

# Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

September 2023

Elul 5783/Tishri 5784



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TEMPLE BETH SHALOM



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## On the Cover

*"The Fab Four"*

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## Editorial Board

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To contribute content,  
go to: [tbsneedham.org/submit](http://tbsneedham.org/submit)

## From the Editorial Board

What better time to give our new rabbi a formal welcome than at the start of our new year! Whatever the tumult around us, we can use this time to look forward with focus and know we have a wonderful team of clergy to lead and support us in all of our endeavors.

As we celebrate the season with apples, honey, honey playdough, and more, we invite sweetness to permeate our deeds, whether helping a child celebrate sharing or sharing our privilege with those in need of shelter and the basic needs of life. Wishing you and yours a safe and healthy year filled with goodness, sweetness, and the joy of doing for others.

By Joni Burstein on behalf of the *Scroll* Editorial Board

*Thanks to the generous bequest of William I. and Louise Carmen, our Community Hall is now known as Carmen Hall.*

*Bill Carmen proudly served as the fourth President of the Temple (1961-1962). Louise Carmen proudly served as the first Sisterhood President (1958-1960) and the first Needham Hadassah President (1964-1966).*

*We are deeply grateful for the Carmen Family's commitment to family, social justice, education, Israel, and our Jewish community.*

### Please join the TBS Community for *Minyan*

- Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM in person, in the Sanctuary.
- Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM online only. Zoom links are published in the "TBS This Week" email.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Samantha and David Braun and Calliope (3) and Harry (1)  
 Laurie Dickstein-Fischer and Greg Fischer and Matthew (7)  
 Diana Geisser and Douglas Palmer and Elliot (5) and Madeline (1)  
 Alyssa Goldman and Jesse Tedora and Ethan (6) and Caleb (4)  
 Jillian and Michael Klein and Isabel (6) and Audrey (3)  
 David Kula  
 Elena and Benjamin McNally and Dahlia (11) and Vivian (8)  
 Halli Melnitsky and Scott Michonski  
 and Asher (6) and Maya (not yet 1)  
 Matthew Nitzberg and Erin Sweatt and Miles (7) and Graham (4)  
 Jordana and Joel Pakett  
 Brett and Zachary Rachins and Jonah (4) and Emmy (1)  
 Matthew and Elizabeth Ruderman and Wilhelm (6) and Cora (4)  
 Jennifer and Gabriel Singal and Riley (6) and Cameron (4)  
 Rebecca and Benjamin Waber and Jane (13) and Micah (8)  
 Abigail and Larissa Weiner and Ezra (4)

# Services in September

Services will be in person and via livestream for the month of September.  
Please check the TBS website and emails for livestream links.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 (16 Elul 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 (16 Elul 5783)

Torah: *Ki Tavo* Deut. 26:1 - 29:8

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)

9:00 AM Lay-led Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

B. Mitzvah: Helene Semel

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 (18 Elul 5783)

Torah: *Nitzavim*, Deut. 29:9-17

B. Mitzvah: Rory Schneller

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 (23 Elul 5783)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 (23 Elul 5783)

Torah: *Nitzavim-VaYeLech* Deut. 29:9 - 30

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

7:00 PM Musical Selichot & Oneg (Sanctuary)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 (1 Tishri 5783)

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat + Rosh Hashanah Service  
(Sanctuary)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 (1 Tishri 5784)

8:30 AM Early Morning Rosh Hashanah Morning Community  
Service (Sanctuary)

8:45 AM Rosh Hashanah Early Morning Family Service (Rashi  
School)

11:15 AM Rosh Hashanah Late Morning Family Service  
(Rashi School)

11:15 AM Late Morning Rosh Hashanah Morning  
Community Service (Sanctuary)

2:30 PM Tashlich (Elm Bank)

4:00 PM Rosh Hashanah Young Children & Family Service  
(Sanctuary)

5:30 PM Rosh Hashanah Afternoon Service (Sanctuary)

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 (2 Tishri 5784)

10:00 AM Rosh Hashanah Second Day Service (Sanctuary)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 (8 Tishri 5784)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 (8 Tishri 5784)

Torah: *Ha'azinu* Deut. 32:1 - 52

8:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Beit Midrash)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

B. Mitzvah: Lucy Stewart and Sam Stewart

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 (10 Tishri 5784)

5:15 PM Kol Nidre Early Evening Service (Sanctuary)

7:30 PM Kol Nidre Late Evening Service (Sanctuary)

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 (10 Tishri 5784)

8:30 AM Yom Kippur Early Morning Community Service  
(Sanctuary)

8:45 AM Yom Kippur Early Morning Family Service  
(Rashi School)

11:15 AM Yom Kippur Early Morning Family Service  
(Rashi School)

11:15 AM Yom Kippur Late Morning Community Service  
(Sanctuary)

2:00 PM Yom Kippur Young Children & Family Service  
(Sanctuary)

2:00 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon Learning (Beit Midrash)

3:00 PM Jewish Journey Program (Beit Midrash)

4:00 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon Service (Beit Midrash)

5:00 PM Yizkor Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

5:45 PM Ne'ilah Concluding Service + Havdalah (Sanctuary)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 (15 Tishri 5784)

6:15 PM Om Shalom Yoga Service (Carmen Hall)

6:15 PM Erev Shabbat &

Erev Sukkot Service (Sanctuary)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 (15 Tishri 5784)

Sukkot Day 1 Lev 23:33 - 42, Sukkot, Exodus 34:1 - 10

8:00 AM Shabbat & Sukkot Morning Service (Beit Midrash)

9:00 AM Torah Study (Beit Midrash)

9:15 AM Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah  
(Front Conference Room and online)

B. Mitzvah: Brodey Kaplowitz

B. Mitzvah: Hannah Zalkowitz and Lyla Zalkowitz

# Committee Meetings in September – Stay Involved!

Committees not listed will not meet formally this month.

