



THE SHOFAR

Temple Beth Shalom Florida, New York
February 2024 Shevat / Adar I 5784

From the Desk of Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder

At the writing of this article, we are at Day 116 of Israelis citizens and soldiers being held hostage in Gaza. We know that the fate of these human beings is one of three possible outcomes: either they were released, they were killed, or they are still hidden away in a tunnel. How the hostages are treated in their bondage remains an unthinkable and painful possibility. We feel helpless, but I encourage you to Google: **bringthemhomenow** to learn more about these men, women and children who remain in shadows.

As we just read in the Torah the legend of the Children of Israel crossing over the Sea of Reeds, I am mindful that the story of our people includes times of us being in great darkness. We were held in Egyptian bondage and the Hebrew word for Egypt is Mitzrayim. Another way to translate this word to English is "the narrow places." Certainly being held in a Hamas tunnel is very much a narrow place - both literally and figuratively. How can we have hope when we see the smiling faces on those posters or at the installations of empty Shabbat dinner tables? When we remember that our collective story is ultimately one of redemption. This is part of the Passover narrative: "Once we were bondsmen in Egypt, now we are free."

For the past several months, I have been thinking about how to support and inform our TBS kids, especially those who are studying on college campuses. I tried to schedule an information session at the tail end of winter break with Mike Isseks, the organizer and teacher of discussions for adults both at the Monroe Temple and at TBS. Alas, timing did not work, but I sent via their parents two some sources that I think could provide both helpful and easily accessible information. This information with not prevent them from being exposed to the unfiltered higher education's marketplace of free ideas (which is code for allowing chants of "From the River to the Sea") on campus but the timeline of Israel's journey over 3,000 years provides a succinct history of our people living in the Land. Feel free to post, forward, or send this timeline via carrier pigeon to stop the misinformation campaign that falsely claims that the Jewish people are colonizers who seek the genocide of the Palestinian people. A simple talking point to counter such a claim is that **Israel is not at war with the Palestinian people. Israel is at war with Hamas.** To be a bit less succinct: **Israel is at war with the Hamas terrorists who murdered and tortured over 1200 men, women, and children on October 7.** Today 120 Israelis are still being held captive. The morning after the attack, the international community was horrified that Hamas shot babies and kidnapped grandmas. Three months later, we see that factors such as unregulated social media have changed that once humane reaction. Throughout the world, nations use anti-Zionism as code for antisemitism and do not acknowledge that the unfortunate collateral damage of civilian deaths are the direct result of Hamas terrorists hiding among them.

But back to the timelinge facts -- even better: these facts are with pictures! This Israel timeline is produced by StandWithUs (a.k.a. Israel Emergency Alliance)

https://121a6a94-37d0-4344-8957-8394c526443e.filesusr.com/ugd/46fc49_cda9a0ee701944f69a4d5df5b95e1b2c.pdf

If you and your children are seeking more information, once again, I recommend the very digestible book Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth by Noah Tishby. Seriously, this book of history opens with a story of the author getting McDonald's with her family at a Tel Aviv mall! Among her many accomplishments, Tishby is successful Israeli actress, American TV producer, and advocate for Israel. She weaves her historical narrative with pop culture references and gives accessible information about timely issues such as the BSD (Boycott, Sanction, and Divest) movement and how this anti-Israeli products campaign began on college campuses in America even though it is funded by sources in Iran.

Knowing that our kids have a lot to read, and we all have a lot to do, here is a link to it on Spotify:

https://open.spotify.com/show/6vcqT0RteVXyXlZACtZkud?si=nQG3BBgsTxmH_NhAjiVWQ

continued on next page



Rabbi Shinder, continued

So what do we do when we feel helpless? Get informed and when you hear something, say something. Ask questions when you think a person has made a baseless statement about Israel. Even asking people if they could see the difference between saying that Israel is at war with the Palestinians as opposed to saying that Israel is at war with Hamas is a terrific first step. By the way, it's not just college kids who are aware of the conflict. We've discussed in Beit Sefer how this is an upsetting time and how it is important to share love and support for the IDF soldiers, but we do not have the ability to unpack the 3,000 year timeline with them. Please talk with them about how you feel, what you know, and even what you still hope to know.

Finally, prayer is always a good option! Our Friday night Shabbat services continue on Zoom (bit.ly/tbsservices) at 7PM through the end of February – EXCEPT for a Beit Sefer lead service on February 9th in Monroe. The evening will begin at 5:30PM with a dinner for all congregants from both communities. The children will then take an active role in a 6:30PM service.

Please check out these resources, including those below to help our friends in Israel in various ways.

I pray that this period of darkness and being in mitzrayim (the dark places) soon.

