



January-February/Tevet-Sh'vat-Adar  
2013/5773

## Reb Moshe's Message

Dear Haverim and Haverot,

Folks are always saying that Jewish holidays arrive early or late.

This year *Purim* will be celebrated on February 23. Our coming Jewish New Year, *Rosh HaShana*, (5774) will be observed starting the evening of September fourth and so on. On the Hebrew calendar all Jewish festivals are always "on time," on their respective days, in their chronological order.

Why are there so many swings in their corresponding Gregorian dates? The Jewish calendar is basically a lunar calendar that is adjusted to the solar calendar's seasons. There are 354 days in the lunar year. Our months begin with the New Moon (*Rosh Khodesh*). There are 365.25 days in the solar calendar. The quarter day is adjusted with a leap day every 4 years.

To compensate for this difference in the amount of days, the Jewish calendar uses a 12-month lunar calendar with an extra month occasionally added. The month of *Nissan* occurs 11 days earlier each year for two or three years, and then jumps forward 30 days, balancing out

the drift. In ancient times, this month was added by observation: the Sanhedrin observed the conditions of the weather, the crops and the livestock, and if these were not sufficiently advanced to be considered "spring,"

then the Sanhedrin inserted an additional month into the calendar to make sure that *Pesach* (Passover) would occur in the spring. In the Torah it is referred to as *Khag he-Aviv*, the Festival of Spring!

A year with 13 months is referred to in Hebrew as *Shanah Me'uberet*, literally: a pregnant year, or as we call it a "leap

year". The additional month is known as *Adar I*, *Adar Rishon* (first Adar) or *Adar Alef*. The extra month is inserted before the regular month of *Adar*, known in such years as *Adar II*, *Adar Sheini* or *Adar Beit*. Note that *Adar II* is the "real" *Adar*, the one in which *Purim* is celebrated, the one in which *yahrzeits* for *Adar* are observed, the one in which a 13-year-old born in *Adar* becomes a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*. *Adar I* is the "extra" *Adar*.

In the fourth century, *Hillel II* established a fixed calendar based on mathematical and astronomical calculations. This calendar, still in use, standardized the

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חזקנו  
KOLEINU

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length of months and the addition of months over the course of a 19 year cycle, so that the lunar calendar realigns with the solar years. Adar I is added in the 3rd, 6th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th and 19th years of the cycle. We are currently in the 15th year of the cycle. Every 19 years one's birthday is on the same day on both calendars.

Now to one of our most interesting of Jewish holidays, one of the two instituted by the Rabbinic Sages. (The other is *Hanukkah*). They are not mentioned in the Torah, but are referred to in other books, and are The Scroll of Esther and the Chronicles of the Maccabees. The former book is in the *Tanakh*, the Hebrew Bible, while the latter in an extra-biblical book.

*Purim* is a carnival celebration, a place holder between winter and spring. It shares this distinction with Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day. All three of these carnival days precede a period of intense preparation for *Pesakh* and Easter.

*Purim* is based on *Megillat Esther*, the Scroll of Esther, a parody of the Persian court and the Persian gods. It features a villain, Haman, who threatens the existence of the Jews in the Persian Empire and their being saved from these evil intentions by our heroes Esther (Astarte) and Mordecai (Marduk), their names are parodies of the Persian deities. This salvation is the source for our joyous celebration. Over the centuries *Purim* initiated a stream of Jewish "entertainment". Aside from the public reading of the *megilla*, the scroll, *shpils* (plays), songs, and the

wearing of masks and costumes added to the carnival atmosphere. The feast of *Ahasuerosh*, with which the Scroll begins, became the source of the custom of imbibing spirits in order to lift the spirits. Also added were acts of *tzedakah* (generosity to the poor) and *mishloach manot*, the exchange of goodies with neighbors and friends.

The deeper side of *Purim* is found in the custom of wearing masks and costumes. Their ability to hide the identities of the celebrants reveals the reality that we normally judge others based on their external appearance. During the year we know the "King" by his costume, on *Purim* anyone can dress as the King, thus providing us with basis of the Emperor having no clothes. On *Purim* we learn that things are not as they appear and that authority can be undermined; that our normal order can be turned "topsy-turvy"; that we, through our drunkenness, can see more clearly that our values need to be overturned at least one day a year, in order to truly appreciate them.

*Purim* provides us, as a community, an opportunity to express ourselves in ways we cannot do so during the year. On *Purim* we are given license, often through our costumes, to reveal other sides of ourselves unencumbered by the traditional "norms". The paradox of *Purim* is that in revels there is revelation.

I hope that you will join us, in costume, Saturday evening February 23 to revel in the creativity of our wonderful community.

Reb Moshe



Thank you!

To Ginni Hamburg for bringing our bulk mail to the Newtonville Post Office.

Mazel Tov!

מזל טוב!



