

Temple Beth Or Bulletin

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

June/July 2016 ~ Iyyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5776



ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 26, 2016

What a full year this has been! I count my blessings every time I walk in the door; how fortunate I am to be here in Montgomery serving this extraordinary congregation. Can you believe that in a few weeks I'll be entering my tenth year here? I already have bar and bat mitzvah students who don't remember any other rabbi. Makes one feel old...

I usually end my report with thanks, but want to begin this year's report with a very particular word of thanks to Diane Weil. Our presidents here are all devoted and spend lots of time managing the affairs of our temple, but I've never seen one quite so involved as Diane. Temple Beth Or is virtually her second home, and she is hands-on involved literally in every aspect of what we do. Some leaders are not happy to support new programs and initiatives; others are open to new ideas and creative thinking; Diane is one of those who creates those ideas, continually sharing a creative vision with me, our Board and our members of what a well-functioning congregation ought to be. If we are a welcoming community recreating ourselves for future generations, a lot of the credit goes to Diane Weil.

An annual report provides an opportunity to review our year, and project some thoughts for the future. As your rabbi, here is some of what I've been involved with:

In my teaching this year, my adult education program included a ten-part series on Basic Judaism; a six-part course on Midrash, a five-part series on ethical dilemmas (using traditional texts and the responsa literature of Jewish

tradition), and a 5-part class on the Holocaust. Some twelve to nearly twenty participated in each one, about half being members and half guests from the community at large.

We also hosted three authors through the Jewish Book Network, funded by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture and Culture Fund, a collaboration that will continue this coming year, with Harriette Dorosin in the chair. I completed a two-year stint as president of Interfaith Montgomery; spoke at this year's Graetz Symposium at ASU about Rabbi Seymour Atlas's contributions to the Civil Rights Movement; was this year's Thanksgiving speaker at the First United Methodist Church, and gave a number of other community and church talks. Most of these are along the lines of "everything there is to know about Judaism in thirty minutes," though one very enjoyable program on Chanukah and Christmas was with Rev. Carl Stegall at a Rotary Club lunch.

We also hosted visiting groups, including about a dozen groups on Civil Rights tours – mostly teenagers from Reform congregations around the country, but also some adult groups – and several schools invited me to speak or guest teach, including classes at Montgomery Academy and Huntingdon College – where I'll be teaching a course on the Holocaust, by the way, this coming spring. The largest such group of visitors is from Huntingdon, which sends nearly 200 religion students our way each year for Huntingdon College Night – with an hour of discussion preceding our service, and a fine reception following. Even though their attendance is required, they seem to enjoy the exchange.

We have seen some important changes in our worship this past year, and the feedback I hear has been almost uniformly very positive. Both Pete

Hitchcock and Turia Stark Williams have been singing on Shabbat on a much more regular basis, accompanied by keyboard or guitar; aside from the beauty of their singing, what I find most gratifying is how many of our members join in; the level of engagement is almost palpable, and spirits are evidently being touched in new ways. We've had several services in the intimacy of our library, or over dinner in the social hall; we've had a few services with flute, violin and even percussion, as we experience what a joy it can be to worship together with beautiful, uplifting, spiritual and joyful music.

This year we hosted visiting faculty from Huntingdon College, under the auspices of our Library Committee chaired by Joan Loeb, to inaugurate a new library partnership. Students and faculty at Huntingdon are now able to use and borrow our library holdings, using a copy of our catalogue that has been installed in the Huntingdon Library. We've also hosted a gathering of Leadership Montgomery, and for the 30th year hosted 1st graders from Montgomery Academy who had a lot of fun learning about Chanukah. I worked closely with Dana Korem, our *sh'lichah* from Israel, to coordinate many first-rate programs on Israel's culture and politics, achievements and challenges, and worked closely with the Sabel and Capouya families to prepare Ellie and Isabella for their bat mitzvah services – in each of which they did themselves and our community proud. At Isabella's bat mitzvah we used "Visual T'filah" for the first time in our Sanctuary, doing away with prayer books and focusing instead on gorgeous screens that enabled us to do a complete service without a single page announcement!

Aside from whatever we do programmatically, my top priority, as

continued on page 4.

**Celebrating Our
163rd Year**



ELLIOT L. STEVENS, D. D., RABBI
David A. Baylinson, D. D., *Rabbi Emeritus*

Temple Beth Or Officers

Diane Weil.....*President*
John Ives.....*Vice-President: Programs*
Morris Capouya.....*Vice-President: Finance*
Rubin Franco.....*Treasurer*
Susan Bernstein.....*Secretary*
Jamie Loeb.....*Immediate Past President*

Board of Trustees

Harriette Dorosin.....*Adult Education*
Andy Weil.....*Cemetery*
Steve Clein.....*Co-Membership*
Bob Weisberg.....*Co-Membership*
Steve Wallace.....*Facilities*
John Ives.....*Long Range Planning*
Jarred Kaplan.....*Religion School*
Marlene Beringer.....*Ritual*
Jim Levy.....*Youth & Scholarship*

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT

Karen Goldstein

MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT

Pete Ginsburg

Temple Beth Or Staff

Gina Friday.....*Temple Administrator*
Elana Hagler.....*Religion School Director*
Linda Smith.....*L'Chaim League*
Marlon Cotton.....*Maintenance Manager*
Elizabeth French.....*Organist & Choir Director*
Temple Singers.....*Michelle Lott, David Peden,
Bill Taylor, Linda Webb, Turia Stark Williams*

Office Hours

Monday CLOSED
Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 9-4
Friday 9-2

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*Please call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to report any corrections
or inaccuracies in the bulletin.*

The reports from the May 26th Annual Meeting will begin with the Rabbi's report on the cover and continue on page 4. The President's message will return to this space with the next issue.

