



# the Omer

TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

**Who is wise,  
the one who learns  
from all people.**

– Pirke Avot 4:1



Volume 35, Number 3 • November 2015 • Heshvan/Kislev 5776

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# DIRECTORY

## SERVICES SCHEDULE

### Services, Location, Time

Monday & Thursday

Morning Minyan, Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

On Holidays, start time is 9:00 a.m.

Friday Evening

(Kabbalat Shabbat), Chapel, 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Morning, Sanctuary, 9:30 a.m.

### Candle Lighting (Friday)

November 6, 5:04 p.m.

November 13, 4:58 p.m.

November 20, 4:54 p.m.

November 27, 4:51 p.m.

### Torah Portions (Saturday)

November 7, *Chayei Sarah*

November 14, *Toldot*

November 21, *Vayetzei*

November 28, *Vayishlach*



## TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

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## GENERAL INFORMATION:

All phone numbers use (510) prefix unless otherwise noted.

Mailing Address	336 Euclid Ave. Oakland, CA 94610
Hours	M-Th: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Fr: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Office Phone	832-0936
Office Fax	832-4930
E-Mail	admin@tbaoakland.org
Gan Avraham	763-7528
Bet Sefer	663-1683

## STAFF

Rabbi (x 213)	Mark Bloom
Cantor	Richard Kaplan, kaplanmusic@hotmail.com
Gabbaï	Marshall Langfeld
Executive Director (x 214)	Rayna Arnold
Office Manager (x 210)	Virginia Tiger
Bet Sefer Director	Susan Simon 663-1683
Gan Avraham Director	Jill Rosenthal & Marta Molina
Bookkeeper (x 215)	Kevin Blattel
Facilities Manager (x 211)	Joe Lewis
Kindergym/ Toddler Program	Dawn Margolin 547-7726
Volunteers (x 229)	Herman & Agnes Pencovic

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Youth	Jaclyn McCabe

**KINDERGYM TODDLER CLASS****– NOTE Temporary Location –**

Wed and Thurs 10 am &amp; 11:15 am

Fri 9:30 am &amp; 10:45 am

Where: Resurrection Lutheran, 397 Euclid Ave,  
Oakland, Enter Euclid Ave for the Social Hall

If you have a young crawling baby or a toddler who is jumping off everything, the Kindergym and Toddler classes with Dawn Margolin are for you. Come join us on tons of wonderful play equipment, in a large, well-lit room with other families ready to play together and make new friends. THE KINDERGYM and TODDLER classes at Temple Beth Abraham are celebrating Dawn's 32nd year of teaching and are open to ALL families!

Please call Dawn at 510-547-7726 with any questions.  
<http://tbaoakland.org/education/kindergym/>

Do you have a simcha to celebrate or a person to remember?

Share this occasion with your Temple Beth Abraham family.

Call or send an email and Rayna, who can help arrange this for you.

Rayna Arnold, Executive Director  
[rayna@tbaoakland.org](mailto:rayna@tbaoakland.org)  
(510) 832-0936



See PAGE 6 for  
Adult Education Events

See PAGES 8 & 9 for  
Events for Women of TBA



Dear Fellow Congregants,

You are cordially invited to participate in the Shabbat Dinners Programs. The project was originally designed to enable adult members to get better acquainted in informal settings while celebrating home-made Shabbat meals together. This year, I propose that we maintain the primary objectives –welcome new families; get to know congregants you may not know or know very well; break bread together – and that we expand to a second, intergenerational option that includes families with children.

The process is simple. Dinners are held at members' homes. The host family sets the date and provides the space and basic table preparations. Everyone contributes to the potluck dinner, and provides transportation to others, if needed. Ideally, each host family will hold his/her dinner before the end of 2015.

I hope many of you will elect to participate in these fun, hamish, community building events!

PLEASE fill out the form if you wish to participate. For a link to the sign up sheet please send an email to [ettaheber@gmail.com](mailto:ettaheber@gmail.com).

If you have any questions, I can be reached at [ettaheber@gmail.com](mailto:ettaheber@gmail.com) or 510-530-8320.

Warm regards,  
Etta



*This month the Omer is featuring excerpts from the Rabbi's High Holiday Sermons which inspired our theme: Learning From Others.*

## **ROSH HASHANAH 5776 DAY 1**

Lessons from our custodians

Today I will be focusing on my work colleagues. Of course I have learned much from working with our Cantor, Richard Kaplan, our Executive Director, Rayna Arnold, and our Educator, Susan Simon, and I am deeply grateful to each of them, but today I want to focus instead on the lessons I have learned from the “regular Joes,” specifically the things I have learned by working with our custodians, especially Gilbert Berry, Dennis Moore of blessed memory, and our own “regular” Joe, Joe Lewis, who is, for anyone who knows him, not regular at all but extraordinary in so many ways.

I recalled a conversation I had with our custodian Gilbert Berry a few months ago. One day he said to me:

“Rabbi, why is it that when I go to my church, I’m always hearing ‘God loves you.’ Everyone is always saying ‘God loves you.’ Why does nobody ever say that around here?” It was a very good question, one that has been haunting me ever since.

As we explored the question more, there were two aspects to it. First was the idea that God loves us even during adversity, that God is there for us when we need God the most. But the other aspect has to do with gratitude. Look at yourselves and look around this community. We have so much to be thankful for – most of us have food on our table, nice homes, beautiful children, good jobs, freedom from want, a community that is there for them when they are in need, yet, despite all this, we seem, well, a little ungrateful.

We should be expressing thanksgiving for all we have in our lives and to the One who makes this all possible on some level, Baruch Hashem, and not just by singing Psalms in the prayerbook, but spontaneously as well.

Lesson number two comes from the late Dennis Moore, who worked here as a custodian from approximately 2004-2010. Dennis may have been the friendliest person I have ever met. He made friends with everyone – preschool children, senior citizens, members of the Board of Directors, you name it. Dennis had great charisma – and a perpetual smile.

This was all done in spite of all he had to overcome in life. He had dropped out of school, suffered with multiple addictions, child support, poverty, and ultimately, cancer, but he never complained. He was always looking for ways to better himself. He volunteered to counsel addicts who were just beginning their recoveries, and he went back to school at night to earn his degree. I remember him working on a math book down in the kitchen during breaks between setup. But mostly I remember the way he was always there with a friendly greeting.



Joe Lewis, Rabbi Mark Bloom and Gilbert Berry

Finally, we turn to the man that I imagine most of you know the best of our custodial staff, the head custodian and facilities manager, the longest tenured employee at our congregation, Joe Lewis. When you work with someone for 14 years you get to know them fairly well. Joe and I are also less than a year apart in age, and both of us grew up in the Bay Area. So our commonalities have led to a close personal friendship.

But what I think of most when I think of Joe is the word *mensch*, because that’s what Joe truly is. There is a Chasidic story about Rabbi Leib, the son of Sarah, who goes to

learn from the Maggid of Mezritch. His colleagues ask him what great teachings he expects to learn there, and his reply surprises them. He says: “I am not going to the Maggid to learn Talmud. I am going to watch him tie and untie his shoelaces.” Watch Joe go about his everyday business. There is no harder worker, no more attentive individual, no more ethical human being.

Anyone who has ever had the privilege of working with him for a Bat Mitzvah or any other kind of program has learned the valuable lesson of Joe—how to go about your everyday business with integrity and how to live a life of *menschlikeit*.

So these are ... the lessons of Gilbert, Dennis, and Joe. God loves us, greet everyone with a cheerful face even in adversity, and conduct your everyday life like a mensch. All of these are great lessons to apply to our own lives in the coming year, 5776. Are these unlikely places to learn these lessons? Not if you know how to look and not if you know these three men.

## EREV YOM KIPPUR 5776

South Carolina, same sex marriage, and providence

Continuing with the theme of learning from all people, and even all things, based on the Pirke Avot quotation, “who is wise, the one who learns from all people,” today we will look back into the past to learn from the Temple Beth Abraham clergy in the sixties – Rabbi Harold Shulweis and Cantor Simon Cohen.



Cantor Simon Cohen, left, and Rabbi Harold Schulweis on right.

I often find myself daydreaming about getting into a time machine and going back to a certain time and place to tell the people what’s going to happen in the future to see how they react. In this case, we are going to wind up right back here, on this bima at Temple Beth Abraham, but the year is 1967, nearly 50 years ago.

In American history, 1967 was the year of the “long hot summer,” a series of over 150 race riots that swept across the nation. The tension was palpable all over the country, and certainly right here in Oakland. Rabbi Schulweis was inspired to redouble his outreach efforts to the African American community.

So he would be both deeply saddened and shocked to learn that nearly 50 years later, a group of people at their predominantly Black Church in Charleston, South Carolina would be shot to death by a man who considers himself a religious Christian, while studying the Bible.

I have to tell you that, amidst all this mess this year, we experienced a great moment of hope, and I am so proud of this congregation for the small part we played in it. Not really being able to imagine what this is like for the African American community, after the South Carolina shootings, I asked us to express our sympathy to the local AME Church here in Oakland. Over 75 of you wrote letters of sympathy to Pastor Harold Mayberry of First AME Church on Telegraph Avenue in Oakland. I was so proud and sad when my son Jonah and I walked into the Church and gave them to the staff there. Reverend Mayberry was moved enough to share the letters with his congregation, and partly as a result of that gesture, we are hoping to set up a pulpit exchange later in the year, much like we did with the Catholic Diocese last year. He is also convening an interfaith clergy discussion on racism, which I will be participating in, and through the remains of the Davis Hunger Fund, we will be sponsoring several of the church’s communal Wednesday night meals that their church serves to the homeless in their neighborhood. Out of hatred can come love.

