

# Shofar



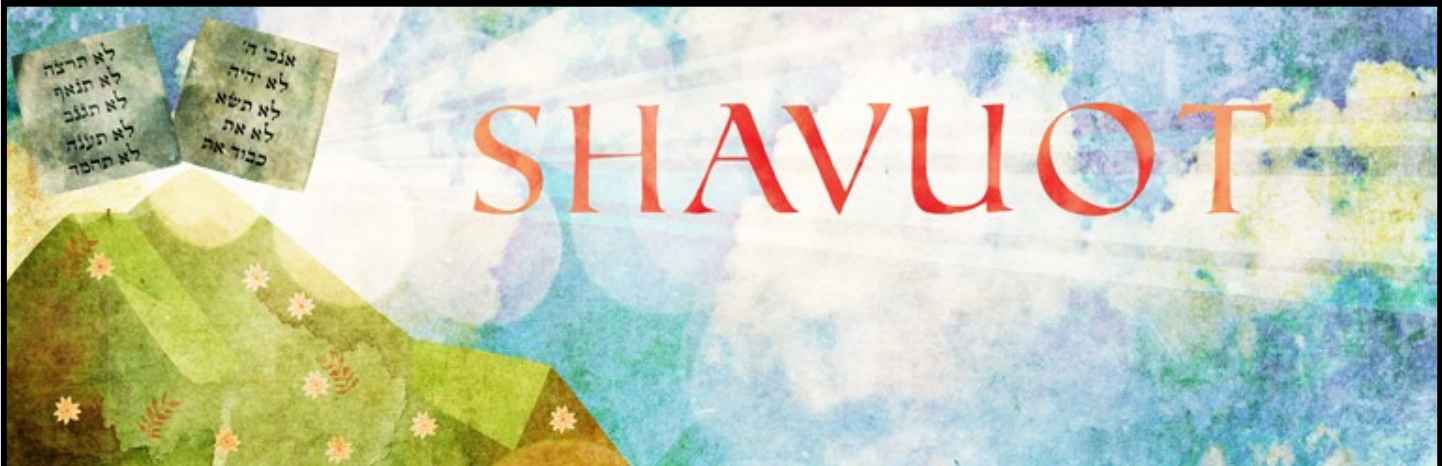
Temple Beth El

*"Where Judaism Lives"*



June, 2019 • Iyyar/Sivan 5779

Volume 76, Issue 10



**Friday, June 7, 21 & 28 @ 7:30 PM**  
**Shabbat Worship Service**

**Sunday, June 2 @ 2:00 PM**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, June 9 @ 11:00 AM**  
**Shavuot Program**

**Friday, June 14 @ 6:00 PM**  
**Family Night Service**



איחוד  
ליהדות  
מתקדמת  
באמריקה

Dear Chevrei,

It's countdown time. By which I mean, not toward my exit- though I know everyone is eying that moment with an assortment of feelings: sadness, trepidation, anxiety or, in a few cases, glee. Rather, I am referring to the annual countdown on our beautiful Jewish calendar – the days between Pesach, our feast of freedom, and Shavuot, the anniversary of the Covenant at Mount Sinai, which we will celebrate on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM.

Counting is always significant. As we turn to the Book of BeMidbar, we will again find Moses conducting a census of the Israelites – a sign, our sages said, of God's love, because one only counts what is valuable to oneself. We count our children, be they few or many. We count our money – and are more likely to count it carefully when it actually belongs to us, rather than to an employer or other third party. The Psalmist urges us to cherish our very mortality, to “number our days, that we might acquire a wise heart.”

If what we are to count is merely the Omer, than obviously the Torah is the wisdom we hope to acquire. But the device of the Omer may also be seen as a lesson in how to count. That the counting, in and of itself, isn't what is important; it is the transformation that we must undergo in the process.

For when we left Egypt, what were we? A ragtag, grumbling bunch of downtrodden slaves. We were collectively devoid of vision. We knew we wanted out of Egypt, but we went blindly, without knowledge of our destination or destiny. No wonder our ancestors were quick to kvetch, to long for the predictability and relative stability of their slave-diets – their cucumbers and onions.