Am Yisrael Chai (the people of Israel shall live!), Rabbi Shinder



DONATE TO ANY OF THESE AGENCIES WHICH WORK TO ASSIST ISRAELIS IN NEED IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE.



One hundred percent of donations received will be distributed to frontline Israeli NGOs, including hospitals and trauma centers.



Israel's emergency medical system, needs your help now to purchase more ambulances and ballistic vests to protect paramedics under fire. www.afmda.org



Finds ways to help ease Israeli's pain and trauma. www.jnf.org



Volunteers distribute hundreds of thousands of grocery packages to needy Israeli families.
www.donate.feedisrael.org

CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We've been talking for a long time now about how Jewish life around the world is changing. I'm grateful to be part of a community that has seen the changes and is working to stay relevant as these changes continue to unfold!

If you joined us for Shabbat Shira last Shabbat, you will have seen that change can offer some wonderful benefits. The TBS choir, Chaverim B'shirim (Friends in Song) have made new 'friends' who, I believe, helped to elevate the experience even more than usual. Those of you who have participated in the combined Sisterhood, Men's Club, Shabbat, or Sunday experiences with our friends from Monroe Temple, no doubt felt the elevated excitement of a stronger future together. If you haven't taken the opportunity to do so, I strongly encourage you to see what you're missing, and be part of the future of Reform Judaism in southern Orange County. Together, we are stronger.

Although February is the heart of winter, there are still plenty of opportunities to feel the warmth of community.

- ♦ At our combined community dinner and Shabbat service at Monroe Temple on March 9th
- ♦ Joining the Monroe Temple Shabbat Chavurah (lay-lead Shabbat experience) on March 10th
- ♦ Michael Melasky's Hebrew classes on Sundays
- ♦ Federation's MLK movie screening and discussion in Newburgh before the Superbowl on February 11th
- ♦ TBS Zoom Erev Shabbat services

If you want to stay connected, you can. I look forward to seeing some of you at many of these events. As always, if you need your community for anything, please reach out. We're here for you, and are working to ensure there is always a community here for you.

B'shalom, Wendy



The TBS Board has revitalized the Security Council to engage with local law enforcement. We will be evaluating our current security posture and identify any deficiencies and improvements that can be made.

Interested TBS members should reach out to Jonathan Winaker with questions, concerns, and suggestions. Input from members with Law Enforcement, Security, or Emergency Services Response experience would be deeply appreciated.

Please contact JonathanWinaker@gmail.com and put "TBS Security Council" in the subject line.



~ CARING COMMUNITY ~

We thank the following donors for their generosity

- ☆ Wendy Wayman IMO Lois Hunn
- ☆ Gail and Danny Conklin IMO Lois Hunn
- ☆ Lois Bateman IMO Herman and Helen Cohen
- ☆ Lois Bateman IMO Louis and Willian Neustadt
- ☆ Lois Bateman IMO Howard Cohen
- ☆ Norma Saks IMO Max, Frances,& Carol Ann Susswein
- ☆ The Gallo Family IMO Joseph Sherer

We thank Lois Bateman for her donation to Rabbi's discretionary fund

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Please let us know what we don't know!! Just a friendly reminder to encourage you to email the temple office to keep us informed of any health issue you, your spouse, your child, or your parent may be facing. Vital information such as this can never be over communicated. Please do not assume that if one congregant knows what is happening that the entire community knows. Please tell us if you'd like to include that loved one on the Mi Shebeirach list, or, conversely if someone should be removed from it. -With thanks, Your TBS Family

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DID YOU KNOW that Temple Beth Shalom has one of the nicest cemeteries around, including a newly refurbished Interfaith Section, below right, amid fields of green, nothing in the area comes close.

For a limited time, we are having a BOGO, buy one plot, get one free. Yes, that's correct - 2 plots in our beautiful cemetery for \$850! The sale does not include perpetual care, which is a one time payment of \$600 each or opening costs, which hopefully you will not have to worry about for quite a while. If you are interested in scoping out a plot, email Michael Melasky, mol.1980@yahoo.com and set up an appointment soon.