The second thing I want to tell Rabbi Schulweis and Cantor Cohen is that in 2015, the Supreme Court will rule that all same sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. And Rabbi Schulweis, even as progressive as he always was, will not even be able to conceive of this as a possibility. After all, it’s Yom Kippur, and in the afternoon of Yom Kippur, we read Leviticus 18, where it lists homosexual acts between men to be a *toevah*, an abomination on par with incest and bestiality. The tolerance was there for Schulweis, but it was all theoretical.

To tell the 1960’s Schulweis that not only would LGBTQ folks be entitled to marriage under the law, but that Conservative rabbis would be doing same sex ceremonies for many years preceding the U.S. Supreme Court decision would be so “out of sight,” to use the slang of the time, that he couldn’t even see it with binoculars. It was simply inconceivable, even to one of the most progressive rabbis in the country. Yet here we are, proudly.

*continued on page 4*

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## YOM KIPPUR 5776

Learning from our students

It is only fitting that the last sermon of the High Holidays looks not back to the past, but forward to the future. Today we will have the opportunity to learn from some of our students ... In tractate Taanit 7a, Rabbi Chanina says: “I have learned much wisdom from my teachers and even more from my colleagues. However, from my students I have learned most of all.” So today we will focus on some teaching by our own Temple Beth Abraham students, specifically our Confirmation students from last year.

During the late Spring every year on a Friday night near the holiday of Shavuot we hold our Confirmation services. Every year I am moved by these *drashot* or “speeches,” but this year I was especially moved, because the five students who volunteered to speak, all of them female, interestingly enough (that’s a subject for another time, perhaps) really captured the essence of what it is we are trying to teach them about Judaism—the struggle, the theology, the action, it was all in there. What is Confirmation? You may have seen the photos on the walls. Essentially, it’s a class for 10th graders that meets on Wednesday evenings from January through May, and even students we haven’t seen since Bar/Bat Mitzvah days usually come back for the class. The class itself is called the “Bible Meets Modernity,” and each week we take a different book of the Bible as well as a contemporary issue which is addressed or hinted at in that book.

The assignment in the *drash* was to give a two-four minute speech about what in Judaism is meaningful or significant to them, utilizing something they learned in the class. I want to share excerpts from the five incredible students who chose to speak.

Sonia Aronson talked openly about her struggles of what it means to be Jewish.

Being Jewish has always been very confusing for me because I felt I never knew what being Jewish truly meant. There were, and are, so many aspects that contradict each other. When I started elementary and later middle school, where I was one of the only Jewish kids. I looked up to my school friends and wanted to be like them, and resented being Jewish because it made me different. However, as I got older I began to appreciate my Judaism more because it set me apart from my friends, and, in general, allowed me to do different things and meet more people.

In Confirmation, we discussed similarities that as Jewish teens we all share. But most of us all differed in some way – whether it was how we connect with God, how our families view interfaith marriage, or even which Jewish activities we participate in – which led me to realize that everyone has a different relationship to Judaism and that our connections to the religion will constantly change and develop.

Despite the fact that Judaism can be a struggle and can contradict itself, Sophie Govert reminded us that Judaism is not a “whatever you want it to be” religion either. Here are her words:

One of the most important things I learned in confirmation wasn’t exactly in a lesson plan. It was said in passing, by Rabbi Bloom. It was something like, “Judaism isn’t whatever you want it to be.” And then something else about “but hey, don’t worry, because there is a lot up for interpretation.”

But we did ask tough questions over the course of the class. How strongly do we believe in God, if we even believe in God at all? How important do we feel it is for each of us to raise Jewish children? How do we reconcile who Leviticus says we can’t be with who we are? So even if Judaism is not exactly what I want it to be,

at least I’ll always be allowed – and encouraged – to ask why that is.

Two of our students, Ruby Klein and Aviva Davis, grappled with one of the most difficult questions of all – God. But they addressed it head on, and they didn’t fall back upon a generic, God as some sort of higher power but I can’t say what.

Ruby went straight for one of the greatest Jewish theologians



The confirmation class of 2015

*continued on page 5*

*From the Rabbi, continued from page 4*

of all time, Maimonides. Here is what she said:

Maimonides' idea posited God as a unity that sent power through angels of pure intellect, which makes our role to strive to achieve intellectual perfection and share that knowledge with each other. We become God's angels, which makes Judaism a vehicle to understand, to ask questions, and learn as much as we can through each other.

In other words, by striving for knowledge and sharing that knowledge with one another, God's holiness is present in our world.

Aviva also dealt with one of the challenges many of us face regarding God. Referencing the Akeidah, the binding of Isaac which we read last week on the second day of Rosh Hashana and presents a very troubling view of God, to say the least, she asked:

What do we do with God in the Torah who has the power to instill fear, anxiety and panic among us?

She interviewed a number of her peers, and three out of four did not believe that God was present in their lives. She then added, perhaps a little tongue in cheek:

Why would they need to when they have parents

to provide healthy, organic food, homes in the hills, and higher education? A decrease in blind faith might be a good thing, but for those of us whose needs are met, are there other ways to honor the mystery in our lives? I choose to honor God through observing Shabbat and communicating with other Jews.

Finally, Sarah Weintraub moved us from philosophy to action.

“It is not what one says but rather what one does, that makes all the difference in the world.”

She then went on to talk about Tikkun Olam, not in the generic sense that it is often used today, but explaining the actual Kabbalistic, Jewish mystical view which presents an alternative view of the creation story. When God created the world on the first day of creation, there were these vessels of light that became so intense, they shattered into billions of pieces. It was a cosmic catastrophe. Our task, in partnership with God, is to pick up the sacred fragments by doing mitzvot, whether we are talking about feeding the hungry or lighting Shabbat candles.

<http://tbaoakland.org/about/rabbi/sermon-archive/>



## YITZHAK RABIN: LIFE, DEATH, AND LEGACY

A SYMPOSIUM MARKING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF HIS ASSASSINATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

THE MAGNES, 2121 ALLSTON WAY, BERKELEY

Yitzhak Rabin (March 1, 1922 - November 4, 1995) was the fifth Prime Minister of Israel. A year after winning the Nobel Peace Prize along with Shimon Peres and Yasir Arafat, he was assassinated by Yigal Amir following a peace rally attended by more than 100,000 in Tel Aviv.

Admission is free. Due to space limitations, registration is strongly recommended:  
[www.lehrhaus.org](http://www.lehrhaus.org). For more info: 510-809-4901 or [judith@jfed.org](mailto:judith@jfed.org).

This program is presented by the Jewish Federation of the East Bay and Lehrhaus Judaica.  
Co-sponsors include:

A Wider Bridge  
American Jewish Committee  
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Congregation B'nai Tikvah  
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Tehiyah Day School  
Temple Beth Abraham  
Temple Beth Shalom  
Temple Beth Torah  
Temple Isaiah  
Temple Israel  
Temple Sinai

**ADULT ED**

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:**

Ken Cohen is teaching a mini-series started on October 11 on the **ACCIDENTAL INVENTION OF JUDAISM**. This class will meet in the Chapel starting at 10:00 a.m. each week. Cost: \$15 per session. If you'd like to make a reservation now we can put the charges on your TBA account.

Contact Susan Simon at [susan@tbaoakland.org](mailto:susan@tbaoakland.org).

**BASIC PRAYER CLASS.**

Taught by Susan Simon.

Learn to chant a number of home ritual prayers as well as some prayers that you commonly hear during synagogue services. Learning to chant these prayers well will increase your sense of belonging.

For those of you wanting to learn to chant from the Torah, I will be teaching a trope (cantillation) class. After taking this class you will have learned the skills necessary to prepare a Torah portion and chant it in the synagogue. Those who complete the class will be asked to chant Torah at least three times in the coming year (although I guess we can't really force you!). This class would also be good for adults who have learned in the past and just want to brush up their skills.

An ability to decode Hebrew is required for either of these classes. You don't have to be a speed reader and really fluent, but you need to be able to sound out words. Completion of either of these classes will greatly increase your Hebrew decoding skills.

**Dates:** Sundays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22 Dec. 13, 20.

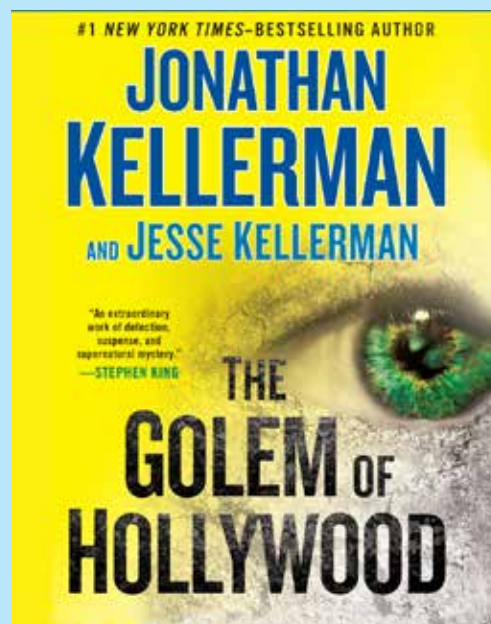
**Home ritual prayers:** 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Chant from the Torah:** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Cost:** We are asking for a **\$50 donation** to the synagogue for this class.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

Sunday, December 6. Jesse Kellerman, an author of *The Golem of Hollywood*, will be talking about his book. 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Free of charge. Reserve a space with Susan at [susan@tbaoakland.org](mailto:susan@tbaoakland.org).



**THE OMER**

We cheerfully accept member submissions. Deadline for articles and letters is the seventh of the month preceding publication.

Editor in Chief	Rachel Dornhelm	Copy Editors	Jessica Dell'Era, Nadine Joseph, Richard Kauffman, Lori Rosenthal, Jan Silverman, Debbie Spangler
Managing Editor	Lisa Fernandez	Proofreaders	June Brott, Jessica Dell'Era, Charles Feltman, Elizabeth James, Jeanne Korn, Anne Levine, Susan Simon, Debbie Spangler
Layout & Design	Jessica Sterling	Distribution	Hennie Hecht
Calendars	Jon Golding	Mailing Address	336 Euclid Ave. Oakland, CA 94610
B'nai Mitzvah Editor	Susan Simon	E-Mail	omer@tbaoakland.org
Help From	People like you!		