To arrive at Sinai, and more critically, to receive the Torah, our ancestors had to undergo a transformation. They did not complete it successfully there at the foot of the mountain, of course – that is why they needed that extra forty years of wandering. But they at least needed to see themselves, not merely as ex-slaves hungering for leeks and cucumbers, but as a people who could thrive on manna. They needed to become a people that needed, not whips and routines, but the freedom to observe Shabbat. They needed to see themselves, not as Pharaoh's slaves, but as the founders of an independent nation under the sole sovereignty of God.

As we count Omer together, we see that this congregation, too, is on a journey. Not that I've been Pharaoh – at least, I hope not all the time! Still, I have provided you with 26 years of stability, and, once our newness wore off, some predictability as well. Yes, we have been together at Sinai, metaphorically, many times. But the time is fast approaching for me to transfer the mantle of leadership to some new shoulders, and for you to see the sights and hear the sounds of Sinai through new and different eyes.

The end of Psalm 90 – the verse from which “numbering our days” comes – ends thus:

“May God be gracious to us, by establishing the work of our hands; let the work of our hands establish it.”

In other words, writes my colleague Alana Suskin, “The heart of wisdom isn't given, it is shaped. It comes from seeing that your life, your family, your community, your nation, is at a tipping point. And realizing that you must change, because there is no going back to Egypt”

“Without change,” she continues, “there is only mitzrayim” – the narrowness that locks us in a constrains us... Without change, there is no future.”

May the work of your hands build and establish that future, and may Temple Beth El's future be ever bright.

B'ahavah, livracha ul'shalom – with love, for blessing and for peace,

Rabbi Cheryl Rosenstein

## President Elliott Magnus Perspectives

I am thankful for my opportunity to be president of Temple Beth El. I am grateful for all who served on the board while I served my term. I also like to recognize those who helped me along the way, whether on the board, a member, or those who just wanted to help Temple Beth El succeed.

I was going to write that my one regret is that I am leaving my post, without knowing the identity of the next rabbi to lead the congregation. However, after giving it some thought, I decided that this may not be the worst thing after all.

I have been reminded, that having a temporary vacancy for a rabbi is not new to Temple Beth El, and when the congregation finally made the decision on who the new rabbi would be, the right choice was made, and Rabbi Rosenstein remained in her position for twenty-six years.

I have also thought about those congregants who will have the opportunity to lead a service. We have fantastic lay leadership at Temple, with some members going to get further training in how to conduct and lead a service. Not to mention a few of us already have had some training...at our B'nai Mitzvah. I have heard some beautiful sermons, and d'var torahs from the bima and they were not all given by Rabbi Rosenstein. We have so many intelligent, insightful, creative members that are all capable of delivering a thought provoking lesson to the rest of us. The main ingredient to do so is passion. I know there is passion here, based on phone calls, emails, texts, and letters I have received from a number of congregants over my time as serving as president.

My hope is that during this time, and once a new rabbi is secured, that we find a renewed passion for Temple Beth El. Now is not the time to withdraw further from engaging with our fellow congregants, now is not the time to sit on the sidelines when deciding to attend a service, community event, or fundraiser and take a wait and see approach. Now is the time to 'become the change in the synagogue, you wish to see!'

My duties as president are winding down, but that does not mean my duties to the synagogue have shrunk any. My role as the president of the synagogue may have run its course, but my role as a Jew in the community has not. My view from the bima of the congregation will change, but my view of my responsibility to the congregants of Temple Beth El will not.

I look forward to worshipping with my family and friends from the seats in the sanctuary; anticipating the Torah to make its way to our row, so that I may show touch its velvety cover and show its due respect. I look forward to watching the new slate of officers take control and steer this ship as best as possible, and being able to help as best I can. I look forward to being able to reflect, study and learn, so that I may be there for my Temple in whatever capacity it needs me.