- To Megan Gerber and Bill Bachman and Jonah on Jonah's *bar mitzvah*.
- To Beit Rabban teacher Jordan Braunig, his wife Casey, and big brother Levi, on the birth of a baby boy.
- To Lilly Pelzman and Jeff Borenstein on their wedding.



## Condolences

- To Noam Sender on the death of his wife, Florence Harriet Sender.
- To Rabbi Ebn Leader and Rav Claudia on the death of Ebn's grandmother, Rosalie Wolf.
- To Howie and Susie Rodenstein on the death of Howie's father, George Rodenstein.
- To John and Paula Sinclair on the death of John's father, Selby James Sinclair.
- To Fran Kantor on the death of her mother, Minerva Miller Kantor.

**May their souls be bound up in the Bonds of Eternal life.**

**HaMakom yena'chem otam im shear avlei Tziyon vYrushalayim.**



## Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs, Staff

At our recent Community meeting on Dec 2, we voted to approve our new Bylaws, which included a new Board structure designed to provide a strong base for our dynamic community, enhance member participation and encourage emerging leaders.

We wish to thank all of our outgoing Board members, and know that they will stay actively involved in the community by sitting on committees. COMMITTEES! You will be hearing this over and over again in the coming months: committees keep our community the forward-thinking, fun-loving, integrated family that it is. Committees are a way to meet the people you sit next to when you come to shul. Committees help us all find the friends and the sense of belonging we are all looking for. Some positions on some committees are time-consuming, some are not. Some require monthly meetings, some do not. Some meet only around holidays, some are active all year long. Try one out. There is no commitment. Go to several, see what grabs you. The pay-back is enormous.

Here is the new team.

### Co-Presidents

David Cherenson  
Jenni Seicol

### Vice-Presidents

Sue Kahn (External Relations)  
Amit Segal (Programming)  
Molly Silver (Spiritual Life)  
Sara Smolover (Member Relations)  
Tali Walters Buechler (Finance & Administration)

### At-Large Board Members

Cindy-jo Gross  
Carol Kamin  
Fran Kantor, Treasurer  
Dan Marx  
Billy Mencow  
Mona Strick

Check the website ([tbzbrookline.org](http://tbzbrookline.org)) for brief biographies.

### Our Rabbis

Reb Moshe Waldoks, *Rabbi*  
Rav Claudia Kreiman,  
*Associate Rabbi*

### Past Presidents

Gabriel Belt  
Irwin Pless  
Howard Cohen  
Myra Musicant  
Enid Shulman  
Jay Zagorsky  
Fran Adams  
Jonathan Klein

### Synagogue Staff

Bob Perlman, *Executive Director*  
Jeralyn Ellowitz, *Office Manager*  
Ed Kleiman, *Bookkeeper*

### Mishpachot & Beit Rabban Program:

**Coordinator:** Suzie Schwartz

**Services:** Suzie Schwartz,  
Micah Shapiro, Becky Wexler

**Beit Rabban:** Becky Wexler,  
Miriam Diamond, Micah Shapiro,  
Jordan Braunig & David Winship

## Committee Chairs

### House and Capital Projects

John Daniels

### Adult Learning

Reggie Silberberg  
• Jewish Book Club: Dave Woodruff  
• Men's Study Group: Steve Lewis

### Development

Sue Kahn  
Carol Kamin

### Finance

Fran Kantor

### Synagogue Practices

Lauren Garlick  
Molly Silver

### Membership

David Cherenson  
• Dinners: Ginni Hamburg

### Kiddush/Oneg

Ava Berinstein

### Garden

Rick Bankhead

### Israel Committee

Jonathan Klein

### GLBT

Raffi Friedman-Gurspan  
David Friedler

### Hesed

• Bikkur Cholim: Deborah Stang  
• Senior Outreach

### Social Action

- Tikkun Olam: Judy Schechtman
- Family Table: Lisa Lovett
- Literacy Project: Kim Meyers

### Mishpachot

Evonne Meranus  
Jenny Berz

### Koleinu

Enid Shulman, Editor

## ברוכים הבאים

### Welcome to Our New Members!

Jonathan & Franny Levene

Jesse Moskowitz

Aaron Nelson & Eva Zasloff

Ben Seicol



## Co-Presidents' Message

David Cherenson  
& Jenni Seicol

Many of you know or have heard about the new TBZ governance structure and Board of Directors that were voted in at our recent Community meeting in December. You may be wondering, "Why was this done?" or "What does this mean to me?"

TBZ has been functioning quite well for the past thirteen years, and we all owe a debt of gratitude to the many people who have helped make that happen. This new governance model is an attempt to build on that success, to respond to the desires many of you have expressed for greater participation and connection, and to make it easier and more likely for people to step into positions of leadership.

How do we do that? First, by distributing the work that needs to be done. Second, by greatly increasing the

likelihood of communication between committees. Third, by integrating the Board much more into the life of the Community. Fourth, by instituting term limits and focusing on leadership development, helping to create a flow of people into involvement and then onto what is next.