## 6 Word Memoirs: Learning from others

compiled by Jessica Teisch

Oftentimes the egg teaches the chicken.

-Rebecca Sparks, 47

Two ears better than one mouth.

-Charles Feltman, 73

Listen, think, respond, participate, learn, remember.

-Elinor DeKoven, 80

Yeshiva rabbis taught talmud and respect.

-Steve Jacobs, 61

Working as teacher, always a student.

Being open to learning from all.

Wise person learns from all people.

Real learning, productive failure, growth mindset.

Learn how to fish, create independence.

-Karen Bloom, 45

Hey, what page are we on?

Your drash helped me understand. Todah!

B'nai mitzvah wisdom still surprises me.

-Eric Friedman

My parents' loving devotion to Judaism.

Bubbie leaving Ukraine for USA freedom.

Children and grandchildren making us proud!

-Vicki Weller, golden years

Raising children is like living Torah.

I believe Yoda is Jewish prophet.

-Shira Levine, 45

Enjoy today. Life runs one way.

Hurry, do something novel this second.

It's a mistake not to fail.

Men fight and die for money.

No one will remember in time.

Israel is hated. Clueless idiots gloat.

Children deserve to be of expectations.

The simplest things are missed most.

-Jonathan Carey, age 51

Mother said "work on your personality."

-Kate Flick Garcia, age 66

Moors lived peacefully with Jews, Spain.

Study quietly. Listen openly. Advocate passionately.

-Ann Rapson, 60

And the seven-word memoir:

Kids help you not swear (as much.)

-Lisa Fernandez

In coming issues please send us your six word memoirs to Jessica Teisch at [j.teisch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j.teisch@sbcglobal.net) with the word "six word memoir" in the subject line. Please include your name and your age, because part of the beauty is seeing how we feel about Judaism at different ages.

*The Six-Word Memoirs on Jewish Life is a partnership between Reboot ([www.rebooters.net](http://www.rebooters.net)) and Larry Smith. In November 2006, writer and editor Larry Smith issued a challenge to fans of his online publication, SMITH Magazine. Inspired by Ernest Hemingway's legendary shortest of short stories ("For sale: Baby shoes, never worn"), Smith asked readers to describe their lives in six words. Since then, the Six-Word Memoir<sup>®</sup> made its debut in 2006, nearly one million short life stories have been shared on the storytelling community SMITH Magazine website.*

## Volunteer Opportunities

**FEED THE HUNGRY:** TBA volunteers at CityTeam to feed the hungry on the fourth Sunday of each month from 5-7 p.m. If you wish to volunteer contact Caren Shapiro to sign up at [cjshapiro@hotmail.com](mailto:cjshapiro@hotmail.com)

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

There is always an opportunity to volunteer at Temple Beth Abraham. Please consider helping a cause or event you feel a connection to.

## Learning from Other Women of Temple Beth Abraham in the Sukkah

by Debbie Weinstein, WTBA Board Member

The WTBA Sukkah event a few weeks ago was a wonderful opportunity to learn with and from other women of TBA. Judy Massarano led our learning, and the topic was Ecclesiastes, or Kohelet, a book that is traditionally read during Sukkot. We began and ended by singing the Byrds song, "Turn, Turn, Turn," which includes some of the most well known verses of the book. We broke into small groups to discuss articles about the meaning of Ecclesiastes, written by Jewish scholars from different denominations and eras. Then, we came back together to share what we had discussed, and have a broader group conversation about the meaning of the text, and why we read it during Sukkot. At the end we were given the opportunity to think about, write and discuss our own "Five Books" which included our personal history, goals, etc.

In the larger group discussion, Jeanne Korn gave a really informative and succinct summary of Kohelet, which she had studied previously in her chavurah. This was really helpful since we didn't have time to read the entire text during the learning session.

In my small group, I had the opportunity to learn with two senior women, Hennie Hecht and Bella Barani, a former TBA member. It was wonderful to hear their perspectives, get to know them better, and have the opportunity to hear them speak some Dutch together!

In the relatively short time that we had to delve into a deep and controversial text, twenty women from TBA succeeded in learning from our teacher, the text, the commentaries, but mostly from each other. It inspired me to study the text further, as well as to continue learning with new teachers and study groups, of all generations!



*If you've ever or never participated in improv,  
this is your opportunity.\**

## WTBA Annual Membership Event

Join us on Sunday, November 22, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Bagel Brunch & Impromptu Improv

Temple Beth Abraham Social Hall

Watch for updates in email and on Facebook.

Members: Free (membership \$40/year). Non-members: \$36.  
To join WTBA contact Esther at [debarerob@yahoo.com](mailto:debarerob@yahoo.com) or pay at the door.

*\*Participation not required, but highly encouraged.*



Join Women of TBA and the Men's Club

## Erev Xmas Dinner & Movie Thursday, December 25

This year the theme is Greek with a vegetarian feast and the movie Mamma Mia which will get the whole community singing to the tunes of Abba. This is always a great event.

Sponsored by WTBA and TBA Men's Club.

FREE. RSVP required.

Questions and RSVP:

Jeanne Korn at [jeannekorn@aol.com](mailto:jeannekorn@aol.com)

## Women of TBA - Your Sisterhood

Women of TBA – a dynamic group of Temple Beth Abraham women supporting Jewish education, our synagogue community, and each other through social and educational events.

More info: [womenoftba@tbaoakland.org](mailto:womenoftba@tbaoakland.org)

### MONTHLY PROGRAMS:

- Girls Night Out – First Thursday of the month, 7:30-9 p.m. (except October - 2nd Thursday)
- Rosh Chodesh – Monday closest to Rosh Chodesh, 9:30-11:30 a.m., contact Amy to be on the email list at [abtessler@comcast.net](mailto:abtessler@comcast.net)

### WTBA SUPPORTS:

- Ongoing Adult Education
- Parent-led Shabbat
- Mishpacha – Saturday service for pre-schoolers and their families
- T'fillat Yeladim – Saturday service for kindergarten, first and second graders and their families
- TBA People of the Book Club
- Various Synagogue, Bet Sefer and Gan Avraham celebrations throughout the year
- Monthly Bingo at Reutlingers
- TBA Baby Sitter's Registry
- An Hour to Shower Sitters
- Torah Fund in support of the Jewish Theological Seminary and related institutions

Ever wanted to learn to make your own jewelry?  
Women of TBA Girls Night Out Is the Answer

## Jewelry Making at Blue Door Beads Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:00 - 9 p.m.

4167 Piedmont Ave, Oakland, CA 94611

*Girls Night Out is a casual, monthly event to gather TBA women together for relaxed and unstructured social time.*

This month we're hitting the local and uber cool **Blue Door Beads** for laughter, fun and learning how to make our own custom beaded creations. Blue Door Beads provides the lesson and personal assistance for one project done that night. You provide the fun!

**Admission is \$10** which covers lesson and staff help. RSVPs are required (limited space). Beads not included.

To RSVP or for questions contact Jo Ilfeld [joilfeld@me.com](mailto:joilfeld@me.com) or Lara Gilman [laragilman@me.com](mailto:laragilman@me.com).



Sponsored by  
WTBA & Oakland Ruach  
Hadassah

## Rosh Chodesh Monday, Nov. 16

On behalf of The Women of TBA (WTBA) and Oakland Ruach Hadassah, we would like to invite all East Bay Women to join our Rosh Chodesh group. The group meets monthly on the Monday close to Rosh Chodesh, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at rotating members' homes. The meetings are facilitated by members of the group.

Our text is *The Harlot by the Side of the Road*, by **Jonathan Kirsch**. The meeting will open with a short discussion about the significance of the new month.

Questions? Amy Tessler at [abtessler@comcast.net](mailto:abtessler@comcast.net) or (510) 482-1218 to get on the distribution list for the upcoming meeting locations.

## Learning from Mr. Munn

by Karen Bloom

I was just starting out in my teaching career when I was scheduled to teach Algebra I. One of our topics would be factoring binomials. I remembered a very special teacher, Mr. Munn, from whom I had learned this subject and, since last I heard he was still teaching at Eastern Regional High School in Voorhees, NJ, I sent him a letter. In the letter, I thanked him for being the teacher I remember most from my high school career. I recalled that he had stayed after school with me when I returned from an absence to teach me the basic trig functions (sine, cosine, and tangent for those who are interested). I let him know that he was one of the reasons I became a high school math teacher. I asked him if I could please have a copy of his worksheet that explained how to factor binomials because I remembered it being laid out so clearly, and I planned to use it with my own students. I included my contact information and waited patiently for the reply.

I got a letter back with a worksheet in it; just the one I wanted! It explained all the possibilities and combinations for factoring binomials, and I was so excited to be able to pass it on to my little learners. However, there was no letter from Mr. Munn. Disappointed, I read the letter from another teacher, a history teacher, who had my sister in class but not me. The letter said something like the following:

Dear Karen,

I'm not sure if I had you as a student. I'm sure you'll understand after having thousands of students I can no longer remember every one.

Mr. Munn is not returning your letter because, I'm very sorry to inform you, he died last month after a long bout with depression.

I hope this worksheet that I found in his files is the one you were looking for.

Enjoy your teaching.

Best wishes,

---

Not surprisingly, I don't remember this teacher's name. I was just so sad. I cried and cried. I talked to other alumni and locals who mentioned that they heard he had committed suicide after a painful divorce. I was just devastated. Until I spoke to a member of Mark's congregation in South Salem, NY. I told Chuck Cohen the story of what had happened and lamented that Mr. Munn never got to read my letter; I never got to thank him for what he did for me. Chuck said what I believe was the only thing that could really comfort me. "Maybe his soul needed to hear what

you had to say before it could truly rest." Since my letter had missed him by mere weeks if not days, I held on to this wisdom and tried to learn to say "thank you" to those in my past and present who have made me who I am. So let me say right now, to my friends and acquaintances in this congregation and larger community, "thank you" for supporting me, loving me, appreciating me, and molding me each and every day. Each of you is special to me.

