

The Temple Beth Torah Times

November 2023

Cheshvan / Kislev 5784

Volume LV No. 53



Our beautiful sunset Tashlich ceremony took place at Teddy Roosevelt Park, and then our congregation came together in our sanctuary for our TBT Stands With Israel gathering of solidarity, unity, and strength.



Off the Bimah

Temple Beth Torah Geniza Project by Rabbi Jack Dermer



Dear Friends,

Among the central values of our tradition is the concept of Kavod. Though there is no perfect translation of the concept, Kavod signifies honor, respect, weightiness and dignity. So prominent is this value, that our tradition extends the requirements of Kavod not only to human beings,

plant life, and other living creatures, but to holy ritual objects as well.

It is well known that sacred books, pieces of paper with the name of G-d written, discarded Tefillin, and the like, are not simply to be thrown in the garbage, but to be treated with the utmost Kavod even after they are no longer in use. As Jews, we do not discard that which helped us connect to G-d, but bury – as we would bury a person we love – all of the items that served us Jewishly in a Geniza. Over the last few years, Temple Beth Torah has accumulated a large store of sacred items to be buried, and the time has come once more this fall for us to open our Geniza, and to say farewell to these precious objects, with a proper and respectful ceremony.

On Sunday morning, November 12, I hope all will join us first for Minyan at 9 a.m., the Cantor's Breakfast and Bracha class at 9:30 a.m., and then our Geniza ceremony at 11 a.m. Temple members with holy items that are in need of a proper burial are welcome to bring those items to be placed in our Temple Geniza in advance. Please reach out to me or Cantor if you are unsure if an item you have needs to be placed in the Geniza, or with any questions at all.

As the boxes of prayer books, Torah texts, and other ritual items are lowered into the ground on November 12, we will offer the words of the Kaddish D'rabbanan, the Rabbi's Kaddish. This prayer reminds us that the essence of our faith and our continuity is found in the passing of wisdom and tradition respectfully from generation to generation.

As we prepare for our Geniza ceremony in November, may the words of our prayers, and the Mitzvot of our heritage, touch our hearts and inspire us to live lives of greater goodness in all that we do.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Dermer

Bittersweet Cheshvan by Cantor Scott Sokol



As I write this column, we are still celebrating the intermediate days of Sukkot, the time of our greatest joy, with Shemini Atseret and Simchat Torah just around the corner. But by the time you read this column, we will be smack in the middle of a time that isn't typically thought of as joyful, namely the month

of Cheshvan, which has the unusual nickname of Mar-Cheshvan, bitter Cheshvan. The reason typically given for this name is because after celebrating the jam-packed month of Tishrei, replete with our most significant holidays, Cheshvan contains no holidays or communal celebrations at all. Therefore it is considered "bitter." In the Jewish professional world, however, many find this month sweetest of all precisely because it is an opportunity to return to normalcy and get on with the day to day life of work and school.

The very first Parsha that we will read in the month of Cheshvan is Parshat Noach, and I think this parsha has a very important lesson to teach us around the notion of seeing cups half-full or half-empty. This lesson is taught by the symbol of the rainbow, a symbol that God tells us has significance to our shared covenant. Recall that the rainbow comes right after the flood that nearly destroyed the planet. In the parsha God states the following about the rainbow:

I will set my rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass that when I bring a cloud over the earth that the rainbow shall be seen within the cloud.

The rationale and the symbol of the rainbow are usually understood as a promise that God will not destroy the earth in a flood again. I see the rainbow a bit differently though. I think it has more to do with perspective, namely that sometimes cloudiness is hiding something beautiful. So often in life, as it is in Torah exegesis, the beauty of an experience comes only after grappling with something difficult. Torah study often requires looking into something murky, in order to find the rainbow within the clouds of the text. And we need to remember when experiencing the murkiness, the darkness, and the bitterness that these serve

Continued on Page 4

Press from Our Leaders

Press from the President
by Nancy Marshall, President



It's hard to believe that the holidays have come and gone! We were so happy to see all of you at Temple during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We were also glad to see that those of you who were unable to be here in person could join us on the live stream. But Temple Beth Torah is **more** than just Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We have so many programs, classes, religious experiences and activities for everyone. Over the past year or so, I've made it my business to be at as many of them as possible. It has been a delight to meet and get to better know many of you. If you haven't tried, our weekly Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat service (6:30 p.m. each week for 45 minutes) is a relaxing and joyful way to end your week. As they say, try it, you'll like it. Plus, you could have a piece of cake during our oneg after the service.

Rabbi Dermer has continued our Wednesday night Adult Education program at 7:30 p.m. each week. See your weekly emails for the topics, as they are interesting and insightful. Cantor Sokol has started teaching a five session class on Sunday mornings called "Breakfast and Bracha," focusing on learning about our daily prayer services. Come for minyan at 9 a.m. and stay through his class from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Back to the holidays! As many of you might remember, the rains at the beginning of Sukkot put a damper on some of our original plans. Blessing of the Pets was postponed, and some of our sukkah dining was limited. No worries with Sippin' in the Sukkah. It was wonderful, joyous and a festive evening for all who participated. Hopefully we'll do it again next year.

The weather also interfered with our TBT Fest on September 10, but we relocated indoors and still had a terrific afternoon of Jazz music, ice cream and other snacks, and a relaxing opportunity to connect with other Temple members.



Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Hanu-

RAYS of this + that!

Thank you to all of our Temple Beth Torah members that helped to connect much needed supplies to those most in need in Eretz Yisrael.



Continued on Page 4

Around the Congregation

Recipe from Our Sisterhood:
Apple Pie

Submitted by Allison Rothstein

Ingredients:

Frozen pie crust
8-10 honey crisp apples
Cinnamon
Sugar
Flour
Crisco

Crumb top:

1/3 cup Crisco
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 cup flour

1. Line baking sheet and pie tin with aluminum foil.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
3. Peel and cut up apples.
4. In a large bowl, put all cut up apples and pour in some cinnamon and sugar.
5. Mix with your hands and taste to verify.
6. Pour the apples into the pie crust.
7. For the crumb top, mix the combination above with a fork until it looks like a crumb-like consistency.
8. Place the crumbs on apples until it is all covered.
9. Bake for about two hours. You want the crumbs to be dark brown and the apples to be oozing.

Cantor (Continued from Page 2)

as necessary dialectical partners to clarity, light and sweetness. All these and more: *al kol eileh* (as Naomi Shemer writes in her song of the same name), about all of these – the honey and the sting, the bitter and the sweet – is our life made up.

During this bittersweet month of Mar-Cheshvan, I pray therefore that we will continue to appreciate the many facets of the prism of our lives, revealing the rainbows through the clouds.

President (Continued from Page 3)

kah celebration with our third annual “Latkes, Vodkas and Laughs” scheduled for Thursday, December 14.

Now that November is upon us, we are beginning to focus on the Thanksgiving season and what we are grateful for. I am grateful for all of you, who help work to make Temple Beth Torah what it is.



TEMPLE BETH TORAH
November Events

Wednesday, 11/1 – The Jews of Long Island Presentation w/Brad Kolodny

Thursday, 11/2 – Sisterhood Craft Night

Monday, 11/6 – Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday 11/8 - Rabbi's Torah Study

Thursday, 11/9 – Kristallnacht Program

Saturday, 11/11 – Shabbat Leaner's Service

Sunday, 11/12 - Cantor's Breakfast & Braha Class & Genizah Burial

Tuesday, 11/14 - Table Talk

Wednesday, 11/15 - Rabbi's Torah Study

Saturday, 11/18 – Librarian Shabbat

Thursday, 11/23 – Thanksgiving – Office Closed

Sunday, 11/26 - Cantor's Breakfast & Braha Class

Monday, 11/27 – Board of Trustees

Wednesday, 11/29 - Rabbi's Torah Study

Contact Lauren @ TBT for more information: 516-334-7979 or admin@templebethtorahli.org

Happy Thanksgiving

Starting on
Sunday, November 5,
our evening minyans will
begin at 7:30 p.m.

Start times for Shabbat services remain unchanged. Services on Friday evenings will continue to be held at 6:30 p.m. Services on Saturday evenings will continue to start around sundown. Please see our website or calendar (pages 8-9) for specific details.

Recent Events

Our beautiful sunset Tashlich service: The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are known to tradition as Aseret Yamei HaTeshuva – the Ten Days of Repentance. During this time, it is customary to reflect on our lives and set intentions for how we might grow in the coming year. Among the most important rituals associated with this week is Tashlich – “Casting Off.” Our tradition asks us to join together to cast away our less desirable character traits by symbolically throwing bread into a body of water and emerging into the year unfettered by that which holds us back. Our Tashlich ceremony took place at Teddy Roosevelt Park, as it does each year, on Tuesday, September 19. Participants joined together for a beautiful sunset Tashlich and moments of prayer, singing, and community togetherness.

Men’s Club’s Samplin’ in the Sukkah event: On Wednesday, October 4, all were invited to join the Men’s Club for a night of whiskey and bourbon tasting in the Sukkah, with a presentation by local expert Brian Sandell. Snacks were served to help enhance the flavors, and together we celebrated the festival of Sukkot with L’Chayims and good times.

Temple Beth Torah Stands With Israel: During these trying days for the Jewish people, so many Temple Beth Torah members showed their Jewish pride and love for Eretz Yisrael. A Temple Beth Torah Stands With Israel gathering of solidarity, unity, and strength was held on Thursday, October 12. We were honored to be joined by Todd Richman, a member of the UJA NY Executive Committee, and Nassau County Legislator Arnold Drucker, a passionate supporter of Israel throughout his career and a defender of the Jewish people in his legislation against Anti-Semitism. In addition to words from Rabbi Dermer and prayers of strength from Cantor Sokol, our young adults and teens led us in a candle lighting and vigil, where we said the Kaddish to mourn the loss of the innocent victims of terror.

Follow Temple Beth Torah on Facebook to see additional pictures.



Recent Events



Recent Events



Upcoming Events for November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 The Jews of Long Island Presentation with Brad Kolodny, 7:00 p.m. Evening Minyan, 8:30 p.m.
Daylight Saving Time Ends 5 Morning Minyan, 9:00 a.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	6 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	Election Day 7 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	8 Rabbi's Class, 7:30 p.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.
12 Minyan, 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Bracha, 9:30 a.m. Geniza Ceremony, 11:00 a.m. Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	13 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	Rosh Chodesh Kislev 14 Table Talk, 7:00 p.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	15 Rabbi's Class, 7:30 p.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.
19 Morning Minyan, 9:00 a.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	20 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	21 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	22 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.
26 Morning Minyan, 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Bracha, 9:30 a.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	27 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	28 Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.	29 Rabbi's Class, 7:30 p.m. Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events for November 2023

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>Challah Board and Cover Craft Night, 7:00 p.m. Evening Minyan, 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Candle Lighting, 5:31 p.m. Shabbat Services, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Shabbat Services, 9:30 a.m. Minha Services, 5:30 p.m.</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Veterans Day (Observed) 10</p> <p>Candle Lighting, 4:24 p.m. Shabbat Services, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Veterans Day 11</p> <p>Shabbat Services, 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Leaner's Service Minha Services, 4:25 p.m.</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Candle Lighting, 4:18 p.m. Shabbat Services, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Shabbat Services, 9:30 a.m. Librarian Shabbat Minha Services, 4:20 p.m.</p>
<p>Thanksgiving 23</p> <p>Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Candle Lighting, 4:13 p.m. Shabbat Services, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Shabbat Services, 9:30 a.m. Minha Services, 4:10 p.m.</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Evening Minyan, 7:30 p.m.</p>		

Upcoming Event Spotlight

Our leadership and clergy work tirelessly to craft experiences which will be inspirational, meaningful and safe for all involved.

Temple Beth Torah is still active and thriving. If you haven't come by lately, please do! There's always something going on here at Temple Beth Torah!

We value our members and your opinions.

If you have ideas for future programs or events, or if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to our office, our co-presidents and/or our clergy.



Upcoming Events

TEMPLE BETH TORAH

WALK WITH TBT & HATZILU

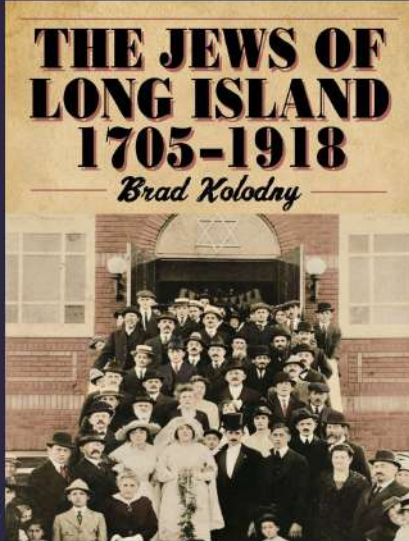
Sunday, October 29th @ 10:30AM
 Meet in the Temple Lobby @ to walk to Catiague Park.
 Drinks & Snacks will be provided.
 Bring a picnic lunch and stay after the walk to enjoy!

Hatzilu provides food, financial aid, social work intervention and assistance, and emotional support to Jews in need in the Nassau County area of Long Island.

WED NOV 1 7pm

PRESENTATION BY AUTHOR BRAD KOLODNY



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 -JONATHAN D. SARNA
 Professor of American Jewish History Brandeis University & Chief Historian Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History

Books available for sale and signing following the presentation

TEMPLE BETH TORAH

SISTERHOOD PRESENTS: Challah Board & Cover Craft Night

Thursday, November 2nd @ 7:00PM
 \$30 Per person

Join us as we make a Challah Tray & Decorate a Challah Cover



RSVP ASAP IN ORDER TO HAVE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR YOU!
 LAUREN @ TBT BY 10/26: 516-334-7979 OR
 ADMIN@TEMPLEBETHTORAHLI.ORG

TEMPLE BETH TORAH



Breakfast & Bracha w/Cantor Sokol

In this five-part series, we will explore the major daily prayer services of the year. We will learn the structure of the services and dive more deeply into some of the critical prayers including the Shema and Amidah. We will also examine the idea of bracha and its relationship to the liturgy. Breakfast served!

The class will take place on the following Sunday mornings right after Minyan from 9:30-11:00am.

- Oct 15
- Oct 29
- Nov 12
- Nov 26
- Dec 10

RSVP to Lauren @:
admin@templebethtorahli.org
 or 516-334-7979
 so that we can make sure we have enough breakfast!

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For more information, contact Lauren @ 516-334-7979
or admin@templebethtorahli.org

A Guide to Temple Beth Torah

CONTACT US

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PURCHASE TORAH CARDS

Contact Linda Pochtar, Betty Weiss or the
Temple office for additional information



TEMPLE FRIENDS INITIATIVE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE?

TEMPLE BETH TORAH IS MORE THAN JUST A TEMPLE; WE ARE A RELIGIOUS FAMILY WHO CARES ABOUT EACH OTHER. WE HAVE A GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS, IN ADDITION TO OUR CLERGY, WHO TAKE TIME TO ASSIST TEMPLE MEMBERS IN NEED. WHETHER IT'S A FRIENDLY PHONE CALL, VISITS FROM FULLY VACCINATED VOLUNTEERS, PRESCRIPTION PICK UP, KOSHER SNACKS AND HOMEMADE TREATS DELIVERED, POST-SHIVA AND BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT – AT TEMPLE BETH TORAH, WE ARE THERE FOR EACH OTHER.

IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. ALL INFORMATION SHARED IS CONFIDENTIAL. CONTACT MICHELE LIPPMAN OR RABBI DERMER.



SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

DAILY SERVICES

EVENING MINYANS (SUN - THURS), 7:30 P.M.
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES, 9:00 A.M.

SHABBAT SERVICES

FRIDAY EVENING, 6:30 P.M.
SATURDAY MORNING, 9:30 A.M.
SATURDAY MINHAH/HAVDALAH, SUNDOWN
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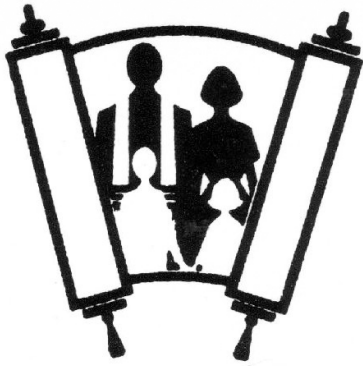
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