We now have five Vice Presidents, each of whom will facilitate participation, communication, and coordination within and between our five main areas of synagogue activity. Those are:

External Relations – Sue Kahn  
Programming – Amit Segal  
Spiritual Life – Molly Silver  
Member Relations – Sara Smolover  
Finance & Administration – Tali Walters Buechler

We also have eight At-Large Directors, who will be focusing on four "big-picture" areas that affect and are part of all of our activities – Strategic Planning, Leadership Development,

Governance, and Development (Fundraising). These Directors are:

Cindy-jo Gross  
Carol Kamin  
Fran Kantor  
Dan Marx  
Billy Mencow  
Mona Strick  
2 to be named later

With all of this support for you, there has never been a better time to get more involved at TBZ. Talk to any of us about your questions, your ideas, your interests, your needs. We will help you find a way to participate that works for you! Feel free also to send an email to [copresidents@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:copresidents@tbzbrookline.org).

B'Shalom

Jenni & David

## How Much for Opening the Ark?

By Sara Smolover,

Member, Development Committee

Vice President for Member Relations

I grew up in a large Conservative Synagogue with a Cantor, 2 Rabbis, 5 office staff, 20 teachers, and full-time custodial staff. While I can't say that growing up there did much for my spiritual life, it did profoundly connect me with a community that was proud of what it stood for and that took responsibility for the financial strength of the institution. Now, it did this in the ways of times gone by (I truly hope) such as expecting donations in return for High Holiday *aliyot* and offering naming rights to practically every available space or piece of furniture in the building, up to and including – for a short time—the Aron *HaKodesh* (Holy Ark). My *shul's* bulletin also listed a myriad of funds for giving opportunities: the Youth fund, the Library fund, the Rabbi's fund, the Building fund, the Sisterhood/Men's Club fund, and more. Every week these categories had long lists of names "In Honor of..." and "In Memory of..." that indicated someone had made a donation to the *shul*. It was common practice for members to write a check to the *shul* when someone had a life-

cycle event, or a professional or personal milestone that was notable. From the little bronze plaques on the seats to the lists in the bulletin our *shul* was committed to offering everybody a way to give that spoke to them, and at the same time honored someone in their lives.

While here at TBZ we aren't naming the chairs, the water fountain, or, Heaven forbid, the Ark, we do need to keep the *shul* running and our programs supported. Every donation helps to do that. Many members already take the opportunity to donate to TBZ to honor friends' milestones, memorialize a death, or honor a *yahrzeit*. Sponsoring or contributing to a Kiddush or Oneg is a wonderful way to show that you care about what's going on in someone's life and that you care about ensuring TBZ's financial strength.

We hope that you'll look for an opportunity this year to honor a loved one or mark a special occasion by making a donation to TBZ.

## Message from Rav Claudia

Dear Haverim v'Haverot,

Here in New England it is the middle of the winter (though as I write this, it does not yet feel that way), but in our Jewish calendar we are getting ready to celebrate *Tu B'Shvat*. *Tu B'Shvat* is a Jewish Holiday in the middle of the month of Shvat, and will be this year on January 26. It marks the "new year of the trees", and is one of four year beginnings mentioned in the *Mishnah*. Originally, *Tu B'Shvat* as the beginning of a new year referred to tithing (the equivalent of our tax year) which was important for an agrarian society. With time *Tu B'Shvat* evolved and like the rest of our year cycle became a holiday of many layers and possible meanings. Many of you may have heard that the kabbalists of Tzfat (*Safed*) instituted a *Tu B'Shvat* Seder in which the fruits and trees of Israel were given symbolic meaning. Today, in many Jewish communities, this holiday has become the Jewish Earth day. A day to focus through ritual prayer and action on environmental awareness, learning and issues of sustainability, ecology and nature.

*Tu B'Shvat* should probably become a much more central holiday (if not the most central one) in our times. As we struggle with the realities of global warming and wide spread hunger we need a Jewish framework to embed these issues in the web of meaning that sustains our life.

At TBZ we will be celebrating *Tu B'Shvat* with a communal Seder (co-sponsored with Hebrew College) on Thursday January 24, at 7:30 and with a Family Seder on Sunday January 27. I hope we will use these community gatherings to grapple with these issues.

I offer the following reflection on some of the key values our tradition teaches us about caring for the environment and invite you to think about ways these values can become central in your life (even beyond *Tu B'Shvat*):

In the book of *Bereshit* Chapter 2, verse 15 humans are commanded to "work" and to "keep" the earth



(*l'ovdah ul'shomrah*). Being commanded to guard the earth does not mean we own what we are watching, but it means that it is entrusted to us to care for. Our task is to watch over a world that we hope to be able to hand down to our children and grandchildren.

