBS website. The interface allows users to search for a specific title or author and its shelf location – either in the Community Court or *Beit Midrash* – and by subject category. You can access the interface on any mobile device and wherever you have Internet access – your home, the Temple, or on the go since the software lives on the web.

We host two programs a year – one in the fall, one in the spring – sometimes with other Temple groups. Our most recent spring program was “Views on the News” with Mark Maremont, a Senior Editor with *The Wall Street Journal*.

To find out more about the Library or to join the Library Committee, please come to our weekly meeting any Wednesday in the *Beit Midrash* from 10:00 am to Noon or contact us at library@tbsneedham.org.

Long Range Planning Committee

Periodically, the Long Range Planning Committee meets to assess, update, modify, and incorporate new information into the Congregations’ Strategic plans. The committee meets on an ad-hoc basis and often works on special projects, such as specific three or five year plans related to: long-term giving, community advancement, working with several standing committees to develop and harmonize shared visions and plans, and to assist where needed with other committees as they incorporate their respective visions and plans looking ahead.

Member Relations Committee

By creating many different ‘gateways of entry’ to the TBS community, we inspire and nurture a healthy and engaged temple membership. We welcome our newest members. We help our members get to know one another and feel ‘at home.’ We support our members as they strive to find their place in the community and get involved. We encourage our members to invite new members to join us.

From the TBS Welcome Corps to the Chavurah Program to a wide variety of community events including the *Purim* Shpiel and TBS’ *Sukkot* Welcome event, we look forward to getting to know many more of you in the coming year!

Please put these dates on your calendar at home:

- *Sukkot* Welcome Event – October 14th
- Community *Shabbat* Dinner – November 8th

For more information, or to join our committee, please contact Robyn Glazier and Sarah Mesnik, Co-Chairs of TBS Member Relations at member_relations@tbsneedham.org.

Music Committee

Under the leadership of Cantorial Soloist DJ Fortine, Rabbi Jay and Chair Rob Sutherland, the Music Committee is focused on various music initiatives at TBS, such as creating temple music resources for our website, supporting visiting artists and events, and introducing new venues for congregational music-making and learning. This year’s highlight was the successful introduction of our new adult and teen singing group “*Shirat Shalom*”. If interested, please email Rob Sutherland at music@tbsneedham.org.

Personnel Practices Committee (PPC)

From our values-grounded *Cheshbon HaBrit* program (“Taking Account of a Sacred Relationship” – a goal setting and performance evaluation tool) the PPC helps to ensure personnel/human resource matters are conducted in a consistent and professional manner. From the writing and review of the Personnel Manual to making recommendations on Employee Benefits, we assist the Temple and provide advice in finding, growing and retaining employees that serve

Below: TBS’s BESTY teens help make Purim special for the kids of *Mayim*.



the needs of our Temple community in ways that are aligned with and reflect our community’s values.

To join us or for more information, please contact Personnel Practices at personnelpractices@tbsneedham.org.

TBS Welcome Corps:

Initiated in the fall of 2016, upon return into our “newly expanded and renovated temple home,” the mission of the TBS Welcome Corps is to actively greet every temple guest with “audacious hospitality” and an eye toward safety. The experience of walking through the door reflects the overall warmth and spiritual richness of our congregation.

Our dedicated volunteers, along with a handful of committed staff members, warmly greet temple members and guests between the hours of 8:15 am and 8:15 pm on weekdays. They are a wonderful resource for commonly asked questions and gain great satisfaction from engaging in temple life through this very visible, interactive and important role. Co-chairs: Julie Bailit and Linda Hill.

Teen Engagement Committee

The Teen Engagement Committee considers the needs of our middle school, high school, and college students regarding their Jewish learning and identity building. We work together to support current programming and our vision for the future.

For more information or to join our Committee, please contact Michelle Zaff or Jenny Small at teen_engagement@tbsneedham.org.

Tikkun Olam/Social Action Committee

The purpose of the TBS Social Action program is to help inspire and support the members of our community of all ages as they engage in acts that will help bring *Tikkun* – repair, understanding, and justice to our world.

To be part of the leadership team which helps to make our constellation

of social action opportunities possible, please contact Caryl Mayer or Heidi Shaff at TikkunOlam@tbsneedham.org.

Tzedek/Social Justice Committee

Temple Beth Shalom *Tzedek* (Social Justice) Committee engages in Social Justice through our Temple Beth Shalom *Tzedek* initiative. TBS *Tzedek* works to repair the world through advocacy, education, and raising awareness around critical issues facing our community, our nation, and the world at large. Our *Tzedek* team is led by: Elise Gottesman, Randi Lite, Carole Mittleman, Rick Moody, Deena Siegel, and Stacey Smalley.