Contributions to Funds

*We greatly appreciate the people who support Temple Beth Or by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Those that are received **after the 20th of the month** will be in the next bulletin.*

**Blachschleger Library Fund
In Memory of Eleanor Hasson**

Stephen G. Coleman

Condolence Fund

In Memory of Alan Goldsmith

Lucille Adler Goldsmith

General Fund

**In appreciation of Rabbi Stevens's
Judaism classes**

Edith J. Crook

In Memory of Eleanor Hasson

Bette Sue Strasburger

Prayerbook Fund

In Memory of Allegra P. Cohen

Kathie and Raymond Cohen

In Honor of Kathie Cohen

Raymond, Michael, Joel and David

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In loving memory of

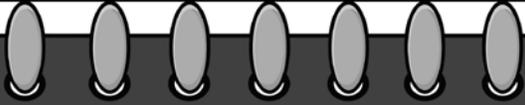
Sumner David Goldberg

Robert, Betty and Erik Goldberg



Saturday, June 18
Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday morning, June 18,
Rabbi Stevens will lead a
Shabbat morning service.
Service will run from 9:30 –
11:15 a.m. and include Torah
study and a light brunch.



Save the date!

L'Chaim League invites you to join us
for an afternoon of

Beer, BBQ, and
Line Dancing

at Temple Beth Or
Sunday, August 21st
12:30 p.m.

\$14 per person

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

5..... Jarred & Joy Kaplan
10..... Steve & LeAnne Wallace
12..... Joe & Charlotte Mussafer
15..... Gene & Jean Harris
16..... Hugh & Beverly Bolen
18..... David & Janice Baylinson
18..... Sam & Liza Kaufman
19..... Ron & Joanne Shum
20..... Mike & Louisa Weinrib

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

2..... Jamie & Carol Loeb
6..... Bob Weisberg & Clare Weil
10..... Adam & Dawn Schloss
11..... Greg & Alison Williamson
13..... Joe & Stephanie Person
14..... Edward & Angela Abraham
17..... Kent & Carol Roberts
28..... Rick & Marlene Beringer
29..... Ronnie & Barbara Leet
30..... John & Jenny Ives

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4..... Mike Weinrib
6..... Aaron Bern
8..... Joan Hanan
8..... David Lipton
11..... Rosalind Markstein
11..... Sari Capilouto
14..... Turia Williams
16..... Jeanette Rousso
19..... Milt Livingston
20..... Carol Loeb
21..... Joyce Strassburger
23..... Jay Van Cleeff
23..... Stephen Weinrib
23..... Greg Williamson
26..... Charlotte Mussafer
27..... Karen Lieberman
28..... Craig Goldstein

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7..... Michael Goldner
11..... Amy Cohen
11..... Gene Harris
11..... Azriel Gorski
12..... Stephanie Person
12..... Mae Cohen
14..... Joe Person
16..... Sara Anderson
20..... Jeff Blitz
22..... Lydia Beringer
22..... Angela Abraham
22..... Pete Ginsburg
23..... Celeste Sabel

July birthdays continued.

24..... Burke Schloss
28..... Kent Roberts
30..... Buddy Rousso
30..... Susan King
30..... Suzanne Soloff
31..... Steve Clein
31..... David Berry

YAHARZEITS

To be read June 3

5/29/2016 Michael Schorr
5/30/2016 Sumner David Goldberg
5/31/2016 Dr. Herbert Rosenberg
5/31/2016 Lloyd Vernon Julian
6/1/2016 Frieda Kahn Berger
6/1/2016 Mose Feinman
6/1/2016 Samuel Moscovitz
6/2/2016 Julian H. Kohn
6/3/2016 Joseph H. Abraham
6/4/2016 Alma Hertz Lobman

To be read June 10

6/6/2016 Denise K. Hanan
6/6/2016 Sol Hersberg
6/9/2016 Evelyn Burger
6/9/2016 Joe Harris
6/9/2016 Leon Burger
6/10/2016 Albert Freehling
6/10/2016 Carrie Pollock Lobman
6/10/2016 Jack H. Abraham

To be read June 17

6/12/2016 Carrie Abraham
6/12/2016 Eli Capilouto
6/12/2016 Emanuel Rosenbluth
6/13/2016 Maurice Kahn Weil
6/14/2016 Isidore Rosenbluth
6/14/2016 Nell Hagedorn
6/14/2016 Nellie Loeb
6/17/2016 Jeannette D. Capouya
6/17/2016 Jean Capouya
6/17/2016 Carol Loeb Hagedorn
6/17/2016 Rosalie Rosenberg
6/18/2016 Estelle Popkin
6/18/2016 Jack Bloom
6/18/2016 Jack L. Toney