The word "work" *la'avod*, is also the word for worship, which implies that caring for our planet is an act of worship to the Divine. The world is not ours to do with as we please, it is God's and we are mere guardians who can

hopefully do a better job than what we are currently managing...

We also find in the book of *Bereshit* Chapter 1, verse 28 the commandment to fill the world and "master it". The word in Hebrew is *v'chivshuha* often misunderstood as a sanction to do to whatever we want to the environment. Judaism teaches that we are stewards of our planet. Stewardship implies a distinctive role that we have as human beings. We definitely have power and we must be responsible in exercising it. Our tradition reminds us every week, through the celebration of Shabbat that we are part of the world rather than in control of it. We set twenty five hours aside every week, to avoid labor, to be present, to just be and stop doing, to remember that we are not at the center. On Shabbat we are to appreciate the majesty of the world around us.

Every Jewish holiday reminds us of something we ought to be thinking about all year long and not just on the day of the celebration. I invite you all to take advantage of our Jewish calendar to catalyze your thinking and grappling with these issues, finding ways to share these values with your children and others and turn these ideas into a lived reality.

*Tu B'Shvat Sameach,*

**Rav Claudia**



## Celebrate Tu B'Shvat

Annual **Tu B'Shvat Seder**

co-sponsored with Hebrew College

**Thursday, January 24 at 7:30 pm**

Family **Tu B'Shvat Seder,**

**Sunday, January 27 at 10:30 am,**

which will include an Adult learning session.



## Women's Day Retreat

Join us for our second Women's Day Retreat on

**February 10, Rosh Hodesh Adar** from 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

If you would like to be part of the planning committee, please contact

Rav Claudia at [ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org)

## Adult Learning at TBZ

by Reggie Silberberg, chair

Our first planning meeting of the year was held on November 12. Here is a brief list of the ideas, some new and some old favorites:

- educational field trips to the Yiddish National Book Center and the Truro Synagogues in RI
- a course on contemporary thinkers of Judaism
- the Sunday morning author series – Bagels and Books
- another Book Club
- Shabbat speakers
- another Bnei Mitzvah course
- Prayer for Beginners

- a Jewish Social Action course
- Jewish History courses (Jews in Germany, Jews in Muslim countries, Jewish radicals, Jewish Meditation)
- Jewish literature, arts, music, theater and film.

This is a great start. Now we need the people power to make it happen!

Our new TBZ structure encourages interaction with other committees to explore ways that Adult Learning can enhance their programming as well. There are so many ways to participate: some take little time, and others require leadership roles.

Please contact me at [tbzadultlearning@gmail.com](mailto:tbzadultlearning@gmail.com), Reb Moshe at [rebmoshe@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:rebmoshe@tbzbrookline.org) or Rav Claudia at [ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org) with your ideas.

### with Reb Moshe or Rav Claudia

#### TORAH STUDY

Shabbat morning at 9:00 am, except on holidays

### with Reb Moshe

#### I. Lunch and Learn

Tuesdays, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29

12:00 - 1:00 pm at TBZ.

Bring your own lunch –we'll supply drinks.

#### II. Vodka and Values:

##### Jewish Views on

##### Contemporary issues

A Tuesday evening 'salon',  
in members' homes

Feb 12, 19, 26

7:15-8:45 pm, (locations TBA)

Sign up online at

[www.tbzbrookline.org/registration](http://www.tbzbrookline.org/registration)

(Course descriptions for  
all courses will be emailed.)

### with Rav Claudia

#### Women's Study Group

**All sessions are held at TBZ, 7:30 - 9:00 pm.**

In the Talmud we learn: '48 prophets and 7 prophetesses prophesied to Israel....' Who were these 7 prophetesses? They were Sarah, Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, Abigail, Hulda and Esther, the *ushpizot* (spiritual guests) that we invite into our *Sukkah* together with the traditional *ushpizin*.

This year we will learn about these women, and why they were named prophetesses by the Rabbis.

- What kind of role models are they and what do each represent?
- How do their voices shape our tradition?
- How can we make their female influences more central to TBZ?

All TBZ women are welcome to come to one or all sessions.

#### Remaining Winter/Spring Sessions:

- \* Wed, Jan 16, Sara & Miriam
- \* Wed, Mar 6, Deborah & Hannah
- \* Mon, Apr 8, Abigail & Hulda
- \* Wed, May 22, Esther

#### 2nd Annual All-Day Women's Retreat

Sun, Feb 10, Rosh Hodesh Adar

To help plan, contact [ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org)

**with Myra Musicant**

**Learn to Chant Torah**

**Wednesdays, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and Feb 6**

**7:00 - 8:00 pm in the third floor classroom**

Myra has trained many of our Torah readers, and if you can read Hebrew, Myra will have you chanting Torah in no time.