To get involved or to learn more, please contact Randi Lite at tzedek@tbsneedham.org

Worship Committee

At Temple Beth Shalom, we believe in upholding community as a sacred value, where each individual strives to honor and support the religious, spiritual, and shared practices of our community. In that regard, our Temple’s opportunities for worship can awaken, animate, challenge and surprise. It can shine a light in dark times and nurture gratitude for the gifts we have been given. The Worship Committee works closely with our clergy, the professional staff, and the Temples Arms to offer input on worship-related matters (both substantive and detailed), participate in worship services, and oversee lay-led services to create and sustain meaningful worship experiences for our Temple Community. Specifically, the Worship Committee:

- Explores the meaning and elements of worship in Reform Judaism for our Temple Community;
- Provides feedback to the clergy and professional staff and acts as a sounding board for the congregation on matters of our worship life;
- Discusses and assists in developing potential themes for services;
- Continues conversation and action on implementing practices that will improve the worship experience for the congregants;
- Explores alternative worship options to widen the appeal for current and future members of our congregation;
- Coordinates readers and participants for the High Holiday Services

Our Committee meets once a month. If you are interested in joining us, please contact David Grebber at 617-602-2885 or worship@tbsneedham.org.

Getting Involved.

The Blessing of Building Community Together.

Our success is your success. TBS is your community. As Congregational President of Temple Beth Shalom, I invite and encourage anyone who wishes to participate in community leadership and engagement to do so. In addition to our Board of Trustees, TBS has a wide variety of opportunities dedicated to bringing the mission and vision of our community to life (see pages 6 through 8 for more information). This includes chairing an event or committee, serving on a committee, sharing your spark of an idea with a committee chair to influence future engagement opportunities, or simply attending an event. Engagement is at your pace and based upon your interest.

The depth and breadth of the programming we offer at TBS; the community-wide activities that we engage in; the community connections we offer within our TBS hub and across town; the lifetime of learning from pre-k, to teen, to young adult, to adult learning, to Three Score and beyond; to the administrative structure that supports TBS, to our Arms and Committees, to our various worship and cultural activities, would not be possible without the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of hours donated each year to the TBS Community. We are grateful for all those that have and continue to volunteer to make our community as vibrant as possible. We are equally excited to ask those that have not yet had an opportunity to volunteer their time and share their talent with us to do so.

The first ask is always the hardest! I know that the first time I volunteered at TBS was simply because I was asked to help. Thank you, Peggy Gassman and Jonathan Kappel, for asking! While TBS did benefit from my time and effort, the real winner was and continues to be me! There is a sense of fulfillment when one volunteers for an organization with a meaningful mission and purpose, there are lifelong friends to be made and the underlying effort is often more like fun than work. I am certain that if you volunteer for any of the numerous opportunities available at or available through TBS you too will feel this sense of purpose. Please consider this an invitation from me to you.

Volunteers are not paid — not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.

— Unknown

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

— Elizabeth Andrew, the first woman organizer of the Labour Party in Wales.

Trust yourself. Create the kind of self that you will be happy to live with all your life. Make the most of yourself by fanning the tiny, inner sparks of possibility into flames of achievement.

— Golda Meir

Whatever community organization, whether it's a women's organization, or fighting for racial justice ... you will get satisfaction out of doing something to give back to the community that you never get in any other way.

— Ruth Bader Ginsburg

If you are interested in getting involved with any of our Arms, Committees or Task Forces, (see full Arm & Committee explanations beginning on page 52) please feel free to reach out to the appropriate chairperson listed for each committee. Alternatively, if you are not sure what committee might be right for you, please feel free to contact me at president@tbsneedham.org.

Warmly,
Jeffrey Shapiro
Congregational President
Temple Beth Shalom

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Community Guide layout: Alan Novick — I got involved 😊.



When we truly encounter one another, we will meet more than we realize:
we will also find the divine within our own lives.

– *Martin Buber*

Our masters taught: ‘One who sees a host of people should say, “Blessed be the One who discerns secrets,” for the heart, mind and soul of each of them is not like the heart, mind, and soul of any other.’

– *B. Talmud, Berachot 58a*

At Sinai, Moses received the *Torah* and handed it over to Joshua who handed it over to the Elders who handed it over to the Prophets who, in turn, handed it over to the men of the Great Assembly.

– *Pirkei Avot 1:1*

A community is too heavy for any one person to carry alone.

– *Deuteronomy Rabbah 1:10*



Above: Getting ready for tomorrow.



TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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