To be read June 24

6/19/2016 Elinor Carlton
6/19/2016 Julien M. "Sonny"
Strassburger
6/20/2016 Bernard Hanan
6/21/2016 Rachel H. Capp
6/22/2016 Kalman Shwarts
6/23/2016 Helen L. Levi
6/24/2016 Genevieve L. Roberts
6/24/2016 Roy Shinpaugh

To be read July 1

6/27/2016 Hermine Herzfeld
6/27/2016 Olga Franco
6/29/2016 Pamela Weil
7/1/2016 Sigmund Weil
7/2/2016 Alex Marion
7/2/2016 Robert L. Cooper, Jr.

To be read July 8

7/3/2016 Faye Stamm Greil
7/3/2016 Lawrence Rosen
7/4/2016 Diana Kahn Weil
7/6/2016 Harold Straus
7/7/2016 Evelyn Lichtman
7/8/2016 Ann Marks
7/8/2016 Ethel E. Hallman
7/9/2016 Olivia Rose
Shwarts Jacobson

To be read July 15

7/10/2016 Esther Capouano
7/10/2016 Nathan Popkin
7/10/2016 Tommie Moses
Coleman
7/12/2016 Gilbert Ross
7/12/2016 Joseph J. Levin, Sr.
7/12/2016 Mary Jane
Schiffman Wallace
7/12/2016 Regina Piha Capilouto
7/13/2016 Anna Stiller Anshel
7/15/2016 Joseph Golomb
7/15/2016 Rebecca Sherman
Blotner
7/16/2016 Louise Finklestein

To be read July 22

7/17/2016 Carolyn Endel Printz
7/17/2016 Charles Wampold, Jr.
7/18/2016 Michael Deutsch
7/19/2016 Margaret Cohn
Bonfield
7/21/2016 Marjorie Beringer
Julian
7/21/2016 Norma L. Hobbie
7/23/2016 David R. Baylinson
7/23/2016 Nellie Weil

To be read July 29

7/24/2016 Babs Klein Heilpern
7/26/2016 Joan Baim Blach
7/27/2016 Mose Moscovitz
7/28/2016 Philip W. Bernstein, Sr.
7/29/2016 Gertrude S. Weinrib

Birthday and
Anniversary Blessings on
July 8th.

always, is our own membership, and serving Temple Beth Or is also my top joy. I thoroughly enjoy it when one of you comes in just to chat, or makes an appointment to discuss some issue or concern, and I consider it a special privilege when I am asked to be with a family in time of need. All too often, however, I learn third-hand that someone has been in the hospital or has faced some other challenge well after the fact, or I hear assumptions that I must have heard the news from someone else; please know that I welcome hearing from you directly, and the last thing I want to hear is that you thought I was too busy. Nothing else I or we do is as important as the mutual support we give to each other in times of need.

This year we were saddened by the loss of several of our members, either through death or departure from the community. With each passing year, as relationships deepen, these losses are not just communal, or within families, but increasingly personal. We have also been blessed by the arrival of new members who have potential to be future pillars of the congregation; many have already made a positive impact with their contributions and volunteerism. Personally, whether or not we wind up merging with our friends over in Old Cloverdale, I am optimistic about the future of our community and its potential for stability and growth; just look at our religion school, where almost every youngster is a child of TBO members, with a bumper crop in the lowest grades.

What of this coming year? I suppose the biggest change, at least behind the scenes, is that Dr. Elizabeth French will be stepping down next month as our Music Director, after close to 35 years. We'll be feting her with a special tribute during our Shabbat service on June 17 – when we'll also bid farewell to Dana Korem. Fortunately, Becky Taylor – one of Montgomery's most accomplished and gifted musicians – will be leading our singers for the coming High Holy Days, and with ensembles and soloists throughout the year, interspersed with Pete Hitchcock

and Turia Stark Williams. Becky is bringing in some outstanding new singers, and we will use the opportunity to enhance our High Holy Day music with a number of gorgeous new settings – as well as using piloting editions for several of our High Holy Day services of a new prayer book just published for Reform worship.

This year will also feature our community trip to Israel, which I'll be leading with Rabbi Kramer under Federation auspices, from October 30 – November 10. This is a custom-designed trip with a whole host of extras not usually available in a typical package tour, and it should only be great; brochures are available, and note that our Federation is subsidizing every package by \$500, on a per person basis.

Other programs and services will continue; there's always something going on, so consider this my annual pitch to get involved and find some point of entry if you're among those who aren't yet very involved. For those of you who are yet minimally involved, I would welcome and appreciate your thoughts about programs, services or classes that would entice you to join in.

