

Temple Beth Or Bulletin

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

September 2011 ~ Elul/Tishrei 5771/5772



Sometimes it happens, in one context or another, that I meet someone who then finds out that I'm a rabbi. All too often, the discussion then

shifts gears, as the person explains how he or she tries to live an ethical life, but just isn't religious. Frequently this statement is accompanied by an apology, as if his or her being religious would please me, or as if he or she feels guilty for not being religious – yet not actually guilty enough to do anything about it.

When I hear the word “religious” I often wonder what that person means. As with so many other terms, we use words with each other assuming that we all share not just a common vocabulary, but common definitions for words that can, in fact, mean many different things.

Many Jews take the term “religious” to mean “observant,” with particular reference to keeping Shabbat, dietary observance and the rest of Jewish law as defined in the orthodox world. Indeed, a case can be made for this usage, for our Torah is filled with *mitzvot* – commandments – though Torah doesn't really speak about elevating

the spirit or the nature of God or how we can sense God's presence in our lives. So I can well understand someone explaining that he or she is not “religious.” Reform Judaism is one of two branches of Judaism that rebelled against the notion that minute, punctilious observance of every jot and tittle of Jewish law as defined by the Orthodox rabbinate is the only way to God or a just and moral life.

The other movement was Hasidism, at least in its origins. A hundred years before the Reform Movement, traditional Judaism in Eastern Europe had become paralyzed and petrified, dry and scholastic, as the pressures of extreme and often violent anti-Semitism forced the Jews to retreat into their ghettos and their sacred texts of Talmud and commentaries.

The Hasidim had a different approach. Their founder, Israel Bal Shem Tov, rejected the dry scholasticism of his day, and instead sought out a personal relationship with God. How did he do this? He would spend hours in the forest, just walking and appreciating nature. Or he would seek out those who were even poorer than he was, and help them chop wood or do other necessary chores. He loved to be among animals, and when he prayed

he prayed with fervor, often lost in a trance, chanting syllables rather than words – for to the Bal Shem Tov religion was neither

meticulous observance nor an intellectual exercise; if anything, observance and intellectualism both precluded any possibility of having a closer relationship with God. I've always admired the Hasidic joy, their tremendous sense of community and the intensity with which they dance and sing, all means of elevating the spirit and approaching God – though after those early years they became even more Orthodox than the Orthodox in their observance of Jewish law.

I would like to suggest that “religious” doesn't have to depend upon an Orthodox level of observance. “Religious” can also mean a view of life and relationships and being open to a sense of transcendence – all very much in keeping with Reform Judaism. We sing *Mi Shebeirach* together here, after hearing some familiar names and some perhaps that are not, and in the context of sacred community sense that this is a religious moment.

To me, “religious” is not so much what we do, as how we are touched. The way I see it, “religious” is our capacity to be moved, and our ability to sense something beyond ourselves. This sense of religion is very elusive. It is not subject to ready definition. And rabbis don't have all the answers on a subject that is inherently confusing – I once heard one of my colleagues say that he was just as confused as everyone else, but on a higher level. In other words, faith, religion and spirituality are based not on reason or scientific

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Saturday, September 10 Shabbat Morning Service



Saturday morning, September 10th, Rabbi Stevens will lead a Shabbat morning service, including Torah reading and Torah study. Service including Torah study and a light brunch will run from 9:30 – 11:15 a.m.

**Celebrating Our
160th Year**



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

Temple Beth Or Officers

Jenny Ives..... *President*
Jamie Loeb..... *Vice-President: Programs*
Diane Weil..... *Vice-President: Finance*
Morris Capouya..... *Treasurer*
Charlotte Mussafer..... *Secretary*
Morris Capouya..... *Immediate Past President*

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Gina Friday..... *Temple Administrator*
Terri Finkelstein..... *Religion School Director*
Linda Smith..... *L'Chaim League*
Marlon Cotton..... *Maintenance Manager*
Elizabeth French..... *Organist & Choir Director*

Office Hours

Monday	CLOSED
Tues., Wed. & Thurs.	9-5
Friday	9-2

2246 Narrow Lane Road • Montgomery, AL 36106

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Rabbi: rabbiels@templebethor.net
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Please call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to report any corrections or inaccuracies in the bulletin.