FEBRUARY YAHRTZEIT REMINDERS



February 2nd

Helaine Brodie Strauss	27-Jan
Saul Kobrick	27-Jan
Marcia Siegel	31-Jan
Norman Sneider	31-Jan
Dr. Marvin Ackerman	1-Feb
Daisy Weintraub	2-Feb
Irving Parker	17 Shevat
Irving Osias	17 Shevat
Adina Epstein-Bialas	20 Shevat
Jennie Cohen	20 Shevat
Herman H. Rudnick	21 Shevat
Frances Nathan	22 Shevat
Leon Montag	22 Shevat

February 9th

Norma Katz	3-Feb
Roberta N. Frischman	6-Feb
Adele Lois Mallkin	6-Feb
Ira Jay Gottlieb	8-Feb
Susan L. Ackerman	8-Feb
Saul Kobrick	25 Shevat
Louis Ezra	25 Shevat
Minnie Kantrowitz	27 Shevat
Isadore Helper	28 Shevat
Norman Sneider	29 Shevat
Miriam Entin	29 Shevat
Lena Cohen	30 Shevat

February 16th

Edward A. Schorr	10-Feb
Jerome Quint	12-Feb
Helen Cohen	14-Feb
Mark Hirschberg	1 Adar
Dr. Lazar Schwartz	1 Adar
Dorothy Ball	3 Adar
Florence Golomb	3 Adar
Yetta Gelfer	6 Adar
Jerome Willbach	7 Adar
Evelyn Levy	7 Adar

February 23rd

Isidore Fischman	17-Feb
Seena Spindel	20-Feb
Margaret Mathews	Feb. 21
Mark Hirschberg	Feb. 22
Yosef Grushko	Feb. 23
Genya Grushko	Feb. 23
Carole Gottlieb	8 Adar
Evelyn Laskin	9 Adar
Nellie Helper	12 Adar
Charles Markowitz	12 Adar

March 1st

Claire Nadler Waldman	Feb. 28
Jerome Norman	1 March
Sandra Rake	15 Adar
Leah B. Greenwald	15 Adar
Frieda Savitt	16 Adar
Dorothy Werner	19 Adar
Dora Turchin	19 Adar
Dr. Philip Mann	21 Adar

*May the Source of peace
send peace to all who
mourn, and comfort to all
who are bereaved.*

A candle may be lit at home the evening before the yahrtzeit date. From September through June these names will be read during the erev Shabbat service before kaddish is recited. If you have a loved one you wish to add to our yahrtzeit list, or if you have not been getting yahrtzeit reminders from us, please email the office, tbs-ny@optimum.net.



FEBRUARY

EDUCATION



BEIT SEFER בית ספר

Beit Sefer of Orange County • A new twist on Jewish education!

2024 schedule is subject to change.

Watch your Beit Sefer emails.

February 2024- Monroe Sunday: 4, 11, 25 Tuesday: 6, 13, 27 Thursday: 1, 8, 15, 29 Friday: 9 Shabbat service and dinner	March 2024- Temple Beth Shalom Sunday: 3, 10, 17 Tuesday: 5, 12, 19 Thursday: 7, 14, 21 Friday: 1, Shabbat service/ dinner Saturday: 9, NFTY-GER Sunday, 17, OC Purim Carnival, Kol Yisrael (Nbg)
April 2024- Monroe Sunday: 7, 14 (Field Trip, Lower East Side), 28 Tuesday: 2, 9, 16, 30 Thursday: 4, 11, 18 Friday: 5 Shabbat service and dinner	May 2024- Temple Beth Shalom Sunday 5, 19 Closing Day Tuesday: 7, 14 Thursday: 2, 9, 16 Friday: 3, Shabbat dinner/service

Adult Hebrew Education

Our own Michael Melasky's class concentrating on "Understanding the Friday Night Service" continues on Sunday mornings at 10AM, alternating between TBS and Monroe Temple. Please contact Mike, molas.1980@yahoo.com to let him know that you are interested.





BEIT SEFER • בית ספר

Beit Sefer of Orange County • A new twist on Jewish education!

All Are Welcome!

Beit Sefer Dinner & Services

February 9, 2024

Monroe Temple of Liberal Judaism

Dinner 5:30pm

Services 6:30pm

Bring your favorite dessert to
share at the oneg!



Featuring music by the Beit
Sefer students

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Sisterhood gathered for a fun filled Sunday afternoon in January for Scrabble and sundaes. Everyone enjoyed a few hours of conversation, comradery, and delicious sundaes.

- Sisterhood is planning on baking hamantaschen at the temple for Purim on Wednesday, March 13th.

We would love for many of you to join us that evening.

- Thursday, April 11th Psychic Medium Lisa Morrison will be back at the temple.
- We will once again have our Sisterhood Paid-Up Luncheon in mid-spring.

Please watch the weekly blast with details for each of these events.

- Sisterhood is looking for Mah Jongg and Canasta players, We are still interested finding a group who would be interested in playing Canasta. If you would be willing to teach beginners how to play Canasta, please let me know if you have any interest in playing or teaching either game.

Email thebordmans@aol.com or text 845-699-6460.