Finally – saving the good part for last, actually – some words of thanks: Even were my entire report to consist only of thanks, there would not be enough words. My admiration for Gina knows no bounds – not just her dedication that brings her in literally by 6:30 a.m. each morning, but her good sense and tremendous sense of ethics. I put way too much on her desk, and fear the day she learns to say “no.” Marlon, now with us six and a half years, is unfazed by trivial requests and major programs that sometimes keep him here half the night. Our Sisterhood remains *the* central pillar, the equal of any such group anywhere, and our Men's Club can always be counted upon for support, mostly behind-the-scenes. Our officers and Board members show a rare dedication and volunteerism and good humor in addressing concerns large and small. This is just a great place to be, and I am blessed.

It's hard to single out individuals when

so many give so much time and energy to our temple and community. But I would be remiss not to mention Pete and Pam Hitchcock – Pete who shares his magnificent voice with us at services throughout the year, and Pam who has taken over our website and Facebook page, devoting countless hours to enhancing our presence and visibility. And then there's Jenny Ives, who has made the yearlong task of managing our Jewish Food Festival virtually a full-time career. We are inspired by our volunteers – and I hope

I look forward to a great year to come, and extend my thanks and best wishes to each of you, our members.

Elliot L. Stevens

President's Report Given by Diane Weil

These past two years serving as the Temple Beth Or president have been busy and I think quite productive. For me, it has been a very rewarding experience and all that has been accomplished is in large part due to the support and involvement of the board along with a wonderful working relationship with Rabbi Elliot Stevens, Gina Friday and Marlon Cotton.

Temple Beth Or has a working board and work they have. We do not have the luxury of a large staff though Gina, Marlon and even Elliot make it look like we do and they handle quite a lot on a daily basis. Truly, this place would stop functioning without them and we are so appreciative of all they do for us. Every board member has an important job and they keep things running smoothly. Sadly, it is time for this executive board to move on, so Jamie Loeb, Morris Capouya, Rubin Franco and Susan Bernstein can take a break for a year or so. John Ives, of course, will be recycled as our incoming President.

Members of the board who are rotating off and will be missed are: Marlene Beringer, Lynne Ginsburg, Jarred Kaplan and Andy Weil. There is a wealth of knowledge and experience in these two groups and they have given

of their time and talents for many years. Please join me in thanking them for their service to Temple Beth Or.

At the same time, we have some new and exciting additions to the Board of Directors with new officers and four new Board members. I am confident they will carry on the tradition of involved and dedicated service to benefit this congregation. I look forward to serving with you.

It may not be generally known who has done what job on the Board this year, so I would like to let you know who they are.

Officers:

John Ives – Programs VP
Morris Capouya – Financial VP
Rubin Franco – Treasurer
Susan Bernstein – Secretary
Jamie Loeb – Immediate Past President

Board:

Harriette Dorosin – Adult Education
Andy Weil – Cemetery
Steve Wallace – House and Grounds
Steve Clein & Bob Weisberg –
Membership & Attendance
Jarred Kaplan – Religion School
Marlene Beringer – Ritual
Jim Levy – Youth & Scholarship
Karen Goldstein – Sisterhood
Pete Ginsburg – Men’s Club

Other Committee Chairs not on the Board:

Louisa Weinrib – Archives
Bette Sue Strasburger – Caring
Committee
Pat Dees - Floral
Joan Loeb - Library
Corinne Capilouto – Social Concerns
Lisa Weil – Art and Decoration

Please do not be shy about contacting these people to volunteer to help or to thank them for what they do!

I cannot say strongly enough what a pleasure it has been to work closely with Rabbi Elliot Stevens. He is aware that I hope he will be with us for as long as he wishes to be. Elliot is intelligent, thoughtful, creative and a man of integrity. We are incredibly fortunate to have him as our Rabbi and a part of our community.

It is also appropriate to thank the past presidents of Temple Beth Or who have served and those who continue to be involved. I ask them to stand and be recognized.

As always, Sisterhood and Men’s Club are an important part of our family and it would be difficult, not to mention frightening, to imagine Temple Beth Or without them. Sisterhood does so much to enhance programs and Temple life and they made the first gift to our restroom renovation - that large donation got us started. Men’s Club also participated and we are grateful for the support of both.

I hope you have or will visit our Temple website and our Facebook page – both are managed by Pam Hitchcock and she is doing a fabulous job! This is a volunteer activity and it takes quite a bit of time. We are thankful for Pam’s time and talents. She is also working in the office part-time which has been a big help for Gina.

L’Chaim League is one of our most active groups and we thank Linda Smith for her work as director and creativity in planning programs.

For the first time, Temple Beth Or did not have a co-principal for the Kol Ami religion school this year, but I am really excited that Kerry Bleiberg will be filling that position next year. Temple has the majority of the students in the school and it is important for us to be represented in its leadership. I know Kerry will be a great addition and we appreciate her willingness to serve in such an important job – instructing our children about their Judaism. They are our future and speaking of our future a hearty Mazel tov to Jeff Herring for being awarded a Steinhart Scholarship to the University of Denver and to Zach Mendelsohn for receiving a Youth & Scholarship award for his NFTY Israel trip. Well done!