TBO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Last May I sent you a letter regarding opening discussions with AIEA regarding the possibility of collaboration in an effort to strengthen the Jewish Community in Montgomery. Subsequently, I mentioned the same goal at the Annual Meeting later that month. As we are now into our fiscal year of 2011/2012, I wanted to make you aware of the process thus far. This set of Frequently Asked Questions is intended to provide an update on discussions that have taken place since that time.

Question: Since the May 4th letter, how have we been preparing for upcoming joint discussions?

Following the TBO Annual Meeting during which I reported that multiple scenarios would be discussed, and that no decisions had yet been made except to open the conversation, an appointed group from TBO met to plan for the first substantive joint meeting, within the context of the Board's direction that this effort would not result in a merger. By consensus, this group agreed upon certain principles:

Temple Beth Or is a Reform Congregation and would remain as such

The present building for TBO would be maintained indefinitely

The congregation would have an opportunity to express their views at various times during the process

Question: Who is involved in this process?

Our TBO group consists of the following: Jenny Ives, chair; Sam Kaufman, Steve Wallace, Morris Capouya, Corinne Capilouto, Marlene Beringer, Charlotte Mussafer, Jamie Loeb, Rabbi Stevens. As substantive discussions continue, it will be important for the entire membership to be involved on various levels before any decisions are made.

Question: Have joint discussions begun with AIEA?

Yes, after an earlier joint meeting of our respective Executive Committees earlier in the spring to discuss whether we wished to open a conversation together, a joint meeting was held on June 14. At that meeting, small joint committees were formed to begin exploring the needs of our communities in specific areas, and project some possible scenarios that might be promising.

What joint committees were created at the June 14 meeting?

These committees include worship calendar; communications; facilities; committee structures [within each congregation]; rabbinic services; Jewish observance and practice; support staff; governance, finance and religious school.

Continued on page 13

**The Jewish Federation
of Central Alabama**



*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.

TREE OF LIFE

Don't forget the Tree of Life for graduations, birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and other special times in your life. Large leaves are \$350 and small ones, \$250. Contact Sharon McDaniel or the Temple regarding purchase.

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.

BLANCHE WINTER FUND

*In Honor of
Raymond Cohen's 80th Birthday
Gay and Irving Winter*

**CAROL L. HART
EDUCATIONAL FUND**

*Speedy Recovery
Florence Savler
Lois Fields*

**SAMUEL SCHLOSS
COMMUNITY FUND**

*Good Health to
Corinne F. Capilouto
Burke Schloss*

SELMA MARCUS FUND

*In Memory of
Mary Hobbie Cahn
Bobby Heilpern
Mr. Marks Marcus*

*In Honor of
Raymond Cohen's 80th Birthday
Mr. Marks Marcus*

**Leaves for Life Cycle
Events on our
Tree of Life**

Our Temple is proud to possess our "Tree of Life." This original sculpture is permanently displayed in the Temple Beth Or lobby. The branches of the tree contain leaves which can be inscribed to highlight or commemorate such joyous events as births, weddings, anniversaries, bar and bat mitzvahs, graduations or simply to honor parents, family or friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family "Simchas" on our temple's "Tree of Life." This will be a permanent dedication to the meaningful and happy events that touch our lives. The price per leaf is \$250.00 for small leaves and \$350.00 for large leaves. Contact Sharon McDaniel or the Temple regarding purchase.

BIRTHDAYS

- 1.....Hal Bloom, Jr.
- 2.....Ilene Baylinson
- 4.....David Baylinson
- 5.....Susan Finklestein
- 6.....Liza Kaufman
- 7.....Lew Nyman
- 9.....Scott Harris
- 9.....Norma Michelson
- 11.....Joe Mussafer
- 13.....Russell Levy
- 16.....Keith Sabel
- 18.....Bobby Kohn
- 18.....Irving Winter
- 20.....Stewart Applebaum
- 23.....Charlie Strasburger
- 23.....Terry Toney
- 24.....Betty Bloom
- 24.....Susan Kohn
- 24.....Bert Loeb
- 26.....Jeanette Hanan
- 26.....Joy Kaplan
- 30.....Bob Reznikoff
- 30.....Kathleen Roberts

