NOVEMBER 2023 SHOFAR

Dear Friends,

I was on the Guilford Green yesterday evening when I heard a man speaking English in what sounded to me like an Israeli accent. I approached his bench, and said *s'licha* ('excuse me' — this excessively polite gesture instantly outed me as an American). We began to converse.

Ech atah mistader, I asked — how are you holding up? Ko'ev, ha lev koev, he replied — hurting. My heart hurts. Machzik ma'amad — But I'm holding on.

I nodded. I put a hand on his shoulder. As I looked at his face I noticed a cap was obscuring his kippah

Hashem Itanu, he said. God is with us.

God is with us.



The response was classic Israeli. We've been through tough times. We'll make it through this, too. I didn't have to ask this man whether he had lost anyone to the violence; whether he had any family members or friends serving in the IDF, facing imminent danger. I didn't have to ask.

As Israel fights for its very right to exist (what other country has to do this?) battles are being waged both in Israel and abroad. Here in the USA, we're seeing the rise of hateful protests and violent antisemitism on college campuses. A recent Harvard poll found that 51% of 18-24-year-olds found Hamas's terrorist carnage "justifiable" given the Palestinians' grievances. A Cornell professor called Hamas' brutality "exhilarating." Angry protests at the Universities of Michigan and Wisconsin targeted Jews with hateful rhetoric. Neo-Nazis joined in the fray. At Cooper Union, Jewish Students were locked in to the library to protect themselves from protestors banging on the doors, screaming, "Long Live the Intifada." There are too many others to mention here.

It used to be that college was where our young people learned to think broadly, critically. Now our elite institutions are harboring one-sided, hate-fuelled propaganda. One thing we can do is reach out to all of the college students in our lives, and see how they are doing. This week, I hosted an open Zoom space to process, grieve, and respond. I'll schedule further sessions as is helpful.

As I write this, we are reading *parashat lech lecha*, the Torah Portion when Abraham and Sarah leave their home in search of our promised land. God tells them along the way, "I shall make your name great. And you shall be a blessing." (Gen 12.2) My childhood rabbi, Rabbi Mark Shapiro z''l, loved to point out that this phrase is grammatically imperative. "Be a blessing," says God. There's no other option.

A Midrash on this portion has Abraham questioning God:

"Master of the Universe, You made a covenant with Noah that you would never destroy his children. Then I came along and pleased you better, so my relationship with You overrode his. Perhaps someone else will come along and please you better than me, so that his relationship with you overrides mine? God replied, "Among Noah's children there are no righteous people who intercede for others, but among yours there will be."

We Jews are a nation of helpers— a people who hate the suffering of all innocents, regardless of borders or life circumstances. You're continuing to ask how to intercede, how to help. Here are three additional worthy causes you may wish to support:

- Assuta, a hospital in Israel near the Gaza border
- Educare IL, a non-profit organization founded in order to promote resilience and prevent violence in Israeli society, through the research and implementation of empirically-based training programs for therapists, educators and parents
- New Israel Fund Emergency Safety Net Fund is working in several key areas: 1. Basic care for vulnerable groups; 2. Combating violent speech and incitement online; 3. Preventing inter-communal violence in mixed Arab and Jewish cities; and 4. Mental health and trauma counseling

I thank you to everyone who has reached out to help, pray, and care for our siblings in Israel and here at home. Together, we will make it through this. We will be a blessing.

Shalom, Shalom, fervently and soon, Rabbi Moss

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Dear TBT family,

I can't believe it has only been one month since I wrote my last shofar column. It feels like years ago. A month ago I had no idea that Hamas was planning a deadly terror attack on Israel that would launch our homeland into a war. I didn't know I would be helping to organize a vigil of solidarity for our community. I never thought I would have to rush to the synagogue after we received a threatening email or that I would be meeting with tearful preschool parents who were frightened about the safety of their children. It never occurred to me that antisemitism would erupt on our college campuses. I didn't anticipate the need for security guards and police to protect us in our holy space. I feel like we have been living through a nightmare and I just want to wake up back in September.

I always try to keep these columns positive, and I'm sorry, but I just don't have it in me today. This weekend was really hard. It was supposed to be parents' weekend at my daughter's college in Maine. Instead, she came home after being in lockdown in her dorm for two days. She was traumatized. And then today, I wake up to find out that there was a violent threat against Jews at Cornell, the university my son attends. There are now armed guards outside the center for Jewish living and the Jewish fraternities. This is what our children are living through; this is what we are living through.