This past year has been full of activity. During the summer we did the renovation of the restrooms and I hope everyone has enjoyed the improvement. This congregation stepped up beautifully when asked and most of the cost was covered by donations. Again,

thanks to John Ives and Paragon Construction for doing such a beautiful job.

You also answered the call when Marlon needed help. He is thrilled with his new teeth and we were able to get his eyes checked, too. He now has glasses and can see better! Because of your generosity there is some money in an account for his future medical needs not covered by insurance.

This year we have made some other improvements that, while not huge alone, have made a significant difference in our building. We replaced the awning on the courtyard entrance; replaced exterior doors that were rotten; replaced the lights that shine on the exterior sanctuary wall so that the property is not totally dark at night and it is really nice to see the lovely front of the building when driving by, not to mention safer; improved the path out of the kindergarten room so it is not a safety hazard and looks better and replaced the lights that shine on the sculpture in the courtyard.

We had another bingo evening that was a lot of fun, held our first Mitzvah Day and had our most successful Food Festival to date! We have probably had 20 or more groups from around the country visit this year on Civil Right’s Tours and they always seem to enjoy a Southern Jewish experience that may be very different from their home congregation. They add to our Shabbat service and it gives us a chance to offer some warm Southern Hospitality and be ambassadors for Montgomery.

There are changes to come in our musical program. Dr. Elizabeth French will be leaving as Director of Music. Elizabeth has been with Temple Beth Or for over 35 years and we are truly grateful for all she has done to enhance our services. She is a talented musician and professional in her direction. We wish her well and thank her for sharing her skills and knowledge and being so dedicated to Temple. Elizabeth will be honored at Shabbat services on June 17th and I hope you will be there to thank her in person.

continued on next page.

I believe this is the first time in the history of this congregation that we have two members who can sing professionally at services: Turia Stark Williams and Pete Hitchcock. They are a huge asset to Temple Beth Or. There have been so many positive comments having Turia and/or Pete “out front” and it is a different, lovely experience. We will continue with our choir ensemble directed by Becky Taylor at some services, but our music is evolving to reflect the congregation’s input and the plan is to have a variety of music – something for everyone.

It is important to me that you know we are always conscious of financial considerations and have worked hard to balance expenditures with providing a full, rich temple life offering a variety of experiences to meet the needs and desires of our members. I am proud to tell you that we are amazingly close to the projected budget figures for this year. We have not had a dues increase in several years though we have had a few members make voluntary dues increases and we are most appreciative.

Over the past two years there has been an incredible amount of time put into working on a possible merger with Agudath Israel – Etz Ahayem and I sincerely thank the members of the five Task Forces who worked so hard on this. Unfortunately, I still do not have any information to give you other than to say, at this point, we have paused. We will continue to work to resolve issues, if possible, and I feel sure that in the not too distant future we will know for certain if we can proceed with plans to merge. I will definitely keep you updated. Regardless of what happens, I want to say that it has been an educational, positive and successful endeavor because we have learned a lot about each other and met the goals of working together, being open, respectful and really listening to each other. I believe we have strengthened our relationship.

I do thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as President of Temple Beth Or and I look forward to what’s

next for this fantastic congregation!

L’shalom, Diane

Sisterhood’s Annual Report Given by Karen Goldstein

Every year for Temple Beth Or is a busy year. We take pride in all that we do. My job as President has been easy thanks to all of the Sisterhood officers. Susan Finklestein and Joy Kaplan were Vice Presidents and they ensured that every event had a chairman to lead the way. Harriette Dorosin was not only Financial Secretary but also Treasurer for the gift shop. Mae Cohen was Recording Secretary and Sharon McDaniel Treasurer. Sharon has been treasurer for Sisterhood and the gift shop for longer than anyone can remember. She deserves a huge thank you when you see her for a job well done for many, many years. Susan Bernstein was the past President who guided and directed me when I had questions and needed suggestions. Thank you to all of my board for your support for these past 2 years. It truly has been my pleasure to be President and I have enjoyed working with all of you.

Our year began at the home of Charlotte Mussafer’s with a wonderful group of ladies visiting and planning our year. And then we were off to a very busy fall. Bette Sue Strasburger and Corinne C Capilouto chaired our Rosh Hashanah Oneg followed by Apples and Honey the next morning by Diana Lacey. Susan Finklestein and Akiko Bloom prepared our Break Fast. Thank you ladies and to all who helped with these events.

Sukkot outside on the west terrace is always lovely. Thank you Randi Herring for the refreshments. Betty Goldberg has Simchat Torah down as she continues each year. Our Chanukah dinner is always well attended. Jenny Ives and Karen Lieberman changed it up this year making hundreds of cabbage rolls that we all enjoyed along with Susan Bernstein’s delicious latkes. This is truly a group effort so thank you to all to helped Jenny, Karen, and

Susan.

January arrived along with Sisterhood Shabbat. Leslie Sanders with Alabama Power was our guest speaker and Aimee Harris prepared a beautiful wine and cheese reception prior to our service. Rabbi Stevens led us in service along with Sisterhood members and Turia Stark Williams singing making it complete. Huntingdon College Night is an annual tradition for Temple Beth Or. It is our pleasure to see this sanctuary full of students and faculty from Huntingdon. This year Alison Williamson prepared a wonderful reception for more than 150 guests. Thank you Alison.