I hope that reading this inspires you to try to contact one person from your past or present to tell him or her that you love him or her and appreciate him or her. If not, it still makes for a pretty good story.

## Learning from Others – The Basis of Any Great School

by TBA congregant and Contra Costa Jewish Day School, Head of School, Dean Goldfein

Rabbi Bloom's High Holiday theme of learning from others struck a chord with me as a school Principal. Most educators, Jewish or not, would agree with the second century teacher and life-long student Simon Ben Zoma, who said, "Who is wise? One who learns from everyone."

The opportunity to learn from others is one of the great strengths of a small, independent school – where small classes, high teacher-student ratio, and meaningful connections across the K-8 grades encourage students to share ideas with confidence and listen to others with respect.

A core value of CCJDS is our pluralistic respect for a range of approaches to living Jewishly. Our community embraces this diversity and each day we learn from one another. We emphasize the Judaism that we all share and also recognize continuously that varied perspectives on questions of Jewish tradition, law and practice characterize our wider Jewish community today. Each student brings their own perspective, usually their family one, to the holidays, tefillah (prayer), and our sacred texts, and must interact with other perspectives in an atmosphere of mutual respect, without any particular approach dominating.

Recently our 7th Graders had the opportunity to learn about Jewish history and culture through the eyes of a world explorer. Former CCJDS Algebra teacher, Nicole Rose is a self-described "purposeful traveler" – one who volunteers around the country and the world. She led our 7th Graders on a virtual visit to the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow, Poland, her current post. Thanks to Nicole and Skype, our students got a first hand, live perspective on the Shoah and the revival of Polish-Jewish culture. Our students learned from Nicole about both a historical moment in time and a dynamic way to improve our world and open our eyes.

At the Contra Costa Jewish Day School, we are all becoming wiser because we are learning from one another and the world around us.

You are invited to visit CCJDS and learn more about our program. Please join us at our Open House on Sunday, November 15, 4:30-6:00 p.m. We also offer school tours on November 12, December 15, and January 14 or private tours by appointment. Students in 1st – 7th grades are invited to a “Taste of CCJDS” on November 11 – come spend a day in our classrooms! Kindly contact Amy Wittenberg, Admissions Director to RSVP to our events – amyw@ccjds.org, (925) 284-8288

## The Day Peet’s Provided More Than Just Coffee

by Jessica Klein

I was waiting in line at Peet’s when I saw a young boy and his father walk into the crowded coffee shop. The boy, who must have been about 8, gleefully put his book down on the last empty table to claim it as his own before joining his father in line to get coffee.

However, his claim to the table was quickly dismissed by an elderly couple who placed their coats on the chairs of the very same table where the boy’s book was prominently displayed. They then cut to the front of the very long line.

I was surprised by their complete lack of coffee shop manners. But, they were old, and well, you know how old people can be. And neither Peggy Post nor I are one to confront an old person for usurping a claim to a table, especially if it is the last one.

While I was still pondering the table thievery, I saw that the elderly couple had finished ordering their drinks and were now walking arm in arm back from the counter. Cute. Then I noticed that following shortly behind them was one of the baristas carrying their drinks. I then saw two white canes hanging from the man’s arm. Both the man and the woman were blind, and I got to see before my very eyes “the blind leading the blind.” It was impressive. The blind elderly man gingerly helped his blind companion sit down at the table, and now I understood that neither had seen the book on the table. And here I was judging them.

At just that moment, the young boy noticed that *his* table was fully occupied; he was furious. He walked over to *his* table and snatched *his* book, loudly muttering how *those* people had taken *his* table.

How rude! A few of us in line looked to the child’s father, who was just a few feet away, and waited for some kind of response. Nothing. His father didn’t even acknowl-

edge the boy’s less-than-appropriate performance. I was shocked. What kind of example is this father setting? How could he let this teachable moment slip by? I cannot believe he is just letting his bratty kid speak like that to an elderly, blind couple!

Luckily, I kept my mouth shut.

A few seconds later, the barista asked the father a question about his drink. The father got up on his toes, leaned in, and said “What? I’m sorry; I am very hard of hearing. You will have to speak louder.” Wow. Now *I* was the rude one... again!

It was at this point that another table opened up, and the young boy gleefully ran over, slammed down his book, and proudly sat in his newly claimed chair. His father joined him with a newspaper, coffee, and hot chocolate, and the kid talked about how happy he was to be able to spend this special time with his dad for their weekly hot-chocolate-and-a-book and coffee-and-a-newspaper date. Seriously? How could I have been duped again!

The Torah commands us to judge others favorably, and every year we promise up and down that this year we will *never* speak *lashon hara*; this year, we will *always* judge favorably. Yet, how many of us can remember to do just that? So, next time your spouse doesn’t do the dishes, your neighbor slightly blocks your driveway, or your coworker gives you a dirty look, remember the Torah’s commandment to judge them favorably. Who knows? Their true story may surprise you.

## A History of Two Shuls

by Elinor DeKoven

When we came to San Leandro in 1960, we immediately started shul shopping. When our sons were old enough for pre-school, we joined TBA and had a carpool. I stayed home with my daughter and my husband went to coffee and conversation with Rabbi Schulweis. Our carpool fell apart as the other mothers didn’t want to drive on the freeway. Rabbi Zucker, who was the Rabbi at Beth Sholom in San Leandro, kept telling us that if we lived in this community, we needed to support the shul here. We joined Beth Sholom and I became active as President of the Sisterhood and in 1993, President of the shul. I had retained my friends from TBA and when a new Rabbi came to Beth Sholom, I held dual membership and then became a full time member of TBA and have been coming every Shabbos for the last 18 years and love it.

My father, Rabbi Ralph DeKoven, was ordained from Hebron in 1931, met and married my mother in Jerusalem and brought her back to Chicago, where he was from and where he took his first pulpit. I was born in Chicago in

*Continued on page 19*

### **Bulgher: fine, medium and coarse**

by Faith Kramer

Bulghur has been a staple of the Middle Eastern, Near Eastern and eastern Mediterranean diet for perhaps as long as six thousand years, so it is no surprise that it has been an important ingredient in many Jewish cuisines from that region.

Bulghur (sometimes spelled bulghur or bulghul) was possibly the first processed food. Durum wheat berries are parboiled, sun dried and then cracked yielding a fast-cooking grain that is easy to store, portable and high in protein and fiber. It has a slightly nutty flavor.

Bulghur cooks faster than cracked wheat or wheat berries (which have not been parboiled) and is a whole grain unlike couscous, which is actually a pasta product made from flour. Bulghur can often be substituted in recipes calling for these products.

The first printed mention of bulghur in the United States was in 1945 when Americans began producing it domestically as a way to use up excess wheat production, according to Gil Marks in the “Encyclopedia of Jewish Food.” It gained exposure when Hadassah, the women’s Zionist and medical organization, arranged for its shipment to Israel during the 1950s as part of America’s program to export excess farm products to needy countries during Israel’s period of *tzena*, austerity, helping to make it even more a part of the culinary landscape there.

Nowadays, bulghur is available in boxes, bags and bulk in supermarkets, specialty stores and Middle Eastern and other import groceries. It can be found in fine, medium, coarse or extra coarse grind (also noted by the legend #1, #2, #3, and #4 respectively). If a grind is not specified in a recipe use a medium grind. (If the box does not specify a grind, the bulghur is medium ground, which is the case with most supermarket brands.)

Fine ground is used for cereal, salad, bread and pudding. Medium ground can be used for for most any preparation and is best for traditional kibbeh, tabbouleh, salad and soup.

Fine and medium are generally interchangeable. They are prepared by soaking the grain in water. Medium ground bulghur will need to be soaked longer, or even briefly simmered to improve the texture. Coarse or extra coarse ground bulghur is best for pilafs (substituting the grain for rice), cooked salad, casserole, stuffing and stew and needs to be cooked before using.



As a natural product, cooking (or soaking) times will vary. This website offers a good preparation guide – [http://www.sunnylandmills.com/cooking\\_bulghur.shtml](http://www.sunnylandmills.com/cooking_bulghur.shtml)

Probably the best known uses of bulghur are for kibbeh and tabbouleh.

Kibbeh are meat or vegetable croquettes fried in a bulghur and flour crust. There are many variations (and spellings) throughout the Middle and Near East. I’ve included a recipe for a kibbeh baked pie which has the essential taste without the shaping, filling and frying of the individual fritters. The recipe was inspired by one from a “A Fistful of Lentils: Syrian-Jewish Recipes from Grandma Fritzie’s Kitchen” by Jennifer Felicia Abadi.

Tabbouleh (also spelled tabbouli) is made throughout the Levant and there are many regional and personal variations. This chopped vegetable and bulghur salad traditionally features parsley and perhaps mint with green onions, tomatoes, olive oil and other seasonings. A more Arabic variation uses just a small amount of bulghur to absorb the vegetables’ juices, but the one that has become more common in America comes from Syrian Jews who popularized it in Israel, according to Marks. This version features a higher proportion of bulghur to parsley.

My version adds the tang and zip of citrus fruits to the mix.

For other ways to use bulghur, try substituting for lentils or rice in Sephardic or Middle Eastern recipes, adding to stews or soups or adding a little soaked bulghur as a binder in meat loaves or other ground meat recipes. Marks has a recipe for bazargan, a Syrian relish that works well as part of a mezze (appetizer) platter. My adaptation is included with the other recipes.

## GIL MARKS' BAZARGAN

Adapted from "Encyclopedia of Jewish Foods"

Serves 4-6

Bazargan translates as "of the bazaar" and implies these are easy to find ingredients. Here in America you may need to shop in a local speciality or Middle Eastern store. If you bought pomegranate molasses to use in the recipes from the September Omer, here's a chance to help use up that bottle.