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
on September 9th.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4.....Frances & Ralph Capouya
- 5.....Diane & Alan Weil
- 6.....Robin & Andrew Kromis
- 8.....Julie & William Goolsby
- 14.....Norma & Leonard
Michelson
- 24.....Maxine & Michael Goldner

YAHARZEITS

To be read 9/2/2011
Sidney R. Davis
Florence Goldstein
Pryor Hurt
Hilda Shinpaugh
Kimberly Strassburger
Julia Wise

To be read 9/9/2011
Elaine E. Drum
Leo Finkelstein
Arthur S. Hertz
Clare C. Hertz
Isaac May
Elise Salama
Joseph Salama
William Aaron Wallace

To be read 9/16/2011
Manny Applebaum
Gusta Barth Baim
Carol Loeb Dresner
Rebekah Katz
Claudia Richard Manley
Jennye Nussbaum
David S. Savler
Quenby Sameth Schulman
Pat Simon
Edith P. Stiller
Ben Tillinger

To be read 9/23/2011
Rhoda Dreyfus Abraham
Bertha Barlow
Hal W. Bloom, Sr.
Joseph B. Loeb
Sam Nusbaum
Herbert M. Scheuer, Sr.
Dr. Peter D. Weinrib

To be read 9/30/2011
Dr. Morris N. Capouya
Cornelis Haanschoten
Mae Wilzin Landau
Jerome Levy
Mark Sabel
Ella Klein Shwarts
Esther Ostrov Sklar

KOL AMI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Welcome, back Kol Ami families! We are so excited to start another year together! We have been working over the summer to make sure we have everything we need to begin the year.

We have an enthusiastic group of teachers lined up for this school year, with every one of them having taught before! Please welcome them and show your appreciation for all of their efforts. They care so much about the children of our school. We also thank Rabbi Stevens and Rabbi Kramer for their involvement thus far, and we look forward to working with them again this year! We welcome Ricky Loeb and Lani Ashner as our representatives on the Temple Beth Or and Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem boards, respectively.

Registration, on August 21st, went very well. Thank you to everyone who attended. If you still need to register or fill out your forms, we can email them to you, or you may fill them out at school. PLEASE make sure we have the necessary information should we need to reach you.

We are working as a school to choose a "student-created" logo for Kol Ami, and everyone will be voting for their favorite. We will then have a very recognizable symbol that we can use on things from our school stationery to t-shirts.

This year, our mornings will begin with a new song and summary of the Torah portion of the week. Immediately following the song and parasha we break off into our new Enrichment Programs. They will include art, music, Israeli dance, and skits. ***We are asking for volunteers that can come from 9:30 until 10:00am to help with these programs. You only need to commit to a half-hour for 5 weeks.*** The children will be divided into 2 large groups, and each group will participate in each enrichment once during the year. The first 2 enrichments will be skit and art. The idea is that for our Sukkot celebration (in about 5 weeks) we will have a skit

to perform as well as a Sukkot-themed art show. The next time we will have music and Israeli dance for Chanukah, and so on. Each group will have about 5 weeks to work on each enrichment. Keep in mind that we are looking for people for the first 5 weeks to help with costumes, props, or just assisting with the children. The second 5 weeks we are looking for someone who can play an instrument or help with a choir and also someone to help with dance. We are VERY excited about this new program and hope that we can count on your support!

It looks as though we are off to a great start! Please contact us if you need any information. Email Terri at adamnterri@yahoo.com or call 462-9461 or Sandy at sandy.cauthen@yahoo.com or call 320-0371. We look forward to seeing you at Kol Ami!

Terri Finkelstein and Sandy Cauthen
Co-principals

* * *

SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is preparing for another very active year. We will begin the new year with a casual social evening on September 14 at the home of Aimee Harris where we will have fun learning to make specialty cocktails. Look for your invitation soon and please join us for a delightful opening meeting.

Rosh Hashanah reception is always something we all look forward to as it gives us the perfect opportunity to greet other members of our congregation. This year it is chaired by Corinne Capilouto. Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast will again be hosted by Susan Finklestein and I am sure it will be delicious and enjoyed by all.

The black-out lining on the social hall window has been replaced and the interior stage curtains are on order.