RSVP to [tbzdultlearning@gmail.com](mailto:tbzdultlearning@gmail.com)

**with Bobbi Isberg &**

**Yoheved Sheila Katz**

**Shabbat Afternoon Meditation Retreats**

**All retreats are held in the TBZ sanctuary,**

**1:30 - 5:30 pm**

**Jan 26, Shabbat Beshalach**

**Feb 16, Shabbat Terumah**

Come together in stillness; be with the truth of what arises and passes, without fixing or adding anything.

Be fully alive to the hidden essence of *Shabbat vayinafash*.

Stop and ensoul.

Yoheved Sheila Katz and Bobbi Isberg will lead sitting and walking meditation, chanting, gentle yoga and contemplative Torah study.

Bring cushions that you need for comfort, and a water bottle. We'll provide chairs and light Kosher snacks.

There is no fee for attending. All teachings and food are given freely. Please join us in this practice of generosity that is the foundation of our lives, giving what you can after Shabbat ends.

TBZ Adult Learning Committee and Nishmat Hayyim are the co-sponsors. Donation checks can be made out to the TBZ Adult Learning Committee with 'the date' of the Shabbat Meditation Retreat' written on the memo line of your check. For more information contact Bobbi at [isberg@comcast.net](mailto:isberg@comcast.net).

**with Scott Tepper**

**Gabbai Training Course**

**Mondays, Jan 7, 14, 28,**

**7:30 - 9:00 pm**

**with a Gabbi Debut on Shabbat**

**on Feb 2**

The Shulchan Aruch indicates: "One who reads [from the Torah] and erred - even in the accuracy of one letter - we return him/her [to the error.]" (*Orach Chayyim* 142:2)

Every Torah reader, (even the Chief Rabbis of Israel), is carefully monitored by two vigilant observers called *gabbai'im*.

Would you like to support Torah readers and become more involved in the Torah service by becoming a *gabbai*? For three Monday nights in January, join Reb Zisha (Scott Tepper) and learn:

- \* How to ensure an accurate Torah reading.
- \* The choreography of the Torah service and *aliyot*.
- \* The roles of the *gabbai rishon* and *gabbai sheni* (primary and secondary).
- \* How to call up *aliyot* (individuals, couples/families, groups).
- \* Basic *Mi she-Beirach* blessings.
- \* What the term *gabbai* meant originally and what it means now.

The goal: on February 2, 2013, you will contribute your *gabbai* skills at Shabbat services.

Being a *gabbai* is fulfilling in so many ways. You assist the smooth flow of the Torah Service, you help people get close to the Torah, you have a front-row position for *b'nai mitzvah*, you provide support for new readers, and you are often one of the first to wish someone "Yasher ko'ach!" Join us!

Prerequisites: \* Current Torah reader \*intermediate-level Torah reading skills \* Intermediate-level Hebrew reading ability.

Register online at [www.tbzbrookline.org/registration](http://www.tbzbrookline.org/registration)

**TBZ Jewish Book Club**

At our February meeting (date and time to be announced), we will discuss the book *The Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman.

For more info please contact Suzanne Gelber at [savtasuz@gmail.com](mailto:savtasuz@gmail.com)











## January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><b>New Member Coffees</b> Join us January 17 or 28 7:30 p.m., Location TBA Call the office for more info</p>		<b>New Year's Day 1</b>	<b>2</b> 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7)	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm, Meah of 2013	<b>4</b> 5:30 pm, Child Friendly Shabbat @ 1550 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	<b>5</b> Parshat Shemot 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services (babysitting available)
<b>6</b> 10:30 am, Family Table Mitzvah Day - off-site (see pg. 10)	<b>7</b> 7:00 pm, Gabbai Class with Scott Tepper (see pg. 7)	<b>8</b> 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6) 7:00 pm, Engaging Israel @ Ohabei Shalom	<b>9</b> 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7)	<b>10</b> 7:00 pm, Meah of 2013 - Snow Day	<b>11</b> 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	<b>12</b> Parshat Va'era 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 pm, Mishpachot Services 7:00 pm, Game Night 
<b>13</b> Family Table Mitzvah Day (Snow Date) 10:00 am Board Meeting 5:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group visit to Mayyim Hayyim (see pg. 11) 7:00 pm, Rosh Hodesh Group	<b>14</b> 7:00 pm, Gabbai Class with Scott Tepper (see pg. 7)	<b>15</b> 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6) 7:00 pm, Engaging Israel @ Ohabei Shalom	<b>16</b> 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7) 7:30 pm, Women's Study Group w/ Rav Claudia (see pg. 6)	<b>17</b> 7:00 pm, Meah of 2013 7:30 pm, New Member Coffee (off-site)	<b>18</b> 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	<b>19</b> Parshat Bo <b>Bat Mitzvah - Talia Lanckton</b> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services (babysitting available)
<b>20</b>	<b>MLK, Jr. Day 21</b>	<b>22</b> 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	<b>23</b> 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7) 7:00 pm, Synagogue Practices Committee	<b>24</b> 7:30 Tu B'Shvat Seder co-sponsored by Hebrew College at TBZ (see pg. 5) 7:00 pm, Meah of 2013	<b>25</b> 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	<b>26</b> Parshat Beshalach  <b>Tu B'Shvat</b> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 pm, Mishpachot Services 1:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group 1:30 pm, Meditation Retreat (see pg. 7)
<b>27</b> 10:30 pm, Family Tu B'Shvat Seder & Adult Education (see pg. 5) 6:00 pm, Teen Girls Rosh Hodesh Intro w/parents (see pg. 10) 7:30 pm, Mishpachot Committee 7:30 pm, Israel Committee	<b>28</b> 7:00 pm, Gabbai Class with Scott Tepper (see pg. 7) 7:30 pm, New Member Coffee (off-site)	<b>29</b> 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	<b>30</b> 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7) 7:30 pm, Tikkun Olam Group	<b>31</b> 7:00 pm, Meah of 2013	 <p><b>Game Night</b> Jan 12 at 7:00 p.m. Details to come...</p>	