Committee Name	Date and Time	Email Contact for Information
Adult Learning	Wed. Sept. 6, 8:00 PM	AdultLearning@tbsneedham.org
Archives	Fri. Sept. 29, 10:00 AM	Archives@tbsneedham.org
Brotherhood Board	Tue. Sept. 12, 7:15 PM	Brotherhood@tbsneedham.org
Communications	Wed. Sept. 20, 7:15 PM	Communications@tbsneedham.org
Garden Club	Tue. Sept. 5, 7:15 PM	GardenClub@tbsneedham.org
Library	Every Wednesday, 9:30 AM	Library@tbsneedham.org
Scroll Editorial Board	Tue. Sept. 26, 12:00 PM	Scroll@tbsneedham.org
Social Action	Sun. Sept. 10, 7:00 PM	SocialAction@tbsneedham.org
Three Score/More or Less	Mon. Sept. 11, 7:00 PM	ThreeScoreMoreOrLess@tbsneedham.org

Please check with the email contact in case of a change in date and for meeting location.



From Our Clergy

# Anticipating a Sweet New Year

By Rabbi Jay Perlman



For our TBS community, the beginning of a new year brings tremendous excitement. With the High Holy Days as a joyful "homecoming," there will be many opportunities to gather in celebration and reflection.

Throughout the coming year, weekly Shabbat services will be our community's heartbeat. Beginning on Friday, September 8th, there will be exciting new elements added to help make Shabbat even more wonderful. These include additional instrumentation and song every week, a pre-service nosh and a sweet post-service oneg, new monthly community Shabbat dinners, the continuation of the monthly sharing of guided meditation by Stephanie Javaheri, our new monthly Shabbat Evening Yoga Service (called *Om Shalom*) led by Andrew Tanner, as well as a new monthly service entitled *Friday Night Lights* - geared especially for families, which will be preceded by a festive Shabbat evening dinner.

The coming year will feature numerous outstanding speakers and teachers – including Gil Hovav (Israel's leading culinary journalist and television personality), Representative Jake Auchincloss, author James Carroll, psychologist and specialist on children's spirituality Lisa Miller, and Alex Pascal (TBS member and recent White House Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy). This coming year, we will engage in classes and courses – including the return of our popular Adult B. Mitzvah/Beginner Hebrew program – that will expand the mind and deepen the soul.

We will rejoice as a community as we celebrate Rabbi Elyse's *Aliyah L'Rabbanut* (Ascent to Rabbinic Leadership) at TBS. As well, with excitement, we will celebrate the completion of the writing of our beautiful new Torah scroll! This fall, we will dedicate the beautiful new community Tree of Life mosaic – hand-crafted throughout last year by members of our community – that will permanently be displayed in our Community Court. During the coming year, we will join with other congregations who partner through the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization and the Religious Action Center of Massachusetts in focusing our energies on housing justice.

In the spirit of looking-beyond-local, in the spring of 2024, we will be sponsoring an incredible TBS trip to Morocco and will also be organizing for another outstanding TBS Adventure to Israel in December 2024. This year brings the launch of our brand new *Shorashim* program for grades five through seven, as well as an exciting new initiative to bring together Families with School-Aged Children, and a terrific ninth cohort to participate in our Chamberlain Interfaith Fellowship program. Our monthly Tot Shabbat program will be made even more fun by our offering Tater Tot Shabbat, which will now include pre-dinner Shabbat snacks. We are very proud that our TBS Children's Center has been accepted to participate in "Project-412" – a national program tasked to create transformative change in the field of Jewish early childhood education. During the coming year, our many TBS community circles – Sisterhood, Brotherhood, ConNEXTions, Three Score/More or Less, and Garden Club – will all be offering outstanding opportunities to socialize, learn, play, pray, make a positive difference, and connect.

Following our recent TBS Board adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism, our Antisemitism Awareness Initiative will be taking further steps towards community education and advocacy. With political struggle unfolding in Israel, we will partner with our sister congregation in Jerusalem and others to advance justice and deepen democracy. Through our Social Action, *Chesed* (Compassionate Outreach), *Tzedek* (Justice), and Adult Learning leadership, we will engage in programs, classes, and action that will inspire healing in our lives, our community, and in our world. As well, we will together celebrate holidays and mark moments of profound life meaning – rejoicing with and offering comfort to one another.

I am deeply grateful for the many truly outstanding leaders – both professional and lay – who partner with one another to ensure that our journey together as a community is one that fosters goodness, friendship, spiritual uplift, and peace. I look forward to our sharing in all of this excitement and more!

Emily, Liana, and Jonah join me in wishing you and those that you love a truly sweet new year!



# Time for Kindness

By Wendy Gutterson, Congregational President



While waiting to pick up my falafel and hummus wrap at Timeout Market, I spent my time, as many of us do, scrolling on my phone. I was working my way through emails and listening for my name when I noticed a customer in front of me struggling to balance multiple trays. I pocketed my phone and offered to carry a tray for him. I introduced myself as I took it out of his hands, and we chatted for the minute or two it took to walk outside to where his parents were waiting. As we approached he said “Mom, Dad, this is Wendy. She doesn’t work here; she just offered to help.” He and his parents were very, very appreciative of my help. In fact, their reaction of deep gratitude seemed unmatched for such a simple act of kindness. After all, I wasn’t going anywhere until my wrap was ready and helping to carry a tray was truly not heavy lifting. We said our goodbyes, my name was called, and my falafel and I were on our way.

Later that week, a colleague shared a story about a woman who noticed a set of car keys left behind on a table at the bank. She looked around and asked if anyone was missing their keys. Another customer gratefully retrieved them.

The woman continued her business at the bank and during the few minutes it took to finish up, three different people, including the bank manager, sought her out to thank her and comment on her kindness. Again, a small act, which garnered big gratitude.