We will soon be gearing up for our annual Carnegie Deli Cheesecake Fundraiser so be sure to get your orders in early and encourage all of your friends to order these delicious cheesecakes!

We wish everyone a L'Shanah Tovah, Happy New Year.

Marlene Beringer,
Sisterhood President

* * *

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

Be ready for a wonderful show presented by Elizabeth French and her ensemble, who will perform the Tango for our OPENING LUNCHEON ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH. This must-see event will be held at TBO at 11:30 am. The cost for the lunch is \$15.00 per person. Please make your reservations by Friday, September 9th.

Our Holiday visits with our home-bound community members will be the week of September 19th. Call to let me know if you would like to join in with these visits.

The next big adventure begins at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 5th as we depart to North Alabama to tour the cheese factory of Belle Chevre. This well-known product is sold throughout the country and will certainly be an enjoyable outing. We will have lunch at a nearby recommended restaurant.

Sign-up for a COOK-DAY on Thursday, Oct. 27th at 9:00 a.m. at TBO, as we prepare a Thanksgiving Feast that we will be serving in November. On Tuesday, November 15th, we will provide a Thanksgiving Dinner along with Bingo for the residents at Capitol Heights II senior center.

We provide it all - all we need is you!

Linda R. Smith
Director

* * *



Apples and Honey will be served after the Rosh Hashanah morning service. We hope you will join us.

2011 High Holy Day Service Times

Saturday, September 24

S'lichot Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday, September 28

Rosh Hashanah Eve 7:30 PM
Followed by our Annual Reception

Thursday, September 29

Rosh Hashanah Morning 10:00 AM
 Children's Service in Library 10:30 AM
 Tashlich at Montgomery Museum Pond 1:00 PM

Friday, September 30

Shabbat Shuvah 6:00 PM

Sunday, October 2

Cemetery Memorial Services
 Eternal Rest Cemetery 9:30 AM
 Etz Ahayem Cemetery (new section) 10:30 AM
 Etz Ahayem Cemetery (old section) 11:00 AM

Friday, October 7

Kol Nidrei Eve 7:30 PM

Saturday, October 8

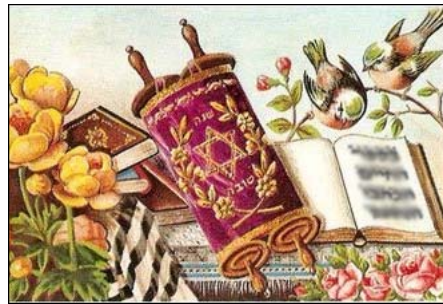
Yom Kippur Morning 10:00 AM
 Rabbi's Discussion 12:00 PM
 Children's Service 2:30 PM
 Afternoon Service 3:30 PM
 Memorial Service appx. 4:15 PM
 Concluding Service 5 PM
Followed by Break Fast (appx. 5:45 PM)

TASHLICH - AT THE POND ON ROSH HASHAHAN

Join us for Tashlich ["casting off"] on Rosh Hashanah afternoon as we symbolically cast off our sins into the waters at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts – accompanied by a blast of the great shofar. Tashlich, a brief ceremony, is based on Micah 7:18-20: "You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Bring your own bread of any kind [multigrain for complex sins; waffles for sins of indecision; pumpernickel for dark sins, sourdough for ill-temperdedness, etc.].



Shabbat Service on Friday, September 24th to include changing of the Torah covers for the High Holy Day services



Babysitting for the High Holy Day Services

It's time to think about your babysitting needs for the High Holy Days: Rosh Hashanah evening and morning, Kol Nidre & Yom Kippur morning. Please call the Temple at 262-3314 if you'll need to use this service.

High Holy Day Sermon Topics

Erev Rosh Hashanah: THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN JUDAISM

Rosh Hashanah morning: THE FLAWED HEROES OF BIBLICAL JUDAISM

Shabbat Shuvah: IS SPIRITUALITY THE ANSWER?