## February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Mishpa-Host (off-site) (see pg. 11)  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	<b>2</b> Parshat Yitro Gabbai Debut Mishpa-Host (off-site) (see pg. 11) 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - babysitting available
<b>3</b> 9:30 am, Bnei Mitzvah Group Shacharit and Tfilin Workshop (see pg. 13)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 4:00 pm, Beitz Rabban 7:00 pm, Torah Chanting w/Myra Musicant (see pg. 7)	<b>7</b> 7:00 pm, Meah class of 2013	<b>8</b>  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	<b>9</b> Parshat Mishpatim Teen Shabbat (see pg. 11) 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 am, Mishpachot Services 1:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group with Rabbis
<b>10</b> 10:00 am, Women's Retreat (see pg. 5)  6:00 pm, Teen Girls Rosh Hodesh (off-site) (see pg. 10)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:15 pm, Vodka and Values with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	<b>13</b> 4:00 pm, Beitz Rabban	<b>14</b> 7:00 pm, Meah class of 2013	<b>15</b>  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	<b>16</b> Parshat Terumah 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - babysitting available 1:30 pm, Meditation Retreat (see pg. 7)
<b>17</b>  Hamentaschen Baking/1550 Deliveries (see pg. 13) (Time TBA)	<b>18</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b>	<b>19</b> 7:15 pm, Vodka and Values with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	<b>23</b> Parshat Tetzaveh 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 6:30 pm, Megillah Reading (see back page 5) 8:00 pm, Purim Party
<b>24</b>  Family Purim Celebration (Time TBA)	<b>25</b> 7:30 pm, Spring Class with Rav Claudia	<b>26</b> 7:15 pm, Vodka and Values with Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	<b>27</b> 4:00 pm, Beitz Rabban (see pg. 6)	<b>28</b> 7:00 pm, Meah class of 2013		

## PINAT MISHPACHOT

### TBZ Teachers Receive Teaching and Technology Fellowship

Mazal Tov to Beit Rabban Teachers David Winship and Micah Shapiro, recent recipients of CJP's Teaching and Technology Grant. David and Micah, along with Suzie, will be attending CJP's Teaching and Technology Training Program, an intensive three month program that will train them in state of the art education technologies. After they complete the program, TBZ will receive a projector and netbook that will be used to bring these new technologies to all the classrooms.

This is a welcome and needed boost to the *Beit Rabban* program. New technological skills and resources will enable our teachers to integrate modes of learning and creativity that will help all students grow and feel successful.

And the benefits of this fellowship do not stop at *Beit Rabban*. These new resources will be available for all *Mishpachot* programming, encouraging us to think outside the box and continue to create innovative programming for all ages, all year long.

## Mitzvah Day at Family Table January 6, 2013

1430 Main Street, Waltham, MA 02451

JF&CS Family Table, the largest kosher food pantry in New England, provides healthy food on a monthly and emergency basis to individuals and families in need. Their mission is to alleviate hunger in a way that meets nutritional and spiritual needs.

The number of people they serve has doubled in the past several years as a result of the recession, and they are presently serving almost 650 individuals every month. Last year, they provided more than 17,000 bags of groceries.

On **January 6** TBZ members will gather at JF&CS for the TBZ Mitzvah Day. First we will learn about Family Table and participate in a teaching about tzedakah and tikkun olam and pack bags for families in need.

Here is our schedule for the day:

**10:30 am - Shmoozing and breakfast**

**10:45 am - Family Learning: Tikkun Olam and Family Table**

**11:15 am - Preparing food packages**

**12:00 pm - Deliver food to families in your neighborhood**



TBZ Mitzvah Day is a great opportunity for all of us to learn about social justice from a Jewish perspective, and also see how a great justice organization functions from top to bottom. We will spend Mitzvah day helping many in the Boston area with too little to eat, and inspire our ongoing commitment to *tikkun olam* and bringing justice to the world.