Our tradition teaches us that kindness matters. Just think about Rebecca offering water not only to Eliezar and his traveling companions, but also to their camels, all ten of them. This was not an easy task – camels drink a lot of water! Or consider Abraham, running to greet the three travelers who were a distance away, seeking them out so that he and Sarah might offer the hospitality of their tent.

Sometimes our mitzvot are intentional and we head out into the world with a desire to help others. Sometimes opportunities for mitzvot present themselves to us. These often are not difficult tasks, but rather everyday

opportunities to help. How easy it is to turn someone’s panic over lost keys into relief. Or share the weight of another’s load when their hands are full. These acts are often met with gratitude and appreciation and almost never require the effort of drawing water for camels.

As I reflect on these everyday moments of kindness, these small efforts that really make a difference, I wonder how many opportunities for mitzvot I miss each day. And so, as we begin a new year, I hope to channel Rebecca and Abraham and Sarah and intentionally seek out more opportunities to help those around me and to be more aware when those moments present themselves to me. I encourage you to do the same.

David joins me in wishing you and those you love a New Year filled with good health, happiness, and, of course, much kindness.

*L’Shanah Tovah,*

Wendy



# B. Mitzvah

## **Helene Semel, Saturday, September 2**

**School:** The Rashi School

**Interests:** Helene loves to dance and to spend time with family and friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Helene collected birthday supplies from family and friends and made birthday boxes for homeless shelters.

## **Rory Schneller, Monday, September 4**

**School:** Kennedy Middle School

**Interests:** Rory enjoys playing hockey and soccer and spending time with his dog Howie. He loves spending summers at Camp Bauercrest.

**Mitzvah Project:** Rory volunteered with Keep Natick Beautiful, whose mission is making Natick a cleaner, greener place to live, work, and play.

## **Lucy Stewart, Saturday, September 23**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Lucy enjoys playing softball, hanging out with friends, and cuddling her dog Maisie.

**Mitzvah Project:** Lucy set up a book drive and volunteered at More Than Words, a nonprofit that helps at-risk young adults.

## **Sam Stewart, Saturday, September 23**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Sam likes playing sports, hanging out with his friends, and playing with his dog Maisie.

**Mitzvah Project:** Sam set up a book drive and volunteered at More Than Words, a nonprofit that helps at-risk young adults.

## **Brodey Kaplowitz, Saturday, September 30**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Brodey loves playing basketball, football, video games, hanging out with family, friends, his dog Rocky, and traveling, especially to Aruba!

**Mitzvah Project:** Brodey spent time volunteering at Peaceful Pooch, where he learned about grooming, played with dogs there for daycare, and observed business operations.

## **Hannah Zalkowitz, Saturday, September 30**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Hannah enjoys playing volleyball, traveling to new places, and hanging out with her sister and her friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Hannah is writing cards to Holocaust survivors through the "Thinking of You Caring Cards Project."

## **Lyla Zalkowitz, Saturday, September 30**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Lyla enjoys dancing, singing Taylor Swift songs, and spending time with her sister and her friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Lyla is writing cards to Holocaust survivors through the "Thinking of You Caring Cards Project."



# September Highlights

## Help Cradles to Crayons Clothe Kids in Need

### September 4 through October 20, Donation bin at TBS and Cara's home

As kids across the state head back to school this month, TBS Social Action is running a children's clothing drive to benefit Cradles to Crayons (C2C). C2C provides Boston-area children from birth through age 12 with the essential items they need to thrive, including clothing that fits and inspires confidence. If you have new or gently used clothing in good condition, please consider donating it! For details on most-needed items and where to drop off, visit the registration link below. On the day after our clothing drive concludes, we will bring all donations to C2C during our volunteer shift at the C2C Giving Factory. (See Save the Date on page 10 in this *Scroll* if you might be interested in joining!) Thank you for helping children in need!

Register: [t-b-s.me/c2cdonations](https://t-b-s.me/c2cdonations)

Contact: Cara Karelitz at [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org)

**Cradles  
to Crayons**

**TBS's  
Mitzvah  
PROJECTS**

## Brotherhood Fantasy Football Draft

### Tuesday, September 5, 6:30-9:00 PM Carmen Hall

The leagues are set and the draft order is done. Are you up to the challenge? We'll be drafting the Tuesday after Labor Day live and in person at TBS. Pizza and refreshments will be served. Dinner begins at 6:30 PM and the draft kicks off at 7:15 PM. There will be a remote option available if you cannot make it to the Temple.

Contact: [joncohan@gmail.com](mailto:joncohan@gmail.com)



## Brotherhood Fall Schmoozefest

### Sunday, September 10, 6:00-8:30 PM Mandarin Cuisine

Kick off the start of Football Season and the fall with our Schmoozefest! It's a Brotherhood tradition to gather at Mandarin Cuisine a few times a year to... well... schmooze. Here's the first one as we enter the High Holy Day season. Preregistration is required. Your \$25 covers pre-meal appetizers and a sit-down dinner.

Register by September 6 at [t-b-s.me/schmooze](https://t-b-s.me/schmooze)

Contact: [Brotherhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:Brotherhood@tbsneedham.org)

## TBS Social Action Fall Kick-Off

### Sunday, September 10, 7:00-8:30 PM TBS

Please join TBS Social Action for an evening of service and collaboration at our September Open Meeting at the Temple! We'll be assembling "Jared Box" gift boxes for children who are patients at Boston Medical Center. Jared Box is a national non-profit organization that connects community volunteers with local hospitals to help put smiles on the faces of children fighting serious illness.

For those new to TBS Social Action or looking to become more involved, we're looking forward to getting to know you and answering your questions about what we do. For those who have been working with TBS Social Action for years, we're looking forward to reconnecting in person! We also will be welcoming everyone's suggestions to help shape future Social Action collections and volunteer opportunities—or what we like to call *mitzvah* projects! All are welcome to join; no RSVP or experience needed. All items needed to create Jared Boxes will be provided.