Kol Nidrei: NEVER THE TWAIN? WHAT WE BELIEVE; WHAT WE SAY, AND WHAT WE DO

Yom Kippur morning: GOD, TORAH AND ISRAEL: SEEKING A COMMON GROUND

Yom Kippur Discussion: THE MUSAR MOVEMENT OF ISRAEL SALANTER

Yizkor: THE BLESSING OF MEMORY



HIGH HOLY HOLIDAYS - SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Social Concerns function of Temple is funded by donations, and not by a line in the budget. As our activities have increased, we need to replenish the resources available.

This year you will find an envelope in your High Holy Days prayerbook, and we are asking you to return it with a generous donation to the office by the end of October.

The Social Concerns Committee carries out the following: collecting "bedtime bundles" for Child Protect, cooking and freezing 100 meals monthly for MACOA for 10 months each year, outreach to homebound members in the congregation, and *ad hoc* responses to community emergencies.

Please be generous! Thank you.

For questions, call Susan Bernstein at 281-4340.

PREMIERE EVENT

Mark your calendars!

DAN NICHOLS AND THE TRIBE OF JUDAH TOGETHER IN CONCERT!

PREMIER EVENT – SAT., OCTOBER 15, 7:30 P.M.

Dan Nichols: Dan Nichols is one of the most renowned and admired Jewish composers and singers on the scene today. Since his debut album release in 1996, his band's music – in turns moving and energizing – has been embraced by youth and adults across the country at numerous live performances. His music epitomizes the mixture of modern rock and Judaism, on universal themes of social justice, our relationship with God, and the dreams of humanity. Many of his songs have become staples of contemporary Jewish liturgy.



The Tribe of Judah: Founded in October of 1997, Tribe of Judah is a visible student organization on the campus of Alabama State University. Their focus is to share a message of hope and encouragement to the inner city and surrounding counties. This group is composed of approximately 25 college students who are committed and dedicated to expressing themselves through the creativity of performing arts. They are diverse in the arts displaying their skills in the areas of singing, stepping, dancing, drama and poetry. The Tribe of Judah's exhilarating style and energetic moves capture the attention of all their audiences.



**THIS BLOCKBUSTER EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL
WITHOUT CHARGE!**

**The Dan Nichols RV Tour is sponsored by URJ Camp Jacobs.
Co-sponsored in Montgomery by the Rothschild-Blachschleger
Lecture and Culture Fund of Temple Beth Or and
the Jewish Federation of Central Alabama**

GUEST SPEAKER:

AUTHOR RABBI JAMIE KORNGOLD

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 7:00 P.M.

Rabbi Korngold is an ordained Reform rabbi and the founder and executive director of the Adventure Rabbi Program, based in Boulder, Colorado. She is nationally recognized for her innovative work combining religion and nature, as well as for her cutting-edge use of technology.



Rabbi Jamie Korngold is the author of *The God Upgrade: Finding Your 21st-Century Spirituality in Judaism's 5,000-Year-Old Tradition* (Jewish Lights, April 2011), as well as the best-selling book *God in the Wilderness* (Doubleday 2008), which is now in its third printing. Her first children's book, *Sadie's Sukkah Breakfast* (Kar Ben, August 2011) received stellar reviews and has already sold over 15,000 copies.

A favorite of the media, she has been featured by Good Morning America, USA Today, NPR, the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Ski as well as many other outlets.

Rabbi Korngold is an athlete and a scholar. She completed the Leadville Trail 100, a hundred-mile running race, in less than thirty hours and was ranked fourth in the nation for telemark mogul skiing. She is a graduate of Cornell University's natural resources program and received her masters and ordination from Hebrew Union College.

Rabbi Korngold is best known for her ability to make Judaism relevant, meaningful, and accessible and therefore opening the doors back to Judaism for thousands of disenfranchised Jews. Through her nature-based approach to religion, she is able to bridge the gap between scientific thought and religion, healing a fissure that often disrupts spiritual paths.

She lives in Boulder, Colorado, with her husband and two daughters.

*Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger
Lecture Series.*



Jeff Herring worked at Henry S. Jacobs Camp over the summer. Here he is with a few friends.

FEDERATION NEWS

Ori Tal, our new Shaliach is tentatively scheduled to arrive on September 12. We will provide more details and hope to have a "welcoming committee" at the airport to greet him.



FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICES

especially for babies, toddlers, kids, moms, dads and grandparents too!