**RSVP is required (limited to 30 families):**

[www.tinyurl.com/tbzmitzvahday](http://www.tinyurl.com/tbzmitzvahday)

## TBZ Introduces a Teen Girl's Rosh Hodesh Group

TBZ's **Girls' Rosh Hodesh** program will explore many different issues teenaged girls face today, while drawing upon a rich background of Jewish tradition. We will engage in critical thinking regarding social networking sites, pop culture, bullying, and more. We will discuss our identities and take personality quizzes.

This is an intentionally non-denominational group. The TBZ Girls' Rosh Hodesh program will not push any girl towards a particular practice or observance; rather, the program will engage our girls in critical thinking so they can make their own decisions.

The group will have a very social focus. We will begin and end with a simple candle lighting ritual where the girls will be encouraged to share their feelings and hopefully there will be lots of laughter and friendship.

**The group will meet monthly on Sunday evening from 6:30 - 8:00 pm** on a date close to Rosh Hodesh. We will either meet at TBZ or at the home of one of the girls in the group.

This pilot group is open to 8th and 9th grade girls from TBZ and their 8th and 9th grade friends.

### Dates:

#### Introductory Session for girls and their parents:

- Sunday, January 27 from 6:30 - 8:00

#### Remaining Girls' Group Sessions for 2013 (teens only):

- Sunday, February 10 from 6:30 - 8:00
- Sunday, March 10 from 6:30 - 8:00
- Sunday, April 7 from 6:30 - 8:00
- Sunday, May 5 from 6:30 - 8:00

At the introductory session, girls and their parents will have a light supper together while Rav Claudia and Jojo Jacobson briefly introduce the program. Then the girls will meet with Jojo for an introductory girls' group session,

and Rav Claudia will lead parents in an adult teaching session, and answer parent questions about the program.

JoJo is excited to be working with TBZ's brand new girls' Rosh Hodesh program. She currently teaches English at Roxbury Community College, and has worked at BBYO's international Kallah program as their writing specialist, helping teens express themselves through creative writing. She lives in Jamaica Plain with her partner Suzie Schwartz.

**For more information: Contact Jane Daniels (parent of 9th grader Izzy Daniels) at 617-731-5953 or [janemdaniels@yahoo.com](mailto:janemdaniels@yahoo.com).**

## MishpaHOST—Shabbat is Coming to a Neighborhood Near You!

We are excited to announce a brand new program coming out of the Mishpachot committee - **MishpaHOST!**

On **February 1 and 2, 2013**, TBZ families will host small vegetarian potluck Shabbat dinners and *seudah shlishit/ havdalot* gatherings in their homes. At the meals, we will eat, sing, pray and have fun together. This is a great chance for everyone to enjoy Shabbat in a fun, relaxing environment closer to home.

Sign up at [www.tinyurl.com/TBZMishpaHOST](http://www.tinyurl.com/TBZMishpaHOST) for a meal. We look forward to spending Shabbat together!

## Family Tu B'shvat Seder

January 27, 2013

10:30 am

Come join us for the annual *Family Tu B'shvat Seder*! There will be activities for children of all ages, an adult learning session and of course, delicious *tu b'shvat* treats. More information to come.

Please RSVP at [www.tinyurl.com/tbzfamtubshvat](http://www.tinyurl.com/tbzfamtubshvat)



## Teen Shabbat - February 9 at Shabbat services

**IF YOU ARE A TEEN** and have already had your *bat mitzvah*, and want to participate in the service by reading torah, leading part of the service or giving a *dvar torah*, please contact Rav Claudia at [ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org).

## B'nei Mitzvah Group Visits Mayyim Hayyim—January 13, 2013

5 pm at Mayyim Hayyim  
(1838 Washington Street Auburndale, MA 02466)

On January 13 our Sixth graders will join Rav Claudia for a special program at Mayyim Hayyim, the community Mikveh in Newton. 7th graders are also invited to join!

Please RSVP at [www.tinyurl.com/bneimitzvahmikveh](http://www.tinyurl.com/bneimitzvahmikveh)

## Save The Date: B'nei Mitzvah Group Shacharit and Tfilin Workshop

Feb 3, 9:30 am

Come join your fellow 6th and 7th grade *B'nei Mitzvah* students and their families as we learn about the weekly service and the *mitzvah* of *tfilin*.

## Hamentashen Baking & Deliveries at 1550 February 17, 2013



We will bake *Hamentashen* and deliver *mishloach manot*, special gift baskets of food, to be delivered for Purim. After baking, we will deliver them together to our friends next door at 1550. This is a great chance to learn how to make a favorite *Purim* treat and do a *mitzvah*!

More information and exact times to come.

## Save the Date:

Purim Celebration for Families

February 24, 2013

Exact time & More details to come!