Contact: [SocialAction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:SocialAction@tbsneedham.org)

**TBS's  
Mitzvah  
PROJECTS**



# September Highlights continued...

## Garden Club September Program

### Monday, September 18, 7:30-9:00 PM Carmen Hall

Winner of Best of Boston 2022, Best Florist, and with an eye for design, Ángel Diaz, a Venezuela native and owner of the Centerpiece Flower Shop, uses seasonal blooms and greenery to create artful arrangements bursting with vibrant colors and texture. This evening, Ángel will create, for us, four of his signature floral designs.

Contact: [GardenClub@tbsneedham.org](mailto:GardenClub@tbsneedham.org) to RSVP or with questions.

## Bag Lunch and Breakfast Food Drive-Through Collection for Homeless Shelters

### Friday, September 22, 9:15-9:45 AM TBS

We are back for our 4th year of this popular TBS Social Action mitzvah project! We look forward to your participation as we donate bag lunches and breakfast foods to homeless shelters in the Father Bill's network of shelters in Brockton. This is a great project to do individually or as a family!

Participate in this monthly mitzvah and help us provide 100 bagged lunches and lots of breakfast foods that help feed guests at these homeless shelters! Donate any of the following: bag lunches, case of waters, package of juice boxes, bottle of condiments, a variety of breakfast items including muffins, individual size cereal boxes, yogurts, fruit cups or ground coffee.

On Friday, September 22, between 9:15 and 9:45 AM, we will be on the Webster side of the TBS front parking lot, ready to unload your donated items from your car as you drive up.

Can't make it to the collection? No problem! Non-perishable donations may be dropped at a Needham address prior to the collection day by emailing us at [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org) and signing up for your donation.

Thank you for helping to feed the stranger.

Register: [t-b-s.me/baglunch](https://t-b-s.me/baglunch)

Contact: Linda Hill at [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org)



## TBS Community Dinner

### Friday, September 29, 7:30-8:30 PM TBS

Join us to celebrate Erev Sukkot and welcome Shabbat with our first of many Community Dinners following services. All are welcome at this joyful evening including a festive meal and opportunity to connect with friends old and new.

Register: [t-b-s.me/communitydinner](https://t-b-s.me/communitydinner)

Contact: Jessica Baim at [communications@tbsneedham.org](mailto:communications@tbsneedham.org)





# Recurring Events

## Pre-Shabbat Yoga

### Fridays, September 8, 15, 22, 29, 9:00-10:00 AM Expansion Area

Step into fall with strength, balance and alignment through the practice of yoga. Join experienced yoga teacher Stephanie Javaheri for a weekly mindful yoga "work in" to cultivate awareness physically and mentally. Feel better in your body and your mind. Slow physical movement, breathwork, and meditation blend together in this 1-hour class.

Drop in at TBS for the in-person class, or join in via Zoom at [t-b-s.me/preshabbatyoga](https://t-b-s.me/preshabbatyoga). No registration is necessary.

Contact: Stephanie Javaheri at [sjavaheri@mac.com](mailto:sjavaheri@mac.com)



## Finding Our Jewish Values in the Torah

### Saturdays, September 9, 23, 30, 9:15-10:15 AM Conference Room (front) & online

Each week we will focus on a single Jewish moral or ethical value found in that week's *parasha* (Torah portion). These will include, but not be 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.

Join us in person at TBS or drop in online at [t-b-s.me/findingvalues](https://t-b-s.me/findingvalues).

Contact: Jessica Baim at [jbaim@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jbaim@tbsneedham.org)



## Israeli Dancing

### Mondays, September 11, 18, 7:00-8:30 PM TBS

Join Emily Perlman for a wonderful Israeli dance experience. Israeli dance is a great way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. 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. The tuition is \$5 per session, which is paid when you attend.

Contact: Emily Perlman at [eperlman@tbsneedham.org](mailto:eperlman@tbsneedham.org)



## Om Shalom Yoga Service

### Friday, September 29, 6:15-7:30 PM TBS

*Om Shalom* Yoga Shabbat creates a spiritual space that centralizes healthy movement and breathwork as part of a Shabbat worship service. The practice includes Shabbat prayers, music, and ceremony woven together into a movement-practice that makes for a unique experience of worship. Ages 12 and above. All physical abilities are welcome.

Om Shalom Yoga will run concurrently with our regular Shabbat services. Both services will conclude at approximately the same time and enjoy oneg together.

Contact: Jessica Baim at [jbaim@tbsneedham.org](mailto:jbaim@tbsneedham.org)



# Save the Date

## “Newish” Member Sukkot Celebration

### Sunday, October 1, 6:30 PM Sukkah

Join us for a festive Sukkot meet and mingle with other adult TBS members, new and old. We will start out in the *sukkah* with appetizers and seasonal beverages provided by Decanted Wine Truck, and then head into the sanctuary for a brief Sukkot service. Following services there will be an oneg in Community Court. Looking forward to seeing you!

Register: [t-b-s.me/newmemberwelcome](https://t-b-s.me/newmemberwelcome)

Contact: Sarah Mesnik and Robyn Glazier - Member Relations Co-Chairs - at [member\\_relations@tbsneedham.org](mailto:member_relations@tbsneedham.org)

## Combating Antisemitism in America: National Strategy to Community Impact

### Sunday, October 1, 9:30-11:30 AM Sanctuary

Please join us for an informative, behind-the-scenes look at the recently released U.S. National Strategy to Combat Antisemitism. Our presenter will be Alex Pascal, who, in addition to being a member of the TBS community, formerly served at the White House in the Biden-Harris Administration as Special Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy. In this role, Alex co-led the development of the Administration’s national antisemitism strategy platform. Previously, throughout the entirety of the Obama Administration, Alex worked on national security policy – serving five years on the National Security Council at the White House and three years at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Our program, sponsored by TBS’s Antisemitism Awareness Initiative, will explore the national strategy and consider how local communities such as ours might aid in its effective implementation. Bagels and coffee will be served.