Sometimes we will be strong and forge ahead with gratitude and hope. But other times, we will just feel exhausted, frightened, and hopeless. This is when our Jewish community is so essential. It was such a comfort to come to the wine tasting last night and get hugs and support from my friends and my TBT family. Thank you, it made a difference to me. I want TBT to be able to provide that for you as well. This is what it means to be a true, genuine, sacred community.

B'Shalom, Karen Goldberg

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
NOVE	temple be		1	2	Mahjong 1PM Shabbat Service of Gratitude 6:30PM Feast to follow	4 Minfulness & Meditation 8AM Torah Study 9AM
5 Religious School 9:30AM Israel Class 11AM jChat 12PM	6	7 Election Day Design Team 7PM	Religious School 3:45PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:30PM HR Committee 7:30PM Kol Ami Movie Night 7:30PM	9 PreK Parent Cafe 6PM Bylaws Info Session 7:30PM (Zoom)	Mahjong 1PM Religious School K-2 Service and Dinner 5:30 Shabbat Service 6:30PM Taylor Family Sponsored Oneg following services	11 Torah Study 9AM Miriam Taylor Bat Mitzvah 10AM
Religious School 9:30AM Haverim 9:30PM jChat 12PM	13 Kulanu Committee 4PM	14 Board Meeting 7:30PM	15 Religious School 3:45PM	Education Committee 6:30PM TBT Book Club 7:30PM	Mahjong 1PM Young Families Shabbat 5PM Shabbat Service 6:30PM	18 Minfulness & Meditation 8AM Torah Study 9AM
19 Religious School 9:30AM	20	21 RAC Meeting 6PM	No Preschool No Religious School Office Closes Early	23 Thanksgiving Office Closed Preschool Closed	24 Office Closed Preschool Closed Shabbat Service 6:30PM	25 Torah Study 9AM
26 No Religious School	27	28	29 Religious School 3:45PM	30		

All times and dates are subject to change. Please check your inboxes and the TBT Website for up-to-date information.

SHABBAT

All services are Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Services in the Sanctuary are streamed live Youtube. The link can be found in your inbox and below. youtube.com/@templebethtikvah5835

Friday, Nov. 3: Shabbat Service of Gratitude, 6:30 p.m.; Robust Oneg to follow

Friday, Nov. 10: Religious School K-2 Shabbat Service and Dinner 5:30; Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.; Taylor Family Sponsored Oneg to Follow Saturday, Nov. 11: Shabbat morning service at 10:00 a.m. Celebrate Shabbat as Miriam Taylor is called to the bimah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Friday, Nov. 17: Young Families Shabbat, 5:00 p.m.; Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 24: Shabbat Service, 6:30 p.m.

TORAH STUDY

Coming back in person, on occasion, and live on Zoom every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. (check your inbox for Zoom link)

You can find the text and *d'var Torah* at https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study

Nov. 4: <u>Vayeira</u> - Genesis 18:1-22:24

Nov. 11: Chavei Sarah - Genesis 23:1-25:18

Nov. 18: Tol'dot - Genesis 25:19–28:9

Nov. 25: <u>Vaveitzei</u> - Genesis 28:10-32:3

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. on Zoom, and also returning to in-person on occasion.

This month, Mindfulness and Meditation will meet on November 4th and November 18th.

All are welcome.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happiest of birthdays to our kids celebrating this month!

Slater Boms, Lucy Zanchetti, Miriam Cave, Brendan Cohen, Noah Gilbert, Harrison Tore, Paulina Garcia Scalici, Miriam Taylor, Charlotte Lee, Alexandra Rothstein, Benjamin Coe, Josie Hershman, Saylor Infantino, Theo Cohen, Dayron Wilkins, Joshua Evan Arnold, and Dylan DiCenzo.





MIRIAM TAYLOR - BAT MITZVAH



With love and connection to generations past, present, and future, Naomi, Jeremy, and Esther Taylor are thrilled to share that Miriam is becoming a *Bat Mitzvah* on November 11, 2023, at Shabbat morning services in our beautiful sanctuary. Especially at this moment, we are grateful to be able to join together with our community in Torah and tradition. We hope you are able to attend in person, or virtually on TBT's YouTube channel. Miriam is so grateful to all of her religious school teachers, her Torah and Haftorah tutor, Anne Calvert, and Rabbi Moss for all of their guidance and wisdom over the years that brought her to this point.

BE AN ADVOCATE FOR JEWISH SAFETY IN ISRAEL & IN THE US!

Help insure Congressional support for Israel and the safety of Jewish Institutions in the US. Please take a moment to use <u>this link</u> to reach out to your representatives and ask them to support the current bill that provides critical funds for the safety of Jews. This ADL link will identify your representatives for you and creates the email - it is very easy.