Passover is our largest undertaking by far. There are many people who set tables, arrange flowers, and prepare all of our traditional delicacies that we enjoy. Julie Goolsby did a remarkable job as the chairman. Thank you Julie for taking care of all the details. Rabbi Stevens always leads us in a wonderful service. I hope we will always continue to have a Temple Beth Or family Seder.

Sisterhood ended this year at the home of Diane Weil. It is always fun to just get together and visit and of course conduct a little bit of business. Thank you Diane for opening up your home.

The kitchen remains in great shape thanks to Susan Bernstein. If you work in the kitchen, you may take for granted that you always have what you need. But that is because Susan with the help of Marlon keeps us stocked up!

Sheryl Rosen and Lisa Weil continue to keep our gift shop looking good. If you have a request, please let them know and remember that the gift shop is open during Temple hours.

Our Carnegie Deli cheesecake fundraiser is always successful. Marlene Beringer and Lisa Weil do a great job getting the word out in the community so we can sell more each year. Due to the proceeds of this fundraiser and gift shop, Sisterhood was able to contribute \$20,000 to the renovation of our restrooms. Sisterhood

continued on page 8.

MISSION TO ISRAEL NOW SET!
Rabbis to lead JFCA trip October 30 to November 10

By now you should have received a flyer from JFCA – the Jewish Federation of Central Alabama – describing a very special and exciting Mission to Israel planned for this October 30 – November 10. This is not your typical off-the-shelf package, but a customized tour including more than a dozen behind-the-scenes briefings, dialogues and discussions with political and military leaders, and sites where your Federation is funding amazing programs – in addition to a packed itinerary of major sites throughout the country.

Rabbis Stevens and Kramer will be leading this special trip (along with some of Israel’s top tour guides), which includes El Al flights to/from New York; daily breakfasts, 5 dinners (including Shabbat in Jerusalem), 3 lunches, 2 nights in a kibbutz guest house, all transfers, entry fees, guides and portorage. **Your Federation will subsidize the package price with a \$500 subvention per person for all participants.** See details on pricing and registration and a complete itinerary at www.ayelet.com/JFCAOct2016.aspx.

This tour is offered by Ayelet Tours, Ltd., based in Albany, NY. Ayelet is one of the leading tour operators to Israel, having planned hundreds of congregational and Federation trips – and major Jewish organizational conventions – for more than 30 years. Ayelet is also well equipped to customize pre- and post- tour experiences in Egypt, Jordan, and Europe.

Isabella Capouya
Mitzvah Project

As my mitzvah project I have chosen to help families who have babies in the neo-natal intensive care units at Baptist Hospital. You may know that I was born 13 weeks prematurely and spent my first 10 weeks in the NICUs of Baptist South and Baptist East.

Having a baby in the NICU is difficult for many families. I was lucky...my parents had a great support system, lived close by and were able to visit me several times each day while I was there. My grandmother, Maw Maw, read me a story *EVERY* time she visited...and she visited me A LOT. We all know the importance of reading to children...including the tiny babies of the NICU.

Baptist has a special fund that helps the families of NICU babies with travel expenses. Since the units at Baptist South and East serve families from approximately 20 counties in southeast Alabama some families have to travel a long way to see their baby.

If you'd like to make a charitable contribution to my mitzvah project, please make your check payable to **Baptist Health Foundation-NICU Fund** and write **Capouya Mitzvah Project** in the memo section. There is a donation box at the Temple or you may mail to me at:

7158 Old Southwick Place
Montgomery, Alabama 36117

If you would like to donate a book to my project, you may drop it in the orange box at the Temple or e-mail me and I can pick the book up from you. You can reach me at ikcapouya@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your support of my project.

Sincerely,

Isabella Capouya

Please join us for...
ANOTHER Night of Fun!

**Hotdog Dinner and Bingo
at Temple Beth Or
Thursday, June 23, 2016, 6:30 PM**

\$10 for hotdog dinner + 2 beverage tickets • \$5 for each bingo card • \$2 for additional beverages

**Cash only, please*

RSVP by 5pm on Thursday, 6/16
to Bob Weisberg, 717-6400
gardner831@aol.com



Temple Beth Or • 2246 Narrow Lane Road • Montgomery, AL 36106

always wants to support the Temple not only with receptions and dinners, but financially as well. We hope that our cheesecake fundraiser will enable us to do this.

Again, thank you to all of the ladies who step up and take charge and to the “behind the scenes” help, too. Gina is invaluable and is always available. Sisterhood members are now set up to receive emails thanks to Gina. There was even a form for Seder reservations that Gina created. This is a much more efficient way to “keep up” as we found out with the Food Festival. Thank you Gina for all you do for Sisterhood and for me! This past year Harriette Dorosin emailed dues’ statements to all members with email. We still continue to mail those without emails so no problem there. The same goes for our other events.

Marlon is invaluable too! More times than not, Marlon has already done what is needed and always with a smile on his face. Thank you Marlon for your willingness to do whatever it is!