Register: [t-b-s.me/asaitalk](https://t-b-s.me/asaitalk)

Contact: [ASAI@tbsneedham.org](mailto:ASAI@tbsneedham.org)

## Garden Club October Program

### Tuesday, October 10, 7:30-9:00 PM Simon Hall

This is a fun activity where you can meet members you may not know and make new friends!

Members are invited to sit at a table with those with the same birthday month. Each table will receive an oasis “birthday cake” form. The form will then be decorated with flowers supplied by the Club. Each member at the table participates in decorating the “cake.” Let your creativity flow!!

At the end of the evening, a real birthday cake will be served to celebrate everyone’s birthday!

Contact: [GardenClub@tbsneedham.org](mailto:GardenClub@tbsneedham.org)

## Volunteer at the Cradles to Crayons Giving Factory

### Saturday, October 21, 12:45-3:00 PM Cradles to Crayons, Newton

Grab your kids or a friend and join TBS Social Action for an in-person mitzvah project at the Cradles to Crayons (C2C) Giving Factory in Newton! As part of their mission to ensure all kids have the essentials they need to thrive – at home, at school, and at play – C2C collects and distributes new and used children’s clothing and other essentials. In this fun and rewarding volunteer opportunity, TBS volunteers will assist with tasks like inspecting, sorting, and packaging previously donated clothing for Boston-area kids in need. Children ages 5+ are welcome to come help out!

Register: [t-b-s.me/c2cvolunteer](https://t-b-s.me/c2cvolunteer)

Contact: [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org)



## TBS Welcomes Congressman Jake Auchincloss

### Sunday, October 22, 2:00-3:30 PM Carmen Hall

Join us for a Town Hall event featuring our very own representative from the 4th Congressional District. Representative Jake Auchincloss will speak about international, national, and local issues that matter to all of us. Come to listen, learn, and ask questions about antisemitism, Israel, the state of our democracy, housing or whatever concerns you. Registration is required.

Register: [t-b-s.me/townhall](https://t-b-s.me/townhall)



## From Stockbridge to Needham - a TBS Coffeehouse with Piper-Hopkins Band

### Sunday, November 12, 7:00-10:00 PM Carmen Hall

Join Three Score/More or Less as Carmen Hall is transformed into a coffeehouse: 'From Stockbridge to Needham,' featuring the Piper-Hopkins Band ([piper-hopkins.com](https://piper-hopkins.com)). The band's self-described rhythm & groove style is an eclectic mixture of music from the '60s and beyond, featuring soulful vocals and powerfully melodic guitar. Between two 45-minute sets, intermission will feature delicious desserts and beverages. Cost is \$15 per person. We invite the entire TBS adult community and their guests to come and enjoy an evening of music and friendship!

Register: [t-b-s.me/coffeehouse](https://t-b-s.me/coffeehouse) Payments can be made via credit card or electronic banking or mailing a check, payable to Temple Beth Shalom, to 670 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Please include 'coffeehouse' in the check memo. You may also register and pay cash or check at the door.

Contact: [threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org](mailto:threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org)



## Fighting Antisemitism

The Temple Beth Shalom Antisemitism Awareness Initiative (ASAI) invites members of the community to join The Foundation to Combat Antisemitism's "Stand Up to Jewish Hate" campaign. To learn more, visit [www.standuptojewishhate.org/about-fcas/](https://www.standuptojewishhate.org/about-fcas/).

In the United States, Jews account for 2.4% of the population, yet are victims of 8.7% of all hate crimes as well as 55% of religious hate crimes.

### Get Your Blue Emoji # Pin

To raise awareness, start conversations, and show solidarity, ASAI has received 200 Blue Emoji # Pins to distribute to members. Please pick yours up from the basket located at the TBS Welcome Desk.



In addition, you can join on social media platforms using the blue square emoji # to raise awareness of the issue. Only together can we stand up to hatred in all forms.

For questions or to join ASAI, please contact Gary Goldman at [asai@tbsneedham.org](mailto:asai@tbsneedham.org).



# Let the Rosh Hashanah Celebrations Begin

By Ellen Dietrick

Have you heard the *shofar* sounding in the halls at TBS? The new year is a time to turn inward, to reflect, and to ask ourselves how we will do better in the year ahead. At the Children's Center, our young learners explore the holiday through their senses and through sharing. They hear the blasts of the *shofar*, the ram's horn, which are meant to wake us up to ourselves and the world around us. They see the Torahs beautifully dressed in white, dip apples in honey for a sweet New Year, and bake their own delicious round challah to symbolize the round cycle of the year. Many classes also spend time dictating and writing messages or drawing pictures to wish friends and family a happy or sweet New Year.

Creating a positive memory for your child as they experience their first few Rosh Hashanah holidays need not be elaborate or even require setting a fancy table. There are so many ways to turn a simple weekend activity into a holiday one over the next month. Whether with kids, grandkids, or a young neighbor, you can help them celebrate by focusing on sharing sweetness.



## Honeycomb Cards for a Sweet New Year

### Gather

- Paper
- Small piece of bubble wrap
- Yellow paint
- Paint brush
- Black pen or marker

**Make the cards:** Cut paper into card size.

**Stamp each card:** Paint one side of your bubble wrap. Flip the bubble wrap over and place it onto the center of your card. Press it down gently. Pull it up and set your card aside to dry.

**Add the bees:** After you've made several honeycomb cards, dip your thumb into the paint and stamp a few thumbprints on each card. These thumbprints will be your bees. Allow cards to dry. Use black pen or marker and add black stripes, wings and even a smile to your thumbprints to turn them into little bees flying over to some sweet honeycomb.