5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Library

- September 9
- September 30
- November 4
- December 2
- January 6
- February 3
- March 2
- April 13
- May 4
- June 1

Concert of Remembrance Montgomery Chorale, Youth Chorale, and Orchestra September 11, 2011 – 2:30 PM Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Please **join** us for a concert of some of the most beautiful choral music to honor and remember those that died on 9/11, service men and women that gave their lives in all wars, firemen and policemen who lost their lives in the line of duty, and victims of natural disasters.

Names of those who lost their lives may be submitted for reading during the concert via email: info@montgomerychorale.org or by calling (334) 265-3737.

Admission, \$15 Adults, \$10 Students and Seniors. For tickets and information go to: www.montgomerychorale.org; or call 334-265-3737.

IT'S SHABBAT – TIME TO READ TORAH

Reading and studying Torah on Shabbat has been a core Jewish activity and value since antiquity. This year, responding to suggestions from some TBO members,



Rabbi Stevens will periodically read from the Torah and share some teaching during Friday night Shabbat services.

For those who long to hear words of Torah and enjoy Torah services, the next in this occasional series will be on **Friday, September 2nd**, at the usual start time of 6:00 p.m. Remaining dates are: October 14, November 11, December 9, January 13, February 10, March 9, April 20, May 18, June 15

MAGAZINE PROJECT

Bette Sue Strasburger and her grandchildren, Meagan and Nathan Ashner, are collecting magazines for local organizations. Some of the organizations that have benefited are: Easter Seals, Wesley Gardens, AHEPA house, Family Guidance (Parkview Adult), Sunshine Center, The Cedars, Cara Vita and the V.A. Hospital. Please continue to help these residents enjoy recent copies of magazines by dropping yours off at the Temple. Magazines should be no more than 6 months old and in very good condition.

Sisterhood Social

Join us for

Cocktails + Conversation

Wednesday, September 14th

5:30pm – 7:00pm

At the home of

Aimee Harris, 3767 Everest Dr.

(Behind Vaughn Rd. Park)

\$10 per person

*Your check is your reservation,

*Payable to Sisterhood, by Sept. 9th

*Mail to: Sharon McDaniel

(2632 Old Orchard Lane, Montgomery, AL 36117)

*If you need babysitting call Jamie Loeb, 462-1488

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.

evidence, but on trust in the presence of mystery. I believe that many of those who say they are not religious have not only a capacity for religious depth, but are hungry for the kind of spiritual connection and grounding that I am describing. We are simply measuring our “religiosity” using the wrong yardstick.

Spirituality, in other words, is different from the way we normally know and experience things. Spirituality can be sensing God’s presence deep within us, in the quiet of our own heart and soul, or we can change our whole orientation and see everything we do, every moment of our lives, with a sense of the sacred – the sanctity of the moment.

We will soon be gathering for our annual High Holy Day services, in our beautiful sanctuary, surrounded by our wonderful community, and once again listening to our magnificent choir and reciting the familiar texts. This year, let us deepen our spiritual experience by leaving the printed text from time to time, and letting our spiritual, religious selves take our prayers to a new level. Letting go would mean letting your mind wander; using the printed texts on the page as an excuse to let your thoughts go where they will. Perhaps, in doing so, true prayer – your own prayer – becomes possible. And outside the sanctuary, letting go would mean always keeping before you the blessings that have been part of your life, and not getting too hung up on the little day to day crises that normally define our lives.

The Hasidic rabbi Menahem Mendel of Kotsk said “Faith is clearer than sight.” Though human vision may not be sharp enough to penetrate universal mysteries, the rabbis believed that faith makes it possible to accept whatever happens in life with the knowledge that the God who orders the universe is good and just. May you look upon the world with renewed faith and an openness of spirit, that religion may penetrate your soul. And may these High Holy Days and the new year be restorative, as we direct ourselves to a better year in 5772.



שנה טובה!

From my family to you and yours, best wishes for a Shanah Tova,

Elliot L. Stevens



COMING SOON!

Carnegie
DELI

CHEESECAKES

Sisterhood will start taking orders in October.



SAVE THE DATE!