Rabbi Stevens, I have enjoyed working with you for the past 2 years. You are always a step ahead which keeps me on my toes. I am grateful for your guidance and your support of Sisterhood.

Sisterhood is in great shape as we transition into our new officers. Please welcome them and give them the support that you have given me and all will remain good. Susan Finklestein, President, Mae Cohen and Akiko Bloom, Vice presidents, Aimee Harris, Treasurer, Pam Hitchcock, Financial Secretary and Charlotte Mussafer, Recording Secretary. Thank you ladies for your leadership. It has been a privilege for me to serve as president.

Karen Goldstein
Sisterhood President

HONORING ELIZABETH FRENCH, SHALOM TO DANA KOREM

Our Shabbat service on Friday, June 17 will be an important but bittersweet occasion. Dr. Elizabeth French, who has been our Temple’s Music Director and organist for more than 30 years, will be ending her tenure with us. Our service on that Shabbat will therefore be an opportunity to call Elizabeth out from behind the scenes to accept our expression of thanks; we will also be able to hear some of the great classical favorites that our choir has rendered so beautifully over the years. Please do join us for this special service, and for the *oneg* that follows.

Our community *sh’lich*a, Dana Korem, will also be leaving Montgomery to return to Israel, after a year filled with challenges and accomplishments. Her programs and presentations through the year have been outstanding, and she has touched many of us with her great spirit. We need to show her how much we appreciate all her hard work over these years. We look forward to a great evening.



Lynne Ginsburg as hospitality chairman, is looking for volunteers to bake something sweet for this Oneg. Please let her know if you’re able to help by calling at [334-265-6299](tel:334-265-6299) or emailing at Lynnepete@charter.net. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Baked goods should be delivered to the Temple by 10:00 AM that Friday.

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

Mark your calendars for these important dates! **Tuesday, June 21st** : Southern Poverty Law Center Tour at 10:00 am.

We will carpool from TBO parking lot at 9:30. **LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE. RESERVATIONS WILL CLOSE ON JUNE 16TH.** Your must **register early** in order to go on this tour. After the tour, we will have lunch at Corsino's on Court Street, at your own expense.

Tuesday, July 12th: Tour of the Hank Williams Museum. The cost of the tour is \$5 per person. We will have lunch after, at a restaurant nearby.

In **August**, our annual kick-off celebration will be a fun event you won't want to miss. We offer a variety of choices that you all can participate in. We hope to see you soon at any or all of the events.

Linda R. Smith

262.3314 ext 223 or email:lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com

From the Library

Summer’s here (almost), and as we move into that time of year when the weather will beckon folks into the great outdoors, we’re taking a look at some of the nature-related titles in the temple library collection.

God in the Wilderness: Rediscovering the Spirituality of the Great Outdoors with the Adventure Rabbi by James S. Korngold

(220 KOR 2008)

A Wild Faith: Jewish Ways into Wilderness, Wilderness Ways into Judaism by Mike Comins (659 COM 2007)

The Way into Judaism and the Environment by Jeremy Benstein (659 BEN 2006)

Torah of the Earth: Exploring 4,000 Years of Ecology in Jewish Thought edited by

Arthur Waskow (2 volumes, 009.5 WAS)

The Catskills: Its History and How It Changed America by Stephen M. Silverman and Raphael D. Silver (774.1 SIL 2015) [Silverman spoke at TBO back in March. This looks to be a fascinating book with wonderful historical photographs.]

Eric A. Kidwell, MLS

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Future events !

Friday, June 10, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Tuesday, June 14, 9 AM, L'Chaim League visits the Birmingham Botanical Gardens with lunch afterwards. RSVP to Linda Smith at 262.3314 x 223 or lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com.

Saturday, June 18, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Thursday, June 23, 6:30 PM, A Night of FUN! Hot Dog Dinner, Bingo, Beverages, and Prizes! RSVP to Bob Weisberg (gardner831@aol.com) by 6/16. Adults \$10 for dinner and 2 drinks. Bingo cards are \$5.00. Cash only.

Friday, July 1, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Rabbinic Judaism and the Karaites [Judah the Prince and Anan ben David].

Friday, July 8, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Kabbalah and Hassidism [Isaac Luria and the Baal Shem Tov].

Friday, July 15, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Orthodox – Joseph Soloveitchik.

Friday, July 22, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Conservative – Samson Raphael Hirsch or Solomon Schechter.

Friday, July 29, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Reform – Isaac Mayer Wise.

Friday, August 5, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Reconstructionist – Mordecai Kaplan.

Friday, August 12, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer Sermon Series topic: Jewish Renewal – Zalman Schachter-Shalomi.

Friday, August 19, 6 PM, Shabbat service. Summer

Sermon Series topic: Humanistic Judaism – Sherwin Wine.

Saturday, August 27, 10 AM, 2016: Nathan McKinney's Bar Mitzvah.

Sunday, October 2, 7:30 PM, Rosh Hashanah Eve Service - followed by Annual Reception.

Monday, October 3, 1:00 PM, Tashlich at Museum of Fine Arts lake. Bring your own bread!