FIGHT ANTISEMITISM! BE ARMED WITH FACTS!

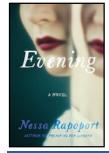


Monday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

As members of a Kulanu Synagogue we are all invited to this ADL Webinar about Antisemitism in Contemporary Times. Educating ourselves is one of the first steps in Self - Advocacy. Please join with Synagogues across the country and learn facts for yourselves and to share.

<u>Click Here</u> to Register

TBT BOOK CLUB



Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

This month's book club book is Evening by Nessa Rapoport.

Two sisters, lost youth, and youthful obsessions; organized by day as the family sits shiva, *Evening* unfolds the paradoxes of love, ambition, siblings, and the way the past continues to infect the present, sometimes against our will.

HAVERIM

Haverim will meet on **Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.** If you have any questions, please contact <u>Ken Rosenberg</u> or <u>Steven Stoll</u>.



ROSH CHODESH



Monday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom to welcome the month of *Kislev*. Led by Tobie Meisel.

We invite all TBT Women to join us!

RAISE THE ROOF

The Build Goes On with House #21! We are grateful for our Raise the Roof Temple Beth Tikvah volunteers who have been part of every house build since 2003.

The next house for TBT to help build will be the home of the Wahidi Family at 264 Russell Street.

For more information, go to <u>www.raisetheroofct.org</u>, or contact <u>Linda Brody</u> if you'd like to volunteer for a build day. Let's keep building houses and lives together!



The Wahidi Family, Raise the Roof Board members, and volunteers at the kick-off build of 264 Russell Street.

KESHER



Our 2023-2024 groups are up and running and people can check back next spring when we start planning next year's groups.

If you have any suggestions for future groups, please contact Marlene Schwartz.



October was a busy month with lots of fall fun activities happening in the Preschool!

- North Madison's Volunteer Fire company stopped by with their firetruck to teach us about fire safety.
- We all enjoyed our first TBT Preschool Family *Shabbat* in our beautiful new sanctuary!

This month we are looking forward to our Thanksgiving program and our *Todah* Brunch!

Enrollment is now open for all Temple Members, enroll your child before we open enrollment to the public in December! If you are interested in enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year, please contact our director Jennifer Casillo at 203-245-8039 or NSDirector@tbtshoreline.org.

Follow us on Facebook @tbtpreschool to see what we are up to.



Campaign for Temple Beth Tikvah

Have you joined us in Building Community? Now is the Time!

If you haven't donated or pledged to the TBT Capital Campaign yet, TBT Needs You!!

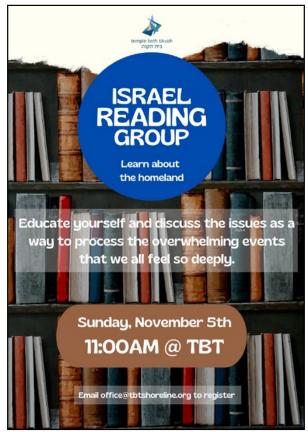
Help us finish the campaign, and don't miss your chance to say, "I helped to build the future of TBT and the Jewish community!"

Ouestions?

Please reach out to Suzy Frisch at sgfrisch@aol.com, or to Bruce Topolosky, John Lesage, or Karen Goldberg. We would love to discuss the building project and how you might support the renovation and our future.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our capital campaign!





On Sunday, November 5, we will discuss two short essays, which Rabbi Moss asks you to please read in advance:

<u>Unnamed Essay</u> - Ori Hanan Weissberg | <u>Eyeless in Gaza</u> - Fintan O'Toole



TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

In this time of adversity, we think it important for our community to commemorate a Jewish triumph over another adversity and the timeless nature of the Jewish spirit!

HANUKKAH BRISKET & LATKE SHABBAT DINNER



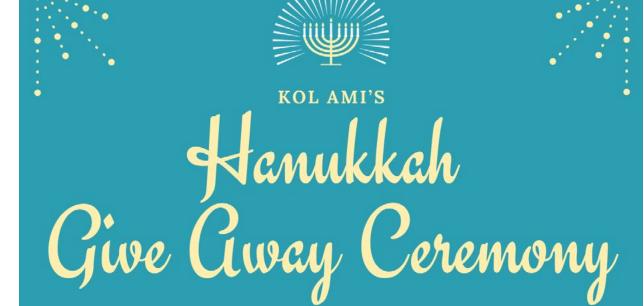
DECEMBER 8 AT 5:30 P.M.

Dinner (with vegan option) will be at 5:30 p.m., followed by Shabbat Services at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own Hanukiah to light with us!