***Your Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood Executive board:
Robin Bordman, Ileene Cahn, Mindy Hazzard, Judy Potter,
Holli Teshome and Wendy Wayman***



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ANOTHER 18%.**

**STOCK UP ON GIFTS FOR
THE UPCOMING YEAR.**

Below are a few photos from Shabbat Shira, January 27, 2024. We are proud of our interpretation of "Heal Us Now." This beautiful prayer was composed by Cantor Leon Scher. The combined choirs and musicians of Temple Beth Shalom and Monroe Temple Beth-El were led by Charyl Kain on the piano for this selection.

Members of the choir/musicians are: Sharon Ball, Wendy Cedar, Gail Conklin, Scott Dunn (our musical director), Elizabeth Frederick, Gail Green, Jon Gottlieb, Andy Hannes, Charlene Hirschberg, Eleonora Horn, Robin Rosenberg, Nina Rubin and David Schiff.

Please listen to this song on youtube here: https://youtu.be/1YYD9BmH_OU

Photos by Rich Ball
and
Gail Conklin



ZOOM ONLY
SHABBAT SERVICES
7PM
FEBRUARY 2ND,
16TH AND 23RD
BIT.LY/TBSSERVICES

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 9TH
5:30PM
DINNER AND SERVICES
AT MONROE TEMPLE
EVERYONE INVITED



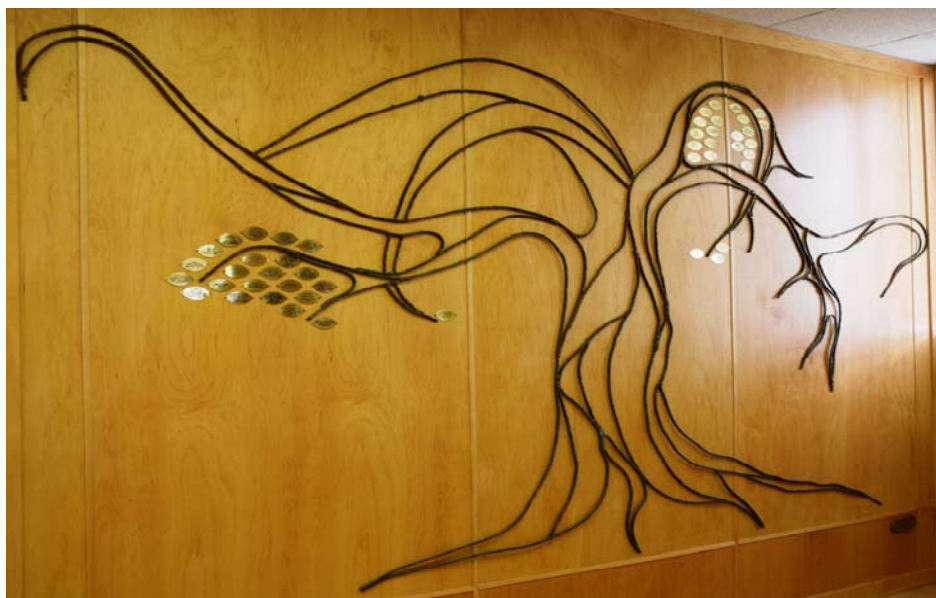
Saturday
March 9th
2-8 pm
\$10 Participant Fee

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TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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IN THE SANCTUARY Memorial Plaques \$180

To order, email tbs-nt@optimum.net with your name and email, your address, the name on the plaque and the date of death either English or Hebrew date. If you do not know the Hebrew date, we can look it up but we need the time of death on the English date.

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The Shofar

Published Monthly

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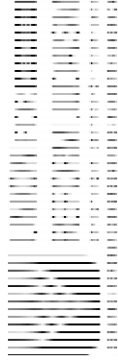
Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder

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5784
2024

February

shevat
adar I

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				122 shevat 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School	223 shevat 7PM Shabbat Service via Zoom	324 shevat Yitro
425 shevat 9:30-11:30AM Beit Sefer at Monroe Temple	526 shevat	627 shevat	728 shevat	829 shevat 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School 7:30PM Board of Trustees	930 shevat 5:30PM Dinner and Shabbat Service at Monroe Temple ROSH CHODESH	101 adar I Mishpatim ROSH CHODESH
112 adar I 9:30-11:30AM Beit Sefer at Monroe Temple	123 adar I	134 adar I	145 adar I	156 adar I 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School	167 adar I 7PM Shabbat Service via Zoom	178 adar I Terumah
189 adar I NO BEIT SEFER	1910 adar I PRESIDENTS DAY	2011 adar I	2112 adar I	2213 adar I NO HEBREW SCHOOL	2314 adar I 7PM Shabbat Service via Zoom PURIM KATAN	2415 adar I Tetzaveh SHUSHAN PURIM KATAN
2516 adar I NO BEIT SEFER	2617 adar I	2718 adar I	2819 adar I	2920 adar I 4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School	JANUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	
						MARCH S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30