Monday, October 3, 10:00 AM, Rosh Hashanah Morning Service.

Monday, October 3, 10:30 AM, Children's Service in Library

Friday, October 7, 6:00 PM, Shabbat Shuvah.

Sunday, October 9, 10:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (new section)

Sunday, October 9, 11:00 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (old section)

Sunday, October 9, 9:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Eternal Rest Cemetery

Tuesday, October 11, 7:30 PM, Kol Nidrei Eve.

Wednesday, October 12, 10:00 AM, Yom Kippur Morning.

Wednesday, October 12, 12:00 PM, Rabbi's Discussion.

Wednesday, October 12, 2:30 PM, Yom Kippur Children's Service

Wednesday, October 12, 3:30 PM, Yom Kippur Afternoon Service

Wednesday, October 12, 4:15 PM, Healing Service.

Wednesday, October 12, 5:00 PM, Yizkor [Memorial] Service.

Wednesday, October 12, 5:30 PM, N'ilah [Concluding]

Wednesday, October 12, 6:15 PM, Congregational Break Fast; sponsored by Sisterhood.



When scheduling calendar events involving the Temple it is

important that you check dates with the Federation and the Temple for potential conflicts within the Jewish community. Their number is 277-5820, and you can view the community calendar at www.jewishmontgomery.org.

NEED HELP GETTING AROUND DURING SERVICES?

A wheelchair and walker are stored in the coat closet and are available to members and guests during Temple events.

If you have accumulated unused Temple Beth Or donation envelopes please feel free to drop them off at the Temple office so they may be reused.

We would like to know. Please call the temple office when a family member is in the hospital or ailing. Too often we find out about illnesses, crises and hospitalizations long after they occur. This is a missed opportunity for the calls and visits the rabbi would like to share. Please let the temple know if there is a concern in your family or another congregation family (with their permission).

We need your help in order to offer ours.

June and July 2016 & beyond

Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

The regular style calendar will return with the August issue.
Shabbat services are each Friday night at 6 PM.

Saturday, June 18, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Tuesday, June 21, 10 AM, L'Chaim League visits Southern Poverty Law Center. Meet at TBO at 9:30 AM. Lunch to follow at Corsinos.

Thursday, June 23, 6:30 PM, A Night of FUN! Hot Dog Dinner, Bingo, Beverages, and Prizes! RSVP to Bob Weisberg (gardner831@aol.com) by 6/16. Adults \$10 for dinner and 2 drinks. Bingo cards are \$5.00. Cash only.

Tuesday, July 12, 10 AM, L'Chaim League visits the Hank Williams Museum. Lunch to follow.

Sunday, July 17, 5:30 PM, For Men's Club Members. Biscuits Day at the Ballpark from the Aronov suite. \$15 per person. Reservations Required.

Sunday, August 21, 6 PM, L'Chaim Leagues BBQ luncheon and Line-Dancing at Temple Beth Or. Cot is \$14 per person.

Saturday, August 27, 10 AM, 2016: Nathan McKinney's Bar Mitzvah.

THE FOUNDERS

RABBI'S SUMMER SERMON SERIES ON THE FOUNDERS OF JUDAISM

One could argue that a source of Judaism's vitality is the extraordinarily broad spectrum of beliefs and practices through which Judaism expresses itself. These expressions – sometimes called “denominations” – might have emerged over time, yet each is identified with a particular visionary leader who encapsulated historic trends or staked out new territory, often with great courage and controversy.

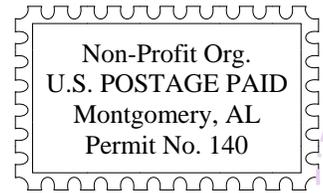
This year's Summer Sermon Series will explore these leaders, how their work led to the formation of today's Judaism, and the sustaining spiritual insights we can learn from each movement.

- July 1 Rabbinic Judaism and the Karaites [Judah the Prince and Anan ben David]
- July 8 Kabbalah and Hassidism [Isaac Luria and the Baal Shem Tov]
- July 15 Orthodox – Joseph Soloveitchik
- July 22 Conservative – Samson Raphael Hirsch or Solomon Schechter
- July 29 Reform – Isaac Mayer Wise
- August 5 Reconstructionist – Mordecai Kaplan
- August 12 Jewish Renewal – Zalman Schachter-Shalomi
- August 19 Humanistic Judaism – Sherwin Wine
- August 26 Jewish Science – Morris Lichtenstein

Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

JUNE/JULY 2016 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.templebethor.net

**MEET
BABY
SAMUEL**

Sunday, June 26 at 2 PM
Gracie Hanchrow's House
8319 Wynlakes Boulevard, 36117

In January we planned to have a baby shower for Anna Stevens Cutter and her husband, David. Samuel decided to come early and we had to postpone. We would like to invite all the ladies from the congregation to meet baby Samuel. Grandparents are Sandy Lynn and Elliot Stevens.

Questions? Contact Lynne Ginsburg at 334-265-6299
or Lynnepete@charter.net.



**Players
Needed!**

**See ad on
page 7**