- 1 cup fine ground bulghur
- 2 cups cold water
- 2 Tbs. pomegranate molasses
- 2 Tbs. tomato paste
- 3 Tbs. olive oil
- 2 Tbs. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp. salt or to taste
- 1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1/4 tsp. ground red pepper (cayenne), or to taste, optional
- 1/2 cup finely chopped walnuts
- 1/4 cup chopped Italian (flat leaf) parsley

Soak bulghur in water until softened, about a half hour. Drain. Then drain again in a sieve, pushing on the grain with the back of a spoon to press out excess water. Place in bowl.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the pomegranate molasses, tomato paste, oil, juice, cumin, salt, and peppers. Stir into the bulghur. Mix in the nuts and parsley. Refrigerate for 2 hours. Bring to room temperature. Taste and correct seasonings. Serve.

## SYRIAN BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND BULGHUR PIE

Serves 6

Bulghur Mix

- 2 cups fine grain bulghur (Do not substitute medium)
- Warm water, about 2 cups or as needed, divided
- 1 Tbs. salt
- 1 tsp. honey
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 1/2 cup matzo meal
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 Tsp. paprika

Filling

- 2 Tbs. olive oil, plus extra for greasing pan
- 1 tsp. paprika

- 2 cups diced onion
- 4 tsp. minced garlic
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. plus 1 Tbs. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. ground allspice
- 1/2 tsp. crumbled dried mint
- 1/2 tsp. red pepper flakes, or to taste, optional
- 4 cups, peeled cubed (1/4") butternut squash
- 1 cup water or vegetable broth, or more as needed
- 1-15 oz. can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 Tbs. sugar
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1 1/2 cups chopped walnuts
- 16 walnut halves

First prepare the bulghur mixture. Place bulghur in large bowl and just cover with warm water (about 1 cup or as needed). Let sit 10 minutes. Mix in salt, honey and oil. Let sit 10 minutes. In a small bowl, mix matzo meal, flour and paprika. Pour into bulghur. Mix with hands. Use one hand to slowly add in 1 cup warm water while mixing with the other hand. Knead until well blended and fairly wet (2-3 minutes). Set aside for 45 minutes so bulghur can absorb excess moisture.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8" square baking pan. Evenly press in half of the bulghur mixture then prepare the filling.

Heat remaining oil in large fry pan. Sauté onions until beginning to soften. Add garlic, salt, pepper, mint, 1 tsp. cinnamon, allspice and red pepper. Sauté for 2 minutes, add squash. Sauté until browned. Add water. Cover to steam for several minutes. Stir well, stirring up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Repeat until squash is tender and liquid evaporated. Uncover. Stir in chickpeas, sugar, lemon juice, and chopped nuts. Evenly spread over the bulghur in the baking pan. Spread the remaining bulghur mixture on top. Sprinkle remaining cinnamon on top. Cut on the diagonal all the way through to bottom of pan to create 16 diamond-shaped sections. Top each with walnut half. Bake 35-45 minutes until golden brown. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Continued on page 19

## Learn From Others and Build Community at Shabbat Mishpacha

by Jason Edelstein

With the new year well underway, so is TBA's Shabbat Mishpacha. Join families with children ages 0-5 once a month for a fun, engaging, and meaningful kid-friendly Shabbat morning service. It's filled with singing (backed up by Don Engel on guitar!), plenty of chances for children participation, a parade with Torahs, and a story about a Jewish holiday or the weekly Torah portion. Often, Rabbi Bloom takes time to come in to greet the children, and sometimes even lead a prayer.

After the 45 minute service, families spend time together at a snack lunch in kitah gimmel before heading into the main service for children to sing Ein Keloheinu on the bima.

Shabbat Mishpacha is a great way to meet other parents with young children and to show your own children the

joy of Shabbat. Children gain a familiarity with the service and begin to build their own friendships at TBA. Our recent Shabbat Mishpacha included a wonderful sukkot celebration with lulav shaking and story time under the sukkah.

Upcoming Shabbat Mishpachas are November 7, December 5, January 9, and February 6. Each service starts at 10:15 a.m. Thanks to our recent volunteers Dikla Dolev and Matt Smith for helping out with snacks and story time, respectively. If you'd like to volunteer to bring some food for snack time or if you have a great Jewish children's book to read for story time, please let us know. Volunteers help make Shabbat Mishpacha a vibrant environment for children!

For more information about Shabbat Mishpacha, please contact Angela Engel at [angengel@gmail.com](mailto:angengel@gmail.com) or Jason Edelstein at [jasonedelst@gmail.com](mailto:jasonedelst@gmail.com).



Angela, Dan, Maya and Anita Engel



Jason, Leah and Shoshana Edelstein

## Please Join Us for TBA's Youth Services in November

Shabbat Mishpacha  
for preschool-aged children  
and their families.  
Kitah Gimmel classroom.  
November 7  
10:15 a.m.

T'fillat Y'ladam  
for children in Kindergarten,  
1st & 2nd grade & their families.  
In the Chapel.  
November 7  
10:15 a.m.

Junior Congregation  
for children in  
3rd - 6th grade.  
In the Chapel.  
November 21  
10:15 a.m.



## Young Mentors and Teachers at the Gan

by Marta Molina and Jill Rosenthal

At the Gan in the late afternoon a smaller group of mixed age children come together. The other day a few older children, who recently mastered climbing all the way across the monkey bars, were proudly displaying their new found skills. A younger 2 year old Kitah Alef child longingly looked on, stood on the platform with one hand on the bar and said: "I want to do that. Help me." A teacher standing back, heard this and encouraged the older child to demonstrate how to begin the process of hanging on the bars. Another older, Kitah Gimmel child put his arm around the younger child and said: "Here, I can show you!"

As experienced early childhood educators, we recognize the importance of allowing children to master these types of skills on their own, at their own pace, with the encouragement of their teachers and peers. As children play every day, they are learning from each other. We are not their only educators. As the older child takes on the mentor role, he or she is developing a strong sense of self and an appreciation for being part of a supportive community. Our extended day program at Gan Avraham has fewer children than our morning program and since it is a mixed age group, there are myriad opportunities to explore ways to both learn from and teach each other. Time and time again, we observe situations that remind us how capable children are at expressing empathy and compassion. We know this younger Kitah Alef student will eventually master the desired skill but on this day, what he begins to learn is that he is now a valued member of a kind and caring community!



## Shopping for Food: Mitzvot at the Grocery Outlet

by Susan Simon

This year as we have done in the past, our 4th, 5th and 6th graders went shopping to the Grocery Outlet on Broadway in Oakland to shop for food to donate to the Alameda County Food Bank. So often our children's experience with tzedakah has to do with dropping some coins in a pushka. But for this activity they get to see a real impact. Students and their families raise money to spend on basic food supplies. The students are driven to the school by volunteers (thanks parents!) and chaperoned as they shop in the store, trying to get the most bang for their buck. When they return to the synagogue with many bags of groceries they have a real sense of accomplishment at having participated in a meaningful mitzvah. It's a joy to see. Just look at these faces! Thanks to the families that have made this possible this year!



## What I've Learned as a Teacher

by Susan Simon

It's been a real journey, taking on the role of teacher and mentor to teachers. When you are a teacher, you know everything and have all the answers. Not quite sure how this happens for you, maybe your education, maybe a bit of magic, but as soon as you get the job, you've got the skills.

Except that perhaps it isn't that simple. So I thought I would share some of the things I've learned from my colleagues and my students and their parents.

Every child can learn the same material if you just teach it right. Every child can be motivated if you just have the right tricks in your bag. Every child can accomplish the same things and master the same skills. And all of this can be done in a program that meets for 30-60 two hour sessions per year. Sound wonderful? Yes, to me, too. But what I've learned is that "it ain't necessarily so."

I've learned from my students that teaching the same lesson in exactly the same way to different groups of children will yield different results. I've learned that everything that happened to the student earlier in the day will dramatically impact how much they can take in from 4-6 pm at Bet Sefer. I've learned that children who have strong relationships with other children in the class will usually demonstrate more success in the class. And I've learned the opposite – that children who don't feel like valued members of the classroom community will sometimes mentally check out of the learning.

I've learned that building a caring classroom community in a 2-4 hour per week program is darned hard! And that sometimes, no matter how much we reach out to a student, we aren't always successful in making him/her feel those connections.

I've learned that no matter how much material I want the children to master, how skilled that I want them to be, that much of the outcome of their Jewish education is out of my control. We can utilize the most exciting new techniques but some of the outcome is in the hands of the students and their families.

My hardest lesson is that I don't have enough time to accomplish what I find to be so important. By the time we factor in music and t'fillah and recess and snack (all of which are important and won't be cut!), we have very little time left for all of the learning that we want to accomplish. I've learned that I will be sad every time I have to let go of a learning goal in order to give more time to something else that is equally important.

I've learned that the best teachers understand that if they try one technique and they don't get the result that they want, that they have to brainstorm and find another way to communicate, another way to teach a child how to learn, how to think.

I've learned that many children are hungry, starving, to think deeply, to have their moment to express themselves publicly and test their ideas, to give something other than the "right" answer. And I've learned that children can accomplish much more than they think they can with great support and we teachers get the privilege of watching that happen!

And I've learned all of this from watching, teaching and listening to children and their families and our teachers. It is quite a journey taking on a sacred task such as helping to mold literate Jewish children and adults. It is my privilege sharing this task with our TBA families.

# La'atid Goes Rollerskating

Sunday, November 15  
1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

La'atid is a youth group for  
kids in grades 4-7.