Elliott Magnus



1	Karen Klein	
5	Bruce Joseph	
5	Catherine Mahan	
5	Cheryl Rosenstein	
6	Raul Escobedo	
6	Becca Green	
6	Beatrice Ramos	
6	Philip Rudnick	
7	Holley Arbeit	
7	Lyle Gartenlaub	
7	Sage Russinsky	
10	Richard Schenkman	
11	Rogers Brandon	
11	Steven Magnus	
11	Hillary Neumeister	
13	Theresa Goldner	
13	Jeffery Schwartz	
15	Judy Feldman	
15	Etel Lewis	
16	Amelia Eglund	
17	Gail Magnus	
18	Connor Preciado	16th
19	Joe Fram	
20	Susan Cohn	
20	Shepard Palitz	
21	Echo Kniffen	
23	Benji Shiell	
24	Connie Sedaca	
28	Larry Fish	
28	Terri Stanton	
29	Michayla Escobedo	20th
29	Carter Friedman	10th
30	David Kilpatrick	



2	Michael & Marty Weinberg	28th
7	Miriam & John Beam	51st
8	Jay & Marsha Greenstein	50th
9	Larry Saslaw & Ann Peterson-Saslaw	34th
11	Daniel & Christy Rudnick	30th
13	Bob & Heidi Allison	55th
13	Charles & Sharon Rhodes	41st
30	Roy & Amy Snyder	7th
30	David & Terri Stanton	56th

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## Oneg

	June
7	Karen & Kathi Briefer-Gose Larry & Ann Saslaw
14	Max & Libbie Mahan
21	Selwyn & Cecily Kay
28	Board of Directors

If you are unable to host your scheduled night, please **find a replacement; then call the office** at 322-7607 so that our Shabbat Worship Service cards are updated accordingly. **Reminder:** Part of clean-up includes washing and putting away dishes and utensils.

## Publish Your News In The Shofar



Your items of interest are welcomed for publication.  
**Deadline is 12 noon on the 15th of the month.**

Call Lorrie at 322-7607  
or email at  
tbebakfield@gmail.com

## Changes?

Please notify Lorrie in the Temple office with your membership information -- addresses (including email), phone number(s), births, marriage, yahr-zeits.

Please help up keep our data base and membership directory updated.



*Please join us  
In wishing*

*-Rabbi Rosenstein-*

*A fond goodbye*

*Saturday, June 15, 2019  
11:00 a.m.*

*Open house  
At the home of  
Marsha Parr*

*10205 Alyssum Court  
Bakersfield, CA*

*Please RSVP to Irene Christenson  
By Wednesday, June 12th  
irenerae@gmail.com*



## Service & Pulpit Honors

<b>Friday, June 7 @ 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service</b>		<b>Parashat -</b> Numbers 1:1-4:20	<b>Haftarah</b> Hosea 2:1-2:22
	<b>Candle Blessor</b> Marsha Greenstein	<b>Torah Bearer</b> Leonard Epstein	<b>Torah Blessor</b> Marc Schulman
<b>Sermon</b>	<b>Kiddush</b> Jay Greenstein	<b>Oneg Hosts</b> Karen & Kathi Briefer-Gose Larry & Ann Saslaw	<b>Usher</b> Ilene Schechter
<b>Friday, June 14 @ 6:00 PM Family Night Service</b>			
	<b>Candle Blessor</b> Marsha Parr	<b>Oneg Host</b> Max & Libbie Mahan	<b>Usher</b> Jill Eglan
<b>Friday, June 21 @ 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service</b>		<b>Parashat -</b> Numbers 8:1-12:16	<b>Haftarah</b> Zecharia 2:14-4:7
	<b>Candle Blessor</b> Elizabeth Harris	<b>Torah Bearer</b> Heber Cruz-Berber	<b>Torah Blessor</b> Irwin Harris
<b>D'var Torah</b>	<b>Kiddush</b> Adam Rodriquez	<b>Oneg Hosts</b> Selwyn & Cecily Kay	<b>Usher</b> Irvin Pike
<b>Friday, June 28 @ 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service</b>		<b>Parashat -</b> Numbers 13:1-15:41	<b>Haftarah</b> Joshua 2:1-2:24
	<b>Candle Blessor</b> Isabella Rudnick	<b>Torah Bearer</b> Ferdinand Aggenbach	<b>Torah Blessor</b> Barry Goldner
<b>Torah Reader</b>	<b>Kiddush</b> Susie Easley	<b>Oneg Hosts</b> Board of Directors	<b>Usher</b> Laura Wolfe



### In honor or in memory... the perfect remembrance...

Bookplates in our prayer books are available for only \$18 each. To order, send your check payable to Temple Beth El and include the wording of your choice and the manner in which you want your name to appear. On the envelope, please write "attn.: bookplates".