Student Cantor Markowicz to Return February 3-5

Andrea Rae Markowicz, who served as TBO Student Cantor 2009 – 2011, returns for a special weekend next February 3-5, featuring a Cabaret Concert and Dinner on Saturday evening, February 4.

Watch for Details!

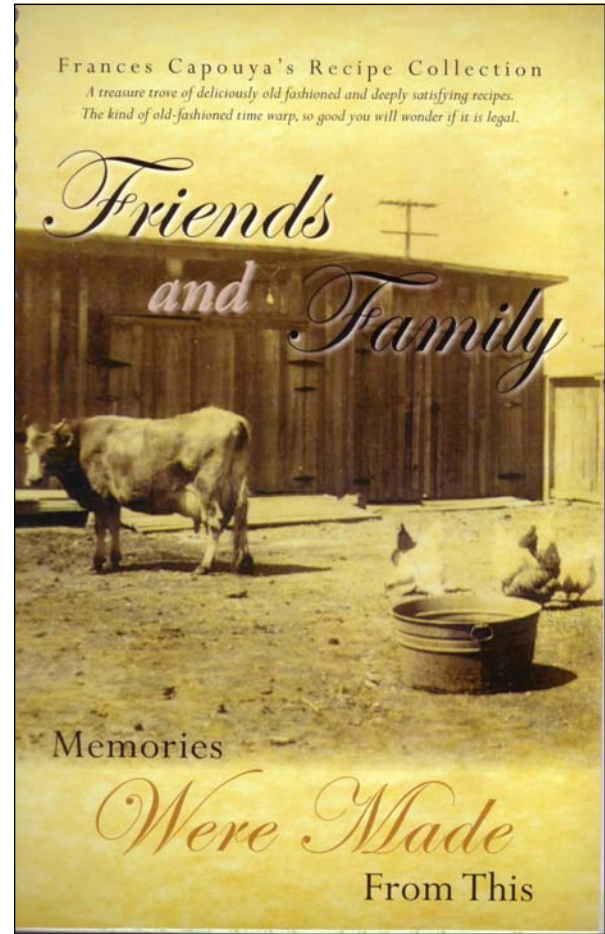


Members of Temple Beth Or's Men's Club, joined by their spouses [not pictured], enjoyed a night of baseball July 30 when they watched the Biscuits play the Tennessee Smokes who won 8-2. (Photo courtesy of Sharon Benn)

L'CHAIM LEAGUE'S OPENING LUNCH

Tuesday • September 13 • 11:30 AM • TBO

Reservations Required for this spectacular show presented by Elizabeth French and her ensemble, who will perform the Tango for L'Chaim's Opening Luncheon on Tuesday, September 13th. The cost for the lunch is \$15.00 per person. Please make your reservations by Friday, September 9th.



Frances Capouya has written a family cookbook and is generously giving the proceeds from the upcoming second printing to the Temple. The cost of the cookbook is \$30 and you can reserve your copy by calling or emailing Gina at the Temple (262.3314/bethor@templebethor.net). *These cookbooks are going fast - just from word-of-mouth, so reserve your copy today.*



AI☆EA ADULT EDUCATION

SATURDAYS

September, 3, 10, 17

9:00 AM - Coffee and Conversation

30 minutes after kiddush - Brunch and Learn

(Shabbat Service will begin at 9:30 AM)

Adult education program at Agudath Israel

Introduction to Judaism - Sep. 12, 19, 26

Join Rabbi Kramer on Monday evenings from 7 PM to 8:30 PM for an "Introduction to Judaism" class. Open to all members of the Montgomery Jewish community and to those that are thinking of joining the Jewish community.



Kol Ami Religious School

Meets at TBO

- 8/21
- 8/28
- 9/11
- 9/18
- 9/25
- 10/2
- 10/16
- 10/23
- 10/30
- 11/6
- 12/4
- 12/11

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS TAKING SHAPE FOR 2011 – 2012

Get ready for an outstanding calendar of offerings, featuring guest speakers, cultural programs and Rabbi Stevens, who is preparing several new Holocaust classes for the fall season.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, October 15, 7:30 PM, **Concert** at TBO with Dan Nichols, one of the most beloved and influential Jewish contemporary musicians in North America. Co-Sponsored by Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series, JFCA and URJ Camp Jacobs.