**Add a Rosh Hashanah greeting:** Examples: Sending you sweetness for the new year. Happy Rosh Hashanah! You're the bee's knees! *Shanah tovah!* Have a sweet New Year. **שנה טובה!**

**Send and enjoy sharing the sweetness!**



### Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Go apple picking and dip your harvest in honey.
- Make a card (see instructions in box at left) to mail to a family member.
- Trace your child's arms on a large piece of paper, cut out, and send a sweet hug to a friend or relative.
- Buy a few different types of honey for a family tasting.
- Make honey playdough (see recipe in box below). Add some toy bees or a honey dipper for extra fun.

A thought to consider as we approach the start of the New Year: "If you truly wish your children to study Torah, study it yourself in their presence. They will follow your example. Otherwise they will not themselves study Torah, but will simply instruct their children to do so." – *Rabbi Menahem Mendel of Kotsk*

### Honey Playdough (It smells great!)

#### Gather

- 2 tbsp honey
- 2 cups flour
- ½ cup salt
- 2 tbsp cream of tartar
- 1-½ cup of boiling water
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil

Mix the dry ingredients. In a separate bowl mix together the wet ingredients, then slowly add the wet ingredients to the dry while stirring. If the mixture looks too moist, add extra flour as needed. Begin kneading the dough on a cutting board or hard surface that has been dusted with flour. Continue kneading until it is soft and easy to mold. If it seems too dry, add a teaspoon of oil and knead it in to get to the desired consistency. When finished playing with the homemade play dough, store it in an air-tight container so you can use it for a few months!



# Meet Our New Rabbi, Elyse Pincus Abrahams

Please tell us a little about you and your family.

I am originally from Tucson, Arizona, where I grew up and completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Arizona. I moved to the Boston area six years ago to begin my Rabbinical studies at Hebrew College in Newton, and in June I graduated with a Master of Jewish Education and ordination. I live with my husband Harry, our dog Angel, and our new baby Gideon in Natick, MA. In my spare time, I love exploring the backroads and local coffee shops in this area and spending time with my family.

Please tell us what drew you to rabbinical school.

While working at the University of Arizona Hillel, leading students on Birthright trips to Israel, I participated in Brandeis Collegiate Institute (BCI), a professional and personal development summer camp for Jewish young adults. At the camp, I explored my Jewish identity through a mix of arts, culture, and texts. I not only met my husband that summer, but I also discovered a love for Jewish texts, traditions, and rituals. I had the desire to learn more about Judaism: to expand my Jewish education while discovering the beauty our tradition has to offer and how I fit into the long line of our traditions.



What was it about Temple Beth Shalom that most appealed to you in selecting a congregation to serve?

The people! After my initial meeting with Rabbi Jay during the search process, I knew that TBS is a special community filled with caring, thoughtful, and loving staff and congregants. I was struck by the intentionality of everything from the Welcome Desk to Mayim *T'filah* (prayer), and I knew that this value closely aligned with my own. I believe meaningful, intentional relationships are the foundation of a thriving community, and it is clear that this is a deep value that thrives at TBS.

What are you most looking forward to as a clergy member, and particularly at TBS?

Not surprisingly, I am most looking forward to getting to know the community and building relationships. Specifically, I am looking forward to having the honor of ritualizing Jewish life moments throughout congregants' lives.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday, and why?

My favorite Jewish holiday is Purim because I love any chance to act silly and bring more joy into the world. Purim does have a serious side too, and I think wisdom can be found in this balance.

Do you have a favorite inspirational quote? What about it speaks to you?

*"Instructions for living a life: Pay attention.  
Be astonished.  
Tell about it."*

This quote from poet Mary Oliver is one of my favorites. I strive to always pay attention. Paying attention to our natural world, to people's words, and to small life moments. For me, these are the moments where God is found and there is nothing sweeter than sharing those moments with others.



Anything else you'd like to share?

I have already felt such a warm welcome and embrace, and I am looking forward to continuing to get to know this community!



## Catching Up with the Clergy

Our long-time clergy also took the time to answer some questions. Maybe you'll learn something new about Rabbi Jay, Rabbi Todd, and Cantor DJ. Read on!

You're hungry and come upon a vending machine. What do you choose — salty or sweet? What do you hope the machine has in stock?

**Rabbi Jay:** Sweet; Peanut M&Ms.

**Rabbi Todd:** Both! Chocolate-covered pretzels meet all the snacking needs.

**DJ:** I lean salty, but my ultimate guilty pleasure is a combination of the two—a bag of “spicy sweet chili” flavored Doritos (purple bag). After many heated debates as to whether “nacho cheese” or “cool ranch” Doritos are the superior Dorito, I contend that both pale in comparison to the “spicy sweet chili” flavor.

When picking a vacation destination, do you prefer the beach or the mountains? Or a city?

**Rabbi Jay:** Mountains

**Rabbi Todd:** I'm a mountain guy.

You're at an amusement park. Do you go for roller coasters or spinny rides?

**Rabbi Jay:** Neither. Used to be roller coasters, but I'm not as young as I used to be. 😊

Do you have a favorite amusement park, or amusement park memory?

**Rabbi Jay:** Walking with my family at Canobie Lake Park in the summer eating cotton candy and figuring out how I can win the most tickets at skee ball.

**Rabbi Todd:** This past May, our son, Adam, had a day off from school with his friends, and I took them out to the opening day of Six Flags New England. It was the amusement park I went to as a kid, and it was so much fun to share my first childhood roller coasters with them... and to experience all they've added to the park since my childhood!



# Catching Up with the Clergy continued...

How do you (really) feel about winter and snow? Do you like to pull out the shovel and get to work, or is it a snow blower for the win?

**Rabbi Jay:** Love winter and snow in November/December. Not so much in January/February or (Ugh!) March. Never made the move to a snow blower, but think about it every (every!) time there is more than 4 inches of snow on the driveway.