Contact:  
Jaqui McCabe at [jmccabe@bbyo.org](mailto:jmccabe@bbyo.org)





### Cupcakes Galore!

We had two cupcake parties at Bet Sefer. The first was for the youngest children who did some Jewish activities over the summer and kept track of them. These might have included giving *tzedakah*, saying *brachot*, going to Jewish summer camp, visiting people who are sick, the list is endless. They also read Jewish books and did book reports. We had a super fun little party. The second party was for all of the Bet Sefer older students who passed their vocabulary tests. This was a pretty large group and we are very proud of all of them. *Yasher Koach!*

# Welcome New Members

Jason & Nora Morton. Daughter Ava  
Edythe Zuckerberg (mother of Arlene Zuckerberg)

Carolyn Shaw  
Sarah Daniels

## New Member Profiles

compiled by Jessica Teisch



### Jason and Nora Morton

Jason, who is from Philadelphia, and Nora, from a small farming community in Northern California, met in Southern California almost 16 years ago and have been inseparable ever since. Their daughter Ava, who enjoys computer programming on Scratch and writing fan fiction based on the Warrior Cat series, is a seventh grader at Albany Middle School. The family moved to Albany in 2006, when Jason transferred as an undergrad to U.C. Berkeley. He is currently completing his PhD in Russian/Soviet history at Berkeley, and Nora is finishing up her master's degree in Public History at CSU East Bay. Together, they enjoy music festivals, traveling, learning about different cultures, and exploring Bay Area beaches. After taking a class with the rabbi last spring, they felt that TBA was a great fit for their family.



### Richard and Florena Shapiro

Richard and Florena (Flor) have two wonderful children: Sean, 7, who is at Montclair Elementary School, and Bailee, 3, now in Kitah Bet at the Gan. Richard, who works for Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics in Medical Equipment Sales, is originally from Chicago, though he grew up in Houston and moved to Oakland almost 20 years ago. Flor is originally from Iloilo in the Philippines and has been in the Bay Area since 2000. After being at home the last few years, she is now starting work again with a friend in a catering business. Richard and Florena, who will soon be celebrating their 10th anniversary, are very excited to become part of the Temple Beth Abraham congregation as it a very vibrant synagogue that they feel reflects what they want to have in their Jewish lives.

## A NOTE TO NEW MEMBERS:

We would like to introduce you to the TBA community in an upcoming newsletter. Please send a short introduction of you and your family, with a digital photo, to [omer@tbaokland.org](mailto:omer@tbaokland.org). Thanks!

## Jonah Bloom, November 14, 2015

Hi. My name is Jonah Bloom, and I am currently a 7th Grader at Contra Costa Jewish Day School. When I'm not in school I enjoy playing soccer, tennis and bass guitar. I'm a big sports fan, especially of the San Francisco Giants and Tottenham Hotspurs in soccer.

One thing that is very important to me is my Jewish life. I've been going to Camp Ramah my whole life, and I've been going to services every week at TBA my whole life also. Camp Ramah has made me feel extra proud of my Jewish identity and helped me connect with Judaism.

My Torah portion is Toledot from Genesis and is about the rivalry between the brothers Jacob and Esau. In my drash I will be talking about the favoritism of one brother over the other by the parents and how the whole family deals with it. I plan to donate to my "brothers and sisters" in Israel, specifically for Shabbat meals for soldiers who don't have any family there.

I look forward to seeing many of you there.

**Learning from others, continued from page 11**

1935 and lived many places on the east coast and mid-west. I met my husband in Rochester, Minnesota, when I was 9 and he was 11. My father threw us both out of shul for talking during services. Ten years later we reconnected and we were married for 31 years. Fortunately, my husband, who was in the JAG Core, got stationed at Ft. Ord in 1958, and we fell in love with California. My three children are in their fifties and my sons live

in Castro Valley, my grandson lives in Oakland and my daughter and her children, my two other grandchildren, live in Phoenix.

I look forward each week to being with my Temple family and am always inspired by our spiritual leader, Rabbi Mark, and meeting new, young families who are growing and maintaining our shul.

**Cooking Corner, continued from page 13****CITRUS TABBOULEH**

Serves 4

I've also used cooked barley or couscous in place of the bulghur in this recipe. For a more traditional version leave out the orange, grapefruit, cumin and feta, substitute green onion for the red, and use additional tomato and cucumber. To prepare the bulghur soak 3/4 cup of grain in 1 1/2 cups boiling water, covered until softened. Drain excess water and measure two cups.

- 1/2 large pink grapefruit (see note)
- 1 small orange
- 1 small tomato
- 2 cups prepared medium bulghur room temperature
- 1/2 cup chopped cucumber (in 1/4-inch pieces)
- 1/4 cup minced red onion (see note)
- 1/4 cup chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup chopped mint

- 2 Tbs. lemon juice (or more as needed)
- 3 Tbs. olive oil (or more as needed)
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
- 1/4 tsp. cumin
- 1/2 cup crumbled feta (optional)

Peel, section and chop grapefruit and orange into 1/2-inch pieces, discarding white pith. Place in a large bowl along with any juices. Chop tomato into 1/4-inch pieces and add to fruit. Stir in bulghur, cucumber, red onion, parsley and mint. In a separate small bowl, make dressing by mixing lemon juice, olive oil, salt, pepper and cumin. Stir. Taste, adjusting seasoning if needed. Mix with bulghur mixture. Add additional lemon juice and/or olive oil as needed. Serve at room temperature or chilled. Top with feta cheese. Note: If making in advance, add onion and grapefruit right before serving.

*Faith Kramer writes a food column for the j weekly and blogs her food at [www.clickblogappetit.com](http://www.clickblogappetit.com) Contact her at [fjkramer@msn.com](mailto:fjkramer@msn.com)*

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**1**

Sally Ann Berk  
William Joseph Kunis  
Gary Rosenblum

**2**

Jordan Alva  
Isaac Kaplan

**3**

Alden F. Cohen  
Marci Gottlieb

**4**

Noah Goldstein

**5**

Kevin Bergman  
Angela Engel  
Ezra Turetsky

**6**

Lila Levinsohn

**7**

Jason Swartz

**8**

Matthew Gildea  
Karen Schoonmaker

**9**

Charles Bernstein  
Robin Disco  
Ben Goldstone  
Leonard Katz  
Eden Jasmina Maidenberg  
Shira Sanghvi  
Matthew Smith  
Jordan Steiner

**10**

Daniel Nathan  
Ethan Silberzweig  
Risa Stiegler

**11**

Anna Applebaum  
Raphael Breines  
E. Danielle Elkins  
Hannah Hodess

**12**

Becky Brown  
Sophie Cohen-Kleinlerer  
Jason Klein  
George Zimmer

**14**

Hannah Friedman  
Talia Paulson  
Penny Righthand  
Sophia Sparks  
Zachary Sparks

**15**

Joanne Bessler  
Brendan Edesess  
Jueli Garfinkle

**16**

Mindy Berla  
Talia Jaffe  
Zoe Sterling  
Michael Stewart  
Rabbi Leah Sudran

**17**

Moira Belikoff  
Milah Gammon  
Jeremy Goldman  
Molly Hersh  
Scout Kauffman  
David Marinoff

**18**

Jessica Klein

**19**

Casey Baum  
Harriett Feltman  
Peter Gertler  
Eliza Hersh  
Marc Horodas  
Debra Perrin Coltoff  
Jeremy Simon

**20**

Lori Morris  
Casey Shea Dinkin

**21**

Demetri Adams  
Jon Berlin  
Jonah Rosenberg

**22**

Cole Bloomfield  
Joel Garfinkle  
Justin Graham  
David Joseph-Goteiner  
Amy Kittiver-Kay  
Ethan Klein  
Sandy Margolin  
Joshua Wittenberg

**23**

Michael Maidenberg  
Laura Wildmann

**24**

Eli Posamentier  
Marshall Wildmann  
Jacob Zimmerman

**25**

Danna Gillette-Pascal  
Natalya Zatkin

**26**

Abraham Barnes  
Scott Feigelson  
Zoe Graham

**27**

Laura Grossmann  
Nathan Levine  
Steven Pascal

**28**

Etta Heber

**29**

Stacy Margolin  
Paul Silberstein  
Annie J. Schwartz Strom  
Laura Tucker  
Maya Weiss

**30**

Toni Mason

*Is your birthday information wrong or missing from this list? Please contact the TBA office to make corrections.*

## המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

*May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem*

### CHESHVAN 19-24

*November 1-6*

Bertha Rosenblatt  
Lillian Davidson  
Jack Dobrushin  
Herszel Herszman  
Benjamin Mutnick  
George Wasserman  
Yehuda Breslov  
Martha Schwartzman  
Jeanette Gohd Taylor  
Dorothy Wood  
Bertha Heimy  
Rabbi David Jessel  
Sarah Morofsky  
Hilda Kessler  
Anna Ramek  
Isadore Scheinberg  
Meyer Schulack  
Bill Biglovsky  
Frieda Levine Jacobs

### CHESHVAN 25-KISLEV 1

*November 7-13*

Bernard Hodess  
Gertrude Lazar Landy  
Herman Rosenthal  
Geraldine Turchen  
Edith Bloch  
Joseph Bloch  
Myer Cohen  
Alfonse Feibelman  
Samuel Felberbaum  
Joseph Malnick  
Max Pactor  
Hezghia Saidan  
Rose Kontrovich  
Henrietta Cherry  
Morris Isaacson

Peter Lipman  
Arthur Myers  
Daniel Shaffer  
Samuel Ash  
Sam Clar  
Sarah Epstein  
Irene Elizabeth Flick  
Marvin Goldberg  
Bernard Kasdan  
Helmut Stein  
Sara Stevens Zorowitz  
Patricia Nightingale  
Irving Goldman  
Stanley Hershman  
Freda Rubenstein  
Augusta Saretsky  
Weinberger

### KISLEV 2-8

*November 14-20*

Ruth Bresow Young  
Max Gershenson  
Anne Bosniak Goldberg  
Kurt Kruchinski  
Ben Maccabee  
Helen Moskowitz  
Janice Thompson  
Esther DeKoven  
Charlene Eberhart  
Pearl Kasdan Jonas  
Joseph Landowitz  
Irvin Weller  
Marietta Wulff  
Henry Brott  
Esther Dubrow  
Mary Feltman  
Arlene Frances Freeman  
Rebecca Kerns  
Joseph Okh