## Ongoing Programs During January and February

*Tfilot Mishpachot*: Jan 12, 26; Feb 9

Babysitting: Jan 5, 19; Feb 2, 16

*Bnei Mitzvah* Group: Jan 26, Feb 9

*Beit Rabban*: Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Feb 6, 13, 27

Annual calendar can be found on our website



## 5th Annual TBZ Community Retreat

April 26-28, 2013

### Check out the New Location!

You are all are invited to participate in our **5th Annual Community Retreat**. Every year, with your help and feedback, we learn what needs to change, and what needs to just stay the same.

This year our retreat will be held at the beautiful **Camp Burgess & Hayward** (<http://campburgessandhayward.com/>) on the Cape in Sandwich, MA. Our wonderful services, delicious meals, fantastic programming and amazing community building will have a beautiful backdrop of trees, lake and sky.

We will take advantage of all Camp Burgess & Hayward has to offer. We will pray by a lake, spend time together in nature, and enjoy special programming for adults and children of all ages. On Sunday, depending on interest, there will be opportunities for a pick-up soft ball game, ultimate frisbee, fly on a zip-line, utilize a high ropes course and learn how to shoot a bow and arrow with an archery specialist. It will be an amazing time for everyone and a great chance to connect deeply with our TBZ community.

Another change from last year is that Camp Burgess and Hayward is larger than our previous retreat location, however it does not have private rooms and bathrooms. This is both a challenge and an opportunity. Retreat attendees will be sharing larger cabins (2-4 units in a cabin, depending upon family size) yet because there are many cabins, you will have plenty of room. You may request the people you want to room with, you can ask to be close to meals and activities, and we will do our best to organize the housing based upon your needs and demographics. We will try to have families with young children housed close together, and families with older children and adults coming without children to have their own area. The camp is beautiful and comfortable and we are certain that the beauty of waking up in the woods with plenty of space to explore and play will outweigh any discomfort.

However, if this is not for you—don't worry! We encourage you to get a hotel in the area or simply come for the day—the camp is only an hour away and there are many great places to stay on the cape.

And if this isn't enough to get you to join in, this year's retreat falls over **L'ag B'Omer** - the 33rd day of the omer, the period we count between the festivals of Pesach and Shavuot. Though the omer is usually a somber time in the Jewish calendar, *l'ag b'omer* is one of the most festive moments in our calendar. In Israel, people celebrate with picnics and bonfires and we will do the same. Prepare for campfires, singing and smores galores.

**Registration for the retreat is now open**—please visit [www.tinyurl.com/TBZRetreat2013](http://www.tinyurl.com/TBZRetreat2013) and sign up today! Contact Suzie Schwartz at [beitrabban@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:beitrabban@tbzbrookline.org) if you have any questions.



### Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors



- Megan Gerber and Bill Bachman IHO the *bar mitzvah* of their son, Jonah.
- Oma and Eli Machtel in gratitude for the warmth they have received from the TBZ Community during their stay here. They returned to Israel.
- Enid Shulman and Stanley Shulman IHO the *yahrzeits* of their mother, Beatrice Policoff Shulman, and their grandmother, Goldie Policoff.
- Steve Lewis IHO the anniversary of his *bar mitzvah*.
- Gloria Michelson IHO the *yahrzeit* of her husband, Marty Michelson.
- Joel Kershner and Sheine Wizel IHO the *yahrzeit* of Joel's father, Morris Kershner.
- Sue Kahn and Dan Kirschner, Jonathan Klein and Amy Schottenfels, Jane, John, Marc and Izzy Daniels, Fred and Diane Berk, Sue Brent, and Reggie Silberberg IHO Ava Berinstein, her new Hebrew name, her new appointment at Harvard, and her new journey.
- Lilly Pelzman and Jeffrey Borenstein IHO their wedding.
- Fran Adams IHO the 1st *yahrzeit* of her father, Alex Shtull, and the 6th *yahrzeit* of her brother, Hershie Shtull.
- Larry Kraus and Sara Smolover IHO the *yahrzeits* of their mothers, Charlotte Kraus and Irene Smolover.
- Jane Liebschutz and Roger Zimmerman IHO the 12th *yahrzeit* of Jane's father, Sanford Liebschutz.





## Donations

(Donors 10/11/12 - 12/5/12)

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## Photos from the Mishpachot Pottery Workshop



**Photos from  
Hanukkah 2012**





קולנו  
KOLEINU



## Purim at TBZ

Saturday night February 23,

Megilah reading at 6:30 pm followed by **Purim** Party at 8 pm.



Sunday, Feb 17, *hamentashen* baking and deliveries of *mishloach manot* to 1550,  
exact time to be announced.

If you would like to read part of the **Megilah** please contact Rav Claudia at [ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org](mailto:ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.org).

If you would like to be involved in planning the party,  
please contact the office, 617-566-8171.

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