**Rabbi Todd:** Love watching the snow fall... love playing or skiing in the snow... could do without the shoveling, but happy to do it through February... in March, I'm done shoveling.

What's your favorite Needham hidden gem (restaurant, park, etc)?

**Rabbi Jay:** The deck in our backyard. 😊

**DJ:** I'm not sure it can be called a "hidden gem," but my dog Udi and I have trotted many a loop around the trails at Cutler Park by the Charles River, and we really enjoy it!

Is there anything new in your life that you'd like to share with the congregation?

**Rabbi Jay:** Em and I are excited about the new beginnings for Liana and Jonah following their graduations!

What is your favorite inspirational quote and why does it speak to you?

**Rabbi Jay:** Not the favorite, but certainly a favorite: "*Love is the greatest word in our language.*"  
– John Wooden (1910 – 2010) – legendary basketball coach and player

**Rabbi Todd:** "*This is what the Holy One said to Israel: My children, what do I seek from you? I only ask that you have love for one another, and respect for one another; and that you have reverence for one another.*" Or, in the words of Rabbi Paul McCartney, "*In the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make.*"

## Sisterhood of TBS – We Are All Members!

We are excited to share that as of September 2023, all female-identifying adult members of TBS are automatically part of Sisterhood. There will be no membership dues!

We can't wait to welcome you to Sisterhood at any one of our terrific events. Many events will remain free while others will ask for a small donation. Non-TBS members are welcome to join the Sisterhood community for a small fee.

Sisterhood spans and celebrates all ages and stages throughout the community. There is something for everyone – social, spiritual, learning, creating, and playing. In addition to our monthly mahjong and canasta games, we have added a monthly drop-in support group for moms dealing with children's mental health issues.

Please check out our jam-packed calendar for the fall and join us at our kick-off event on October 4th! Reach out with any questions or if you'd like to get involved. Look for our monthly email newsletters with information on upcoming events. Also be sure to check our Facebook page - Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom Needham.

**September events:** Thursday, 7 - Mahjong  
Thursday, 14 - Moms Supporting Moms  
Thursday, 21 - Canasta

Your co-presidents, Linda Mesnik, Sarah Fleckner, Sari Musmon, and Susan Patkin

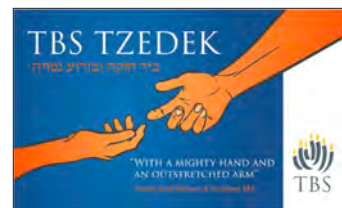
Contact [sisterhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:sisterhood@tbsneedham.org) for any questions.





# Housing Justice

By Deena Mesnick Siegel



Temple Beth Shalom, in collaboration with both the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) and the Religious Action Center of Massachusetts (RAC-MA), is committed to addressing the Commonwealth's severe housing crisis as its social justice theme for the coming year.

GBIO has launched an ambitious, multi-pronged Housing Justice campaign calling for:

1. Safe and Dignified State Public Housing
2. Access to Quality Housing for Returning Citizens
3. More Funding for Affordable Housing and Homeownership
4. Increasing Housing Supply



## About GBIO

TBS is a proud member of GBIO, a broad-based non-partisan, interfaith, multiracial justice organization rooted in Greater Boston's neighborhoods and congregations. GBIO comprises sixty member institutions representing over 107,000 individuals. It is dedicated to making Greater Boston a better place for all to live and thrive. For more than 20 years, GBIO has - among other issues - worked to improve housing and healthcare, address deficiencies in our criminal justice system, and respond to racial disparities and other problems in public schools and neighborhoods.

## About RAC-MA and TBS

RAC-MA's very first campaign - Housing Justice - was launched here at Temple Beth Shalom this past June. The RAC is the social justice arm of our Reform movement. Along with its national level work, the RAC now also coordinates state-organizing projects in nine states which are home to 40% of all the Jews in the United States. Massachusetts is the newest state chapter. RAC-MA represents 40 congregations or around 14,000 households across Massachusetts. The Religious Action Center is a grassroots, organized social justice effort. It is unique in that it is a congregationally organized, specifically Reform Jewish effort impacting a wide variety of Massachusetts communities and legislative districts. RAC-MA's work is guided by Jewish values, which motivate us to work for a world where all people experience peace, wholeness, justice, equity, belonging, and joy. They are especially motivated to pursue racial justice on both the national and the state levels. The power of RAC-MA is in our effort to leverage community-wide collective action.



## Our Mission

Public housing is in decay, home ownership is harder than ever, and not enough money has been invested to tackle this problem. This is not just a housing crisis - it's a human crisis.

In our own communities, residents struggle with lack of, inadequate, or unaffordable housing. The Jewish response to the brokenness of our world is to bring deep Jewish wisdom to that work of social justice. For our Jewish community to fully live our justice values, we cannot hold ourselves at arm's length from those who are in need now. Our work for justice must flow from being in relationship with people who are vulnerable, from listening to the stories that they share, and from standing up for their needs.

## Join Us

TBS will be lifting up our commitment to Housing Justice throughout the coming year - including, of course, during Sukkot, the Jewish holiday that focuses on shelter and hospitality.

If you are interested in getting involved in our TBS Housing Justice Effort, please send an email to [tzedek@tbsneedham.org](mailto:tzedek@tbsneedham.org).