Ben Shane  
Robert Zuckerberg  
David Benisty  
Paul Hertz  
Max Gevertz  
Arthur Kellman  
Leo & Esther Ramek  
Abraham Shaffer  
Gussie Goldstein  
Isaac Marcus  
Max Marovitz  
Leah Stamer  
Cyril Weiss  
Phyllis Marjorie Cowan  
June Reingold Fleck  
Harry Grossfield  
Judy Lerner  
Herman Roth

### KISLEV 9-15

*November 21-30*

Irma Eis  
Jeanette Jeger  
Sarah Lichtenstein  
Eve Rothman  
Stanley Rudee  
Anne H. Tanner  
Jacob Karwat  
Edward Bercovich  
Herbert Goodman  
Leon Kraft  
Rebecca Millman  
Esther Naggar  
Sarah Leah Schneider  
Aaron Gissen  
Alexander Kleinlerer  
Alice Mendel  
Joseph Rosenfeld  
Joseph Samson

Joseph Schein  
Jacob Wachsmann  
Eva Weissman  
Stella Brott  
Sandy Rosenfeld Emert  
Sam Katzburg  
Sandra Rosenfeld-Emert  
Laura Rosenthal  
Erwin Wallen  
Eric Zielenziger  
David Aarons  
Harry Barnett  
Irwin Bryan  
Rita Heeger  
Nancy Konigsberg  
Esther Nankin  
Ganesane Rosenberg  
Ben Silver  
Sam Silver  
Wayne Stanfield  
Max Davis  
Richard M. Goldstone  
Molva Goodman  
Mary Hale  
Max Kaufman  
Mervin Tessler  
Nina Balint  
Edith Budman  
Max Charlup  
Jennie Gevertz  
Adolph A. Kay  
Erna Bender  
Al Mendelsohn  
Sylvia Reback  
Helen Ida Tessler  
Thelma Diane Tobin  
Pierson Jacobs

### Recent Deaths in Our Community

**Norma Bercovich**, Mother of Larry (Ruth) Bercovich

**Henry Glasser**, Brother of Karen Glasser (Paul Silberstein)

**Blossom Goldfarb**, Sister of Harriet (Herbert) Bloom

**Steve Janger**, Brother of Sarilee (Stephen Steiner)

**Michael Kotzin**, Father of Abigail Kotzin

**Stanley Reichenberg**, Father of Victoria (Justin Graham) & Jeffrey (Ana Schwartzman)

**Roy Taylor**, Step-father of Jonathan Carey (Amy Schoenblum)

**Beth de la Torre**, Sister of Faith (Gary) Kramer

## Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.

### Davis Courtyard Match/Next Big Thing Building Project

Marvin Cohen & Suzy Locke  
 Renat Engel  
 Saul & JoAnne Gevertz  
 Fifi Goodfellow  
 Gerald & Ruby Hertz  
 Ruth Kleinman  
 James Kleinmann & Lara Gilman  
 Sandy & Dawn Margolin  
 Barbara Oseroff  
 Ulli Rotzscher  
 Stephen & Susan Shub  
 Bruce & Alicia von Kugelgen  
 Madeline Weinstein  
 Arthur & Rosalie Beren  
 Jon Feldhammer & Rachel Kuperman  
 Noah & Carrie Garber  
 Rabbi Arthur Gould & Carol Robinson  
 Myra Kaplan, in memory of Edith Kaplan  
 Misia Nudler, in memory of Harold Nudler  
 Ron Ostomel & Adele Ostomel, in loving memory of Pola and Sam Silver  
 John Rego & Deborah Kahane Rego, in memory of Mathilda Kahane  
 Steven Rosenthal & Ailsa Steckel  
 Jeri & Marvin Schechtman, in memory of Reba Schechtman  
 Ethel Shaffer  
 Elizabeth Simms, in honor of David Galant & Misia Nudler  
 Elizabeth Simms, new mixer in honor of Jing and Joel Piser  
 Stephen & Amy Tessler  
 Madeline Weinstein, in memory of Emma Rothenberg

### Jeanette Jeger Kitchen Fund

Joel Piser & Jing Weng Hsieh, in memory of Frances Piser

### Bet Sefer Education Discretionary Fund

Dean Goldfein & Tamira Elul

### Gan Avraham Discetionary Fund

Judi Rosenthal  
 Richard Charlesworth & Amy Moscov, in memory of Ruth Siver

### High Holy Day Appeal - General Fund

Rayna & Saul Arnold  
 Armand & Carol Attia

Marc & Debra Barach  
 Steven Berl & Anita Bloch  
 Ronn Berrol & Joan Korin  
 Rabbi Mark & Karen Bloom  
 Sophie Casson  
 Richard Charlesworth & Amy Moscov  
 Marvin Cohen & Suzy Locke  
 Charles & Harriett Feltman  
 Joel Freid  
 Peter Gertler  
 Dennis & Susan Gildea  
 Aaron Goldberg & Amy Gerard  
 Morris Goldberg  
 Fifi Goodfellow  
 Louis & Lisa Goodman  
 Allan Green  
 Morey & Eleanor Greenstein  
 Steven & Penny Harris  
 Gerald & Ruby Hertz  
 Stephen & Toya Hertz  
 Eric & Linda Horodas  
 Jonathan & Joy Jacobs  
 Steven & Joan Jacobs  
 Jack Jeger  
 Dan & Renee Kaiser  
 Anthony Kay & Amy Kittiver-Kay  
 George & Janet King  
 Jason Klein & Doree Jurow Klein  
 Gary & Faith Kramer  
 Chris Lehman & Lisa Greenberg  
 Vernon & Knarik Levy  
 Marie Lorenz  
 Michael & Katherine Maidenberg  
 Kirk & Dvora McLean  
 Philip & Amy Mezey  
 Randy & Lori Morris  
 Misia Nudler  
 Richard & Mary Odenheimer  
 Barbara Oseroff  
 Klara Pinkhasov  
 Betty Ann Polse  
 Jeffrey & Judith Quittman  
 Steven Rosenthal & Ailsa Steckel  
 Sheldon & Barbara Rothblatt  
 Barry & Hana Rotman  
 David Salk & Leah Kaizer  
 David & Jessica Sarber  
 Daniel B. & Marieka Schotland  
 Ethel Shaffer  
 Sandra Simon  
 Marvin & Wendy Siver  
 Sophie Souroujon  
 Will & Rebecca Sparks  
 Mark & Lori Spiegel

Richard Stone  
 Gilles Tarquin  
 Jane Tishkoff  
 Audree Weiss  
 Joshua Wittenberg & Jennifer Kopp  
 Alon Wolf & Liat Porat  
 Stuart & Abby Zangwill  
 Steven & Victoria Zatkin  
 George & Lorri Zimmer

### Day of High Holy Day Appeal - General Fund

Jessica Dell'Era  
 Matthew Disco & Sandra Rappaport  
 Eric & Tina Eisenman  
 Dan & Angela Engel  
 Fredric & Rose Hoffman  
 Darlene Jurow  
 Gregory & Ruth Morris  
 John Parker & Deborah Santucci  
 Andy & Marcia Wasserman  
 David Weiner & Ellen Kaufman  
 Joseph Young & Rachel Goldstone

### High Holiday Appeal - Endowment Fund

Evan Silverberg  
 Marc & Debra Barach  
 Steven Berl & Anita Bloch  
 Ronn Berrol & Joan Korin  
 Rabbi Mark & Karen Bloom  
 Sophie Casson  
 Richard Charlesworth & Amy Moscov  
 Marvin Cohen & Suzy Locke  
 Charles & Harriett Feltman  
 Joel Freid  
 Peter Gertler  
 Dennis & Susan Gildea  
 Aaron Goldberg & Amy Gerard  
 Morris Goldberg  
 Fifi Goodfellow  
 Allan Green  
 Morey & Eleanor Greenstein  
 Steven & Penny Harris  
 Gerald & Ruby Hertz  
 Stephen & Toya Hertz  
 Eric & Linda Horodas  
 Jonathan & Joy Jacobs  
 Steven & Joan Jacobs  
 Dan & Renee Kaiser  
 Anthony Kay & Amy Kittiver-Kay  
 George & Janet King  
 Gary & Faith Kramer  
 Angelina Levy  
 Jeffrey Lipsett & Lisa Tabak



Michael & Katherine Maidenberg  
 Kirk & Dvora McLean  
 Philip & Amy Mezey  
 Randy & Lori Morris  
 Misia Nudler  
 Richard & Mary Odenheimer  
 Ilya & Regina Okh, in memory of my  
 father Nuta Okh  
 Barbara Oseroff  
 Betty Ann Polse  
 Jeffrey & Judith Quittman  
 Steven Rosenthal & Ailsa Steckel  
 Sheldon & Barbara Rothblatt  
 Barry & Hana Rotman  
 David Salk & Leah Kaizer  
 Daniel B. & Marieka Schotland  
 Ethel Shaffer  
 Sandra Simon  
 Marvin & Wendy Siver  
 Sophie Souroujon  
 Will & Rebecca Sparks  
 Mark & Lori Spiegel  
 David Steinberg  
 Rey Steinberg  
 Richard Stone  
 Gilles Tarquin  
 Jane Tishkoff  
 David & Treya Weintraub  
 Joshua Wittenberg & Jennifer Kopp  
 Alon Wolf & Liat Porat  
 Stuart & Abby Zangwill  
 Steven & Victoria Zatkin

### Day of High Holy Day of General Appeal

Jonathan Carey & Amy Schoenblum  
 Jessica Dell'Era  
 Matthew Disco & Sandra Rappaport  
 Eric & Tina Eisenman  
 Dan & Angela Engel  
 Fredric & Rose Hoffman  
 Jeffrey Lipsett & Lisa Tabak  
 Gregory & Ruth Morris  
 Andy & Marcia Wasserman  
 David Weiner & Ellen Kaufman  
 Joseph Young & Rachel Goldstone

### TBA General Fund

Mark & Rita Roytfeld, in memory of our  
 parents and love ones

### Kiddush Fund

Howard Davis  
 Ulli Rotzscher

### Morning Minyan Fund

Leslie Farber, Donation with thanks to  
 the Minyan  
 Milton & Margaret Greenstein, in mem-  
 ory of Bertha Rosenstein  
 Steven Rosenthal & Ailsa Steckel  
 Samuel J. Tobin & Susan E. Bloch  
 Minyan Rocks !!