\$18 per Adult • \$6 for children 5-13 • Kids under 5 are free

CLICK HERE TO RSVP OR CALL TBT - (203) 245-7028

meal will be Kosher-style



A Native American tradition, the purpose of a giveaway ceremony is sharing. The lessons connected to this ceremony teach us how to release possessions and to let go the ideas of importance connected with those belongings.

Everyone needs to bring one item that they own that they are ready to give to someone else. Each person will get to choose an item, explain why they chose it, and the giver will explain why they brought it.

Take the next couple weeks to walk around your house and find an item that is meaningful.

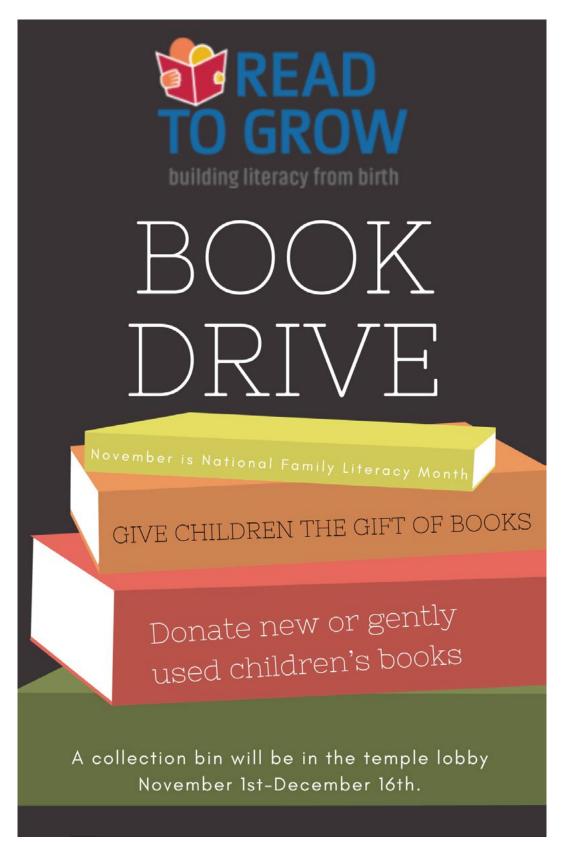
This will also be a potluck, so everyone please bring an appetizer or a dessert.

December 10 | 3:30 PM Temple Beth Tikvah



DECEMBER 20 I 5:30 PM

A RUGRATS CHANUKAH



For her *Mitzvah* project, Brett Maynard is running a book drive to support Read to Grow and promote National Family Literacy Month. There is a collection bin the TBT lobby for anyone who would like to donate new or gently used children's books.

TBT wants You!

A temple is both a spiritual home and a community, in times of need and to share fun.

To really feel a part of TBT, you'll want to know your fellow congregants and join in --- whatever your interests.

You don't need a buddy or a friend to join. New friends are waiting for you! Just call the office or contact us - and we'll put you in touch with the right person.

HERE ARE SOME ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

- . KOL AMI WOMEN'S CLUB
- . HAVERIM MEN'S CLUB
- KESHER CONNECTION GROUPS
 WWW.TBTSHORELINE.ORG/KESHER-GROUPS
 - · CARE FOR CAREGIVERS
 - o COOKING CLUB
 - o GOD, I HAVE QUESTIONS
 - o LET'S SING
 - o MOUNTAIN BIKING AND SKIING
 - O SHABBAT DINNER CLUB
 - o ZOOM WITH NEW FRIENDS
- BOOK CLUB
- . FILM CLUB
- HIKING GROUP
- · CHOIR
- SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
- PROGRAM COMMITTEE
- FINANCE COMMITTEE
- TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
- RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
- . YOUTH ACTIVITIES
- ADULT EDUCATION AND TORAH STUDY
- EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We are a community reaching out to you - reach back!

Membership Co-Chairs

Susan Lustig: sflustig@hotmail.com 203-453-1014

Tobie Meisel: tobiemeisel@gmail.com 201-337-9166



CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY FOR TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH

Maintaining the vibrancy and strength of our Jewish community is of the utmost importance to many of us. How do we ensure that our synagogue continues to exist for future generations and remains financially stable to meet current and future needs?

Endowments are an essential element of every Jewish organization's financial stability strategy. Legacy giving can transform TBT by assuring that we build an endowment that can ensure our future.



By partnering with the LIFE & LEGACY^{IM} program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and with the Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, TBT has joined hundreds of Jewish organizations across the United States in creating a program to secure legacy commitments that will help us secure a thriving Jewish future. Our "Create a Jewish Legacy" committee, chaired by Sabrina Maurer, is striving to integrate legacy giving into our philanthropic culture, and to provide you - our generous and forward-thinking members - with the opportunity to express your commitment to sustaining a strong future for TBT.