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 Rabbi Jay's kindness & help with the preparation of the B'nei Mitzvah service of our grandsons, Ethan & Harrison Fox

Rabbi Jay from the family of Alan Glou for the beautiful words at Alan's funeral

Emily Perlman  
 Rabbi Perlman

Rabbi Jay's guidance & support in preparing Nick for his Bar Mitzvah  
 Rabbi Jay & Emily's beautiful, moving, & inspirational service celebrating Harry Cohen's 80th Bar Mitzvah Anniversary

The beautiful monument dedication for Don Lasden

Rabbi Jay for leading a beautiful Bat Mitzvah service

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 Rabbi Todd following the passing of Samuel Stern

Rabbi Todd's support as Zach became a Bar Mitzvah

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Roz & Neil Kushner	Benjamin "Buddy" Cohen	Elaine Timmons	Jay Timmons
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Ethan & Harrison Fox becoming B'nei Mitzvah  
 Ashley Brookman becoming Bat Mitzvah & Ethan & Harrison Fox becoming B'nei Mitzvah  
 The birth of Tiziana & Michael Getz's grandson, Luca  
 Travis Rosin becoming a Bar Mitzvah

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Ellie Bookston becoming a bat  
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& Scott Bookman

**IN APPRECIATION OF**  
Emily Perlman's support in preparing  
Nick for his Bar Mitzvah  
  
Emily Perlman for her support in  
preparing Lindsey for her Bat  
Mitzvah

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The 2023 Perlman Family graduates  
Toby and Ed Fox's grandsons  
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80th anniversary of Bar Mitzvah of  
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Judy & Fred Shapiro  
Judy & Fred Shapiro

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Lillian Shapiro  
Morris Shapiro  
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# Yahrzeits

## SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

Edith Abrams  
S. Shimer Aronson  
Arnie Becker  
Samuel Bello  
Susan Blumstein  
Burton Boyer  
Irwin Brooks  
Edward Davidson  
Edward D. Farber  
Gerald Feldman  
David Frieze  
Bernard Goldberg  
Jeffrey Grayson  
Edna Abrams Greenberg  
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Judith Shapsay Marmor  
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Rose Mittelman  
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Joyce Field Pastor  
Bertha Minsky Reiss  
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Bernard Romer  
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Charlotte Sagansky  
Arthur Sandler  
Jacqueline C. Slavkin  
Sarah "Syd" Snyder  
Lily Steinberg  
Bertha Stone  
Elaine Thurman  
Sadie Waxman  
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Benjamin Zaff  
David Zaff

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Laura Brenner  
Richard A. Coffman  
Jennie Cohen  
Sylvia Cohen  
Henry Corkin  
Freda Driks  
Laurence A. Fink  
Herta Flatter  
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Ida Lampert  
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Goldie Lourie  
Alice Lustig  
Florence Mann  
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Laura Osrow  
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Wendy Seadia  
Joseph Shore  
Harry Silver  
Susan Sock  
William Julian Spring  
Barbara Sprinsky  
Francis Tolman  
Harry A. Weiner  
Violet Wheeler  
Mark Zaplin

## SEPTEMBER 15

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Joan Adams  
Roger Adlersberg  
Vivian Adlersberg  
Albert Berman  
K. Harold Bolton  
Betty Budilov  
Max Bulian  
Neal Bund  
Zachary T. Cohn  
Arlene Coleman  
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George Greenberg  
Lewis Herman  
Doran Jacobs  
Leo Kerner  
Frank Keselman  
Eliot Levine  
Mamie Levitan  
Julius Selig Levy  
Marie Levy  
Kathy Litvak  
Denise Lotwin  
Zelda M. Lowe  
Doris Mendelson  
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Rose Rosenfield  
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Henry Samuels  
Betty Schiff  
Herb Segal  
Rose Shenkel  
Bernard Simon  
Rose Simon  
Harold Skolnick  
Jocelyn Weimer Spiegel  
Frances Tanner  
Phillip Wax  
Robert Weiner  
Benjamin White  
Rose White  
Barbara Whitestone  
Joyce Wilson

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Erna Adler  
Janet Anderson  
Neal Apodaca-Joffe  
Mimi Aronson  
Frances Goldberg Bame  
Philip W. Brisk

Benjamin Cohen  
Jerry Crock  
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Beatrice Mazer  
Bella Noller  
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Jennie Reiser  
Irene Riskin  
Adele Salinger

David Sher  
Murray P. Silverman  
Karen Simm  
Avis Simon  
Mildred Stark  
Jordan Tanenbaum  
Peter Taub  
Barbara Thomas  
Harry Waldman  
Steven C. Wernick  
Toni Wessel

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Nita Boyer  
Mildred Kasindorf Brisk  
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Ed Cohen  
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Eunice Duchin  
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Susan Sandberg  
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Henrietta Serwer  
Leah Shapiro  
David Shenkman  
Michael Shulman  
Alan Silverman  
Ina Sirk  
Diane Stocklan  
Jennie Stocklan  
Sarah "Sally" Sutherland  
Jacob Zalman Ullian  
Jean Wolk

## יִזְכוֹר אֱלֹהִים — YIZKOR ELOHIM

May God Remember Our Loved Ones and Bring Comfort to...

Becky & George Gannon, Charlie  
on the passing of their father and grandfather, Michael Tannenbaum

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on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Barbara Wolfsdorf

The Family of Carol Comras

Margie Glou & family  
on the passing of their husband, father, and grandfather, Alan Glou

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on the passing of their grandmother and great grandmother, Elaine Kreiger

Alan Stern & Lori Tenser, Reuben, Jeremy, and Celia  
on the passing of their father and grandfather, Samuel Stern

Ramon & Joanna Herrera, Josh, Lucas, and Nick  
on the passing of their father and grandfather, Pedro C. Herrera

Ed & Bree Shems, Leo and Cora  
on the passing of their father and grandfather, Moise Shems

Marcia & Ken Brier  
Michael & Andrea Brier and Jen & Alex Chassin  
Jacob, Max, Ezra, and Naomi  
on the passing of their father, grandfather and great grandfather,  
Benjamin "Buddy" Cohen

Suzanne & Larry Stein, Socks and Mia  
on the passing of their father and grandfather, Al Silverstein

Alison & Mike Leschinski, Olivia and Charlie  
on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Ann Fedor

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