Questions? Call the TBE office:  
(661) 322-7607

### Temple Beth El

Provides a sanctuary for your sacred prayers, a social hall for special celebrations, a library to study our heritage, a school to teach our eternal values and ways to remember ones who are no longer with us. One of the traditional ways we honor those who helped shape our lives is by placing a made-to-order bronze Memorial Plaque which will be added to the walls of the Temple foyer.

For more info, contact Andy Abrams at :  
(661) 328-6426 or email him at  
aabrams@bak.rr.com

## June 2019 Yahrzeits

### 6/7 Shabbat Worship Service

Charles Knupp, remembered by TBE	6/6
Guy Parr, husband of Marsha Parr	6/6
Cathy Potter, daughter-in-law of Alexander z"l & Judith Potter	6/6
Rosalie Troop, aunt of Ross Abarbanell	6/6-Sivan 3
Muriel Vekas, sister of Arline Pike z"l; aunt of Irvin Pike	6/6
Joan Fromm, mother of Tim Fromm	6/10
Leah Schenkman, mother of Richard Schenkman	6/10
Harry Davis, brother-in-law of Pearl Davis	6/11
Tyler Anthony Mince, nephew of Laura Lauria	6/11
Goldie Bernstein, sister-in-law of Pearl Davis	6/12
Etta Goldman, aunt of Marsha Parr	6/12
Robert Hindin, grandfather of Dave Hecht	6/12
Al Abrams, husband of Charlotte Abrams; father of Andy Abrams	6/13
Sadye Axler Soren, grandmother of Sharon Miller	6/13-Sivan 10
Helene Davis, mother of Carla Epstein	6/13

### 6/14 Family Night Service

Shirley Chemnitzer, remembered by TBE	6/15
Lillian Epstein, mother of Etta Robin	6/15
Arie Reich, cousin of Sylvia Neal z"l & Laurie Henderson	6/15
Marian Timm, grandmother of Dave Hecht	6/15
Miriam Buck, grandmother of Beth Spiegel	6/16
Julius Bard, grandfather of Marc Schulman	6/17-Sivan 14
Tsolik Lekht, brother of Etel Lewis	6/17
Karen Patricia Stevens Reep, mother of Susan Reep	6/17
Wendy Wayne, remembered by TBE	6/17
Raymond Hoffmeyer, father of Gail Lipton	6/18
Dr. Milton Bronstein, cousin of Sylvia Neal z"l & Laurie Henderson	6/19
Howard Leventhal, husband of Rebecca Leventhal	6/19
Kendall R. Peterson, father of Ann Peterson-Saslaw	6/19
Lewis Vengarick, remembered by Irvin Pike	6/19

### 6/21 Shabbat Worship Service

Sheryn Pincoski, remembered by TBE	6/21
Shirley Steinberg, mother of Irene Christenson	6/21
Alton Swinney, father of Nancy McCombs	6/22
Irene Broida, grandmother of Greg Broida	6/23

**6/21 Shabbat Worship Service (cont'd)**

Jonas Hakimi, father of Ahron Hakimi	6/23
Gregory Solomyania, remembered by TBE	6/24
Cheryl Gottesman, daughter-in-law of Rebecca Gottesman z"l	6/24
Jacob Schneider, father of Norma Schwartz z"l; grandfather of Jeffery Schwartz & Helen Armistead	6/25-Sivan 22
Robert Seeds, step-father of David Neumeister	6/25
Joshua Raymond Escobedo, nephew of Raul Escobedo	6/26
Juana Genel, mother-in-law of Ana Genel z"l; grandmother of Janet Blumberg	6/26
Manuel Genel, husband of Ana Genel z"l	6/26
Doug Fletcher, friend of Stan z"l & Norma z"l Schwartz	6/27
Henry Solomon, uncle of Greg Broida	6/27