Thursday, October 27, 7 PM, **Guest Speaker:** Rabbi Jamie Korngold, author of *THE GOD UPGRADE*. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series.

Thursday, December 8, 7 PM, **Guest Speaker:** Rabbi Michael Cook, author of *MODERN JEWS ENGAGE THE NEW TESTAMENT: Enhancing Jewish Well-Being in a Christian Environment*. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series. Location: Ligon Chapel, Flower Hall at Huntingdon College.

Saturday, February 4, 7 PM, **Dinner and Cabaret Benefit** with Andrea Rae Markowicz. Advance reservations required.

Thursday, March 1, 7 PM, **Guest Speaker:** Steve Kussin: *DOCTOR, YOUR PATIENT WILL SEE YOU NOW: Gaining the Upper Hand in Your Medical Care*. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series.

Thursday, May 3, 7 PM, **Guest Speaker:** Jim Axelrod: *IN THE LONG RUN: A Father, a Son, and Unintentional Lessons in Happiness*. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series.

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES WITH RABBI STEVENS

JUDAISM BASICS & BASIC HEBREW

This basic survey of Judaism runs for ten sessions, starting October 27. Take a whirlwind tour of Jewish history, learn about Jewish traditions on life cycle events and the Jewish calendar, study the main religious themes of Jewish tradition, and ask as many questions as you wish.

Sessions run from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **By Advance Registration: Please register with Gina Friday at the TBO office.**

Hebrew bonus session: For those who want to learn to read Hebrew, now's your chance. You CAN learn to read in just ten sessions, from 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. following the class in Basic Judaism.

Dates are: October 27; November 3, 10, 17; December 1, 8; January 5, 12, 19, 26

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES ON THE HOLOCAUST

The Holocaust [*Shoah* in Hebrew, “conflagration”] was the single most destructive event in Jewish history and, as the only example where the entire apparatus of a state was explicitly directed toward the world-wide extirpation of an entire people, unique in human experience.

The study of the Holocaust must address disturbing and difficult questions raised by that experience. What can we learn from the long history of anti-Semitism? Who made the decision for the “final solution”? Could the Jews have done more to protect themselves? Why was the Pope silent, and was his silence justified? Should the Allies have bombed Auschwitz? How ethical were the Judenrate [Jewish Councils within the ghettos]?

This class will be in three parts:

Session I: The Origins and History of Anti-Semitism [November 3]

Session II: The Rise of Nazism through Krystallnacht [November 17]

Session III: The War Against the Jews and the World's Response [Dec. 1]

All sessions will be led by Rabbi Stevens and are open to all at no charge in the Social Hall at Temple Beth Or.
Thursday evenings, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Or Gift Shop

September Special

Entire Stock of Menorahs and Kiddush Cups

20% off

all sales final - no returns



ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At its meeting on August 23, 2011, the Board of Trustees took the following actions:

- ◆ Adopted a temple-wide policy on harassment and bullying
- ◆ Approved the creation of a members'-only website
- ◆ Endorsed new bar/bat mitzvah requirements for attendance at services during the year preceding the bar/bat mitzvah service: at least 5 Friday night services at Temple Beth Or and at least 4 Shabbat morning services at Temple Beth Or during that year
- ◆ Approved a motion to adjust the Kol Ami religion school budget to account for discrepancies in the balance of teachers and students between the two congregations
- ◆ Adopted a policy authorizing an estate to be billed for outstanding dues following the death of a member



Who represented Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem at this discussion?

Raymond Cohen [co-chair]; Fern Shinbaum, Paul Freehling; Joel Cohen, Susan Bruchis, David Herman, Dale Evans, Jerald Labovitz, Michael Smith along with both rabbis at the June 14th meeting.

What time frame is foreseen to develop and implement a plan?

No deadlines have been established but clearly, once the committees have a format worthy of discussion, the committee will address each congregation to gather congregational insight into this process. I am hopeful that we will be able to hold congregational meetings beginning after High Holidays so that Temple members can attend the various meetings on topics that are important to them and add their personal insight. Depending on how our communities' needs are identified, it is possible that interim steps will precede any longer-term proposals for us to collaborate.

What is the goal regarding a time frame for this collaboration to become a reality?

Temple Beth Or constitutional