### Camper/Scholarship Fund

Rey Steinberg, in memory of Harrey J.  
 Steinberg

### Rabbi Bloom Discretionary Fund

Dana Sheanin  
 Thalia Broudy, in memory of Joanna  
 Stern  
 Steven & Joan Jacobs, in memory of  
 Albert Jacobs  
 Misia Nudler, Happy Birthday Rabbi  
 Bloom  
 Misia Nudler, Speedy recovery to Edie  
 Mills  
 Misia Nudler, Speedy recovery to Minnie  
 Jeger  
 Allen & Ellen Rubin  
 Will & Rebecca Sparks, thank you Rabbi  
 for the *mi sheberach* you said for my  
 father  
 Stuart & Abby Zangwill, in memory of  
 Errin Bukowitz

### Cantor Discretionary Music Fund

Michael & Kathryn Burge, in memory of  
 Samuel Burge  
 Cherryne Kravitz, in memory of Evelyn  
 Kravitz

### Endowment Fund

Larry Miller & Mary Kelly, in memory of  
 Anne Miller

It is a Jewish tradition to give contributions to commemorate life cycle events and other occasions. Are you celebrating a birthday, engagement, anniversary, baby naming, Bat/Bar Mitzvah or recovery from illness? Or perhaps remembering a *yahrzeit*? These are just a few ideas of appropriate times to commemorate with a donation to Temple Beth Abraham. These tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated and are a vital financial supplement to support the wonderful variety of programs and activities that we offer.

Thanks again for your support! We could not do it without you! Thank you for your generosity.

Please make checks payable to Temple Beth Abraham and mail to: 336 Euclid Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610  
 or donate online at <http://tbaoakland.org/giving/donate>

## A Legacy Gift Lasts Forever

Include TBA in your Estate Planning so that your message to your family is loud and clear:

“The existence of Temple Beth Abraham is important to me and for the future of Jews in Oakland.”

Contact TBA's Executive Director Rayna Arnold for further details  
 (510) 832-0936 or [rayna@tbaoakland.org](mailto:rayna@tbaoakland.org).

You are never too young to plan for the future!

יום ראשון	יום שני	יום שלישי	יום רביעי	יום חמישי	יום שישי	יום שבת
19 Cheshvan <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS</b> 10a Ken Cohen - Adult Ed class 10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah	20 Cheshvan 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel)	21 Cheshvan 4p-6p Bet Sefer	22 Cheshvan 9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG	23 Cheshvan 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 4p-6p Bet Sefer 7:30p WTBA Girls Night Out	24 Cheshvan 9:30-10:30a & 10:45-11:45a Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15p Bet Sefer Alef Share A Shabbat	25 Cheshvan 9:30a-12p Shabbat Services 10:15a T'fillat Y'ladim 10:15a Shabbat Mishpacha 6p Gan Kitah Gimmel Share a Havdallah 5:45p <i>Havdalah</i> (42 min)
26 Cheshvan 10a Ken Cohen - Adult Ed class 10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah 1p Yitzhak Rabin-His Life, Death and Legacy	27 Cheshvan 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel)	28 Cheshvan 4p-6p Bet Sefer	29 Cheshvan <b>VETERANS DAY</b> 9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG	30 Cheshvan <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 4p-6p Bet Sefer	1 Kislev 9:30-10:30a & 10:45-11:45a Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service	2 Kislev <b>Toldot</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Service <i>Bar Mizvah of Jonah Bloom</i> 1:00 Mah Jongg (Chapel) 5:40p <i>Havdalah</i> (42 min)
3 Kislev 10a Adult Ed - Bryan Schwartz discusses his new book - "Scattered Among the Nations" 10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah 1:30p La aiid Roller Skating	4 Kislev 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) Rosh Chodesh-continue with "The Harlot by the Side of the Road" (Contact Amy Tessler for details)	5 Kislev 4p-6p Bet Sefer 7:30p TBA Board Meeting	6 Kislev 9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG	7 Kislev 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a & 11:15a-12p Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 4p-6p Bet Sefer 7p Men's Club Poker Night	8 Kislev 9:30-10:30a & 10:45-11:45a Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service	9 Kislev <b>Vayetzei</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Services <i>Maseman Speaker-Rabbi Irit Solomon</i> 10:15 Junior Congregation 5:35p <i>Havdalah</i> (42 min)
10 Kislev WTBA Membership Brunch 10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah 5p City Team-Volunteer to Feed the Hungry	11 Kislev 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel)	12 Kislev No Bet Sefer	13 Kislev 9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG	14 Kislev <b>THANKSGIVING</b> 9A MINYAN FOLLOWED BY MEN'S CLUB "EGGS MIT ONIONS" BREAKFAST	15 Kislev 9:30-10:30a & 10:45-11:45a Kindergym (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service	16 Kislev <b>Vayshlach</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Service 5:35p <i>Havdalah</i> (42 min)
17 Kislev 10:30a Sunday Kindergym 6-8p Bark Mitzvah with Rabbi Shelley Waldenberg	18 Kislev 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel)					

יום ראשון	יום שני	יום שלישי	יום רביעי	יום חמישי	יום שישי	יום שבת
<p>24 Kislev</p> <p><b>CHANUKAH BEGINS (1st Night)</b> 11a Sunday Kinderygm Adult Education: Speaker and Author Jesse Kellerman "The Golem of Hollywood"</p>	<p>19 Kislev</p> <p>4p-6p Bet Sefer</p>	<p>20 Kislev</p> <p>9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p 5th Grade Parents Meeting (Chapel) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG</p>	<p>21 Kislev</p> <p>8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 4p-6p Bet Sefer 7:30p WTBA Girls Night Out</p>	<p>22 Kislev</p> <p>9:30-10:30a &amp; 10:45-11:45a Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>23 Kislev</p> <p>9:30a-12p Shabbat Services <i>Bar Mitzvah of Eitan Klein</i> 10:15a T'fillat Y'iaclim 10:15a Shabbat Mishpacha 5:31p <i>Havdalah (42 min)</i></p>	
<p>25 Kislev</p> <p>8a-9a Minyan (Chapel)</p>	<p>26 Kislev</p> <p>4p-6p Bet Sefer 5p Bet Sefer Hanukkah party #1</p>	<p>27 Kislev</p> <p>9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG</p>	<p>28 Kislev</p> <p>8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 4p-6p Bet Sefer 5p Bet Sefer Hanukkah party #2</p>	<p>29 Kislev</p> <p>9:30-10:30a &amp; 10:45-11:45a Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 12:30p Gan Avraham Hanukkah 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15p Bet Sefer Bet Share-A-Shabbat</p>	<p>30 Kislev</p> <p><b>MIKELZ</b> LA'ATID CELEBRATES CHANUKAH <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Service 1:00 Mah Jongg (Chapel) 5:32p <i>Havdalah (42 min)</i></p>	
<p>1 Tevet</p> <p><b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah</p>	<p>3 Tevet</p> <p>4p-6p Bet Sefer 7:30p TBA Board Meeting</p>	<p>4 Tevet</p> <p>Men's Club group for Golden State Warriors Jewish Heritage Night 9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG</p>	<p>5 Tevet</p> <p>8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) 10-11a &amp; 11:15a-12p Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) NO Bet Sefer</p>	<p>6 Tevet</p> <p>9:30-10:30a &amp; 10:45-11:45a Kinderygm (Resurrection Lutheran) 6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>7 Tevet</p> <p><b>VAYIGASH</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Services <i>Wasserman Speaker - Dumasani Washington</i> 10:15 Junior Congregation 5:34p <i>Havdalah (42 min)</i></p>	
<p>8 Tevet</p> <p>10:30a Basic Prayers 11:30a Learn to chant the Torah</p>	<p>10 Tevet</p> <p><b>ASARA B'TEVET</b> No Bet Sefer - Winter Break</p>	<p>11 Tevet</p> <p>9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG</p>	<p>12 Tevet</p> <p>8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) No Bet Sefer - Winter Break</p>	<p>13 Tevet</p> <p>6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>14 Tevet</p> <p><b>VAYECHI</b> 9:30a-12p Shabbat Service 5:38p <i>Havdalah (42 min)</i></p>	
<p>15 Tevet</p> <p>5p City Team-Volunteer to Feed the Hungry</p>	<p>17 Tevet</p> <p>No Bet Sefer - Winter Break</p>	<p>18 Tevet</p> <p>9a Weekly Text Study (Woodminster) 7p BBYO-AZA and BBG</p>	<p>19 Tevet</p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b> 8a-9a Minyan (Chapel) No Bet Sefer - Winter Break</p>	<p>19 Tevet</p> <p>6:15p-7:15p Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>26 Tevet</p> <p>9:30a-12p Shabbat Service 5:38p <i>Havdalah (42 min)</i></p>	

Temple Beth Abraham  
327 MacArthur Boulevard  
Oakland, CA 94610

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**Save the Date**  
**Saturday Night, January 30**  
**7 p.m. - 11 p.m.**

**80's Prom Night**  
**Temple Beth Abraham's Schools Auction**



**To volunteer or for more information contact Angela at [angengel@gmail.com](mailto:angengel@gmail.com)**

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