**6/28 Shabbat Worship Service**

Sylvia Kohan, friend of Jeffery Russinsky & Linda Morales	6/29
Bert Everett Davis, father of Mark Davis	7/1
Edna Solomon, grandmother of Greg Broida	7/1
Beulah Davis, remembered by TBE	7/2
Cleotilde Espinosa, mother of Maria Chavez	7/2
Socorro Gonzalez, mother of Rose Broida; grandmother of Michael Broida	7/2
Saul Gottesman, husband of Rebecca Gottesman z"l	7/3-Sivan 30
Michael Gerard Moylan, father of Roy Snyder	7/3
Robert Pike, husband of Arline Pike z"l; father of Irvin Pike	7/3
Guy Robert Tann, husband of Miriam Tann	7/3
Eddie Holt, uncle of William Wolfe	7/4
Ruth Putnam, mother of Mary Grey	7/4
Connie Wellman, wife of Peggie Soltis	7/4

**In Memory**

*We mourn the loss in recent days of. . .*

**Norma Schwartz**  
**April 25, 2019 - Nisan 20 5779**  
 Mother of Jeffery Schwartz & Helen Armistead

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## Contributions (4/17-5/16)

### Memorials/Yahrzeit

Andy & Ella Abrams

In memory of Denise & Dugan Turner

Greg & Rose Broida

In memory of Anastacio Gonzalez

Brent Eastep

Joe Fram & Bonnie Birch

In memory of Norma Schwartz

Ronald & Laura Lauria

In memory of Diane Carrete &

Ethel Gintzler

Etel Lewis

In memory of Denise Turner

Michael & Sharon Miller

In memory of Norma Schwartz

Glen & Anita Singer

In memory of Norma Schwartz

Robert & Marcy Smith

In memory of Leonard H. Smith

### Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Joshua & Edith Rudnick

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of

Isabella Rudnick

Larry Saslaw & Ann Peterson-Saslaw

In memory of the Louisiana Black Churches

### Tree of Life

Andy & Ella Abrams

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of

Gabriel Theron & Alrich Aggenbach

Etel Lewis

In honor of Rabbi Rosenstein &

In memory of Norma Schwartz

Joshua & Edith Rudnick

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of

Isabella Rudnick, Alrich Aggenbach &

Gabriel Theron

Ilene Schechter

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of

Alrich Aggenbach & Gabriel Theron

Ilene Schechter

In honor of Rabbi Rosenstein & in

memory of Norma Schwartz

### Building Fund

Steven & Brenda Friedman

### Caring Committee

Marsha Parr

In memory of Carol Shain,

Norma Schwartz, Denise Turner &

Albert Kaplan

### Temple Beth El Special Funds

Tree of Life, Memorials, Prayer Book Plates, Rabbi's Discretionary, Vision Committee, Caring Committee, Shirley Lipco Social Justice Fund, Building (Torah Learning Center), Camperships, Library, Paul Bregor Music Endowment, Kol Nidre (High Holy Days).

Need help finding a ride or someone to  
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Contact:  
Andy Abrams  
589-3778  
Or email him at  
aabrams@bak.rr.com

### Meal of Condolence

Jewish tradition prescribes that a meal be provided for the family following the burial of a family member. To that end the Caring Committee of Temple Beth El is prepared to provide a Meal of Condolence for temple families who experience the loss of a loved one. Please consider making a donation in memory of your loved one to the Caring Committee so that we may continue to provide this Mitzvah to others!

Thank you

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 2:00 PM Annual Meeting	3	4	5	6	7 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service	8
9 11:00 AM Shavuot Program	10	11 7:00 Board Meeting	12	13	14 6:00 PM Family Night Service	15 11:00 AM Rabbi Farwell Reception @ Alyssum Ct.
16	17	18	19	20	21 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 7:30 PM Shabbat Worship Service	29
30						


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***E-mail your Shofar submission to the Temple at  
tbebakersfield@gmail.com  
Deadline for the July Shofar is **June 15, 2018*****

***Our monthly Shofar is published by:***

**TEMPLE BETH EL**

2906 Loma Linda Drive

Bakersfield, CA 93305

Tel: (661) 322-7607

Fax: (661) 322-7807

Website: [www.templebethelbakersfield.org](http://www.templebethelbakersfield.org)

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