Our legacy donors are congregants, just like you, who understand TBT is the future our founders imagined and want to ensure that we continue to be the supportive and vibrant community we are today. Please join us!

DUES VARIANCES

Our Temple has a continuously rising number of congregants on dues variances. We never turn anyone away for financial reasons. If you are able, please <u>click here</u> to support your fellow TBT members with a contribution.

Thank you.





LOOKING FOR A WAY TO...

Celebrate a milestone?

Honor a loved one?

CONSIDER SPONSORING

A Shabbat Oneg

It's fun to do with friends and the Religious Activities Committee will help with details. If you're interested in sponsoring, please contact Lydia in the TBT office.



JOIN THE TBT CHOIR

No previous experience required. Bring your enthusiasm and excitement and we will provide the rest!

Choir will meet on Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TBT FUNDS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Hilliard/Studdes Family in love, grief, & solidarity Rev. Mary Anne Osborn

Robert and Ann Auerbach in loving memory of Bedrich Auerbach

Neil Landau in honor of Rabbis Danny Moss & Susan Landau Moss & Baby Levi

Franklin and Joan Shapiro Green in loving memory of Sally Green & Issac Shapiro

Len and Maureen Fried in loving memory of Sid Maxen & Selma Fishkind

Jimmy Shure in loving memory of Marie Frisch **Helenne Gettenberg** in loving memory of Henry Gettenberg

Dina Burg in honor of Bruce Topolosky **Emily Phillips** in loving memory of Vivian Phillips **Macnow Family** in loving memory of Esther Spiegel

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Neil Landau in honor of Rabbis Danny Moss & Susan Landau Moss & Baby Levi

Elon & Stephanie Boms in loving memory Rick & Betty Shambroom

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Jonathan & Kristine Kislak in loving memory of Marie Frisch

Barbara & Alan Lipman in loving memory of Marie Frisch

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Rabbi Sommer & Linda Waldman in honor of the New Year

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Shaun & Kevin Glazier in loving memory of Marie Frisch

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Mike & Tobie Meisel in loving memory of Marie Frisch & Loren's brother

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KULANU FUND

Andrea SanMarco

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HIGH HOLIDAY DONATIONS

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Jonathan Katz & Sally Karasov in loving memory of Joseph Leonard

Sheila England in loving memory of Harriet Cohen Haggerty

Joseph Cancelmo & Janet Stein in honor of Rabbi Moss

Brendan Miller & Jessica Gurfein-Miller in loving memory of Erica Gurfein

Robert Geiman & Tatyana Oks-Geiman in loving memory of Igor Oks

Elon & Stephanie Boms in loving memory of Betty Shambroom

Ron & Shelley Capozzi in loving memory of Patrick Capozzi, Emily Capozzi, David Capozzi, Alan Belgard, John Peterson, & Melzer, Menkes, & Milsztein families

Gina Koppel in honor of Naomi's Aliyah

David & Nancy Rosen in loving memory of Dr. Gerald Rosen, Maxine Greenberg, & Ann Rosen

Ethan Horwitz & Gloria Kindman in honor of their marriage

David & Janet Rimm in loving memory of Alfred Rimm

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Louis E. King & Peggy Britt in loving memory of Leon King & Dr. Diane A. King

Jonathan Levine and Suzy Frisch in loving memory of Ed & Gloria Sack and in honor of Noah Stein

David & Mollie Keller

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Franklin & Joan Shapiro Green in loving memory of Phyllis Shapiro, Ruth Shapiro, Bruce Frankel, Kitty Green, Stella Green, Morris Green, Issac Sharie, & Albie Sharie

David Stein & Christine Dokko

Tom Pinchbeck & Bonnie Garmisa in loving memory of Hannah Lee Miller

Richard & Barbara Stahl in loving memory of Paul Stahl, Alena Stahl, Marcie Miccio & Anthony Miccio

Andrew Compaine in loving memory of Robert Schwartz, Gregory Schwartz, & William Compaine

Leslie Sude in loving memory of Paul J. Sude and in honor of Rabbi Moss

Greg Feldman

TEMPLE BETH TIKVAH SHOFAR

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Rabbi Danny Moss President Karen Goldberg

Interim Educator

Director Ira Wise
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Suzy Frisch

November 2023

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ARE YOU LOOKING TO ADVERTISE? Contact the Temple Beth Tikvah Business Office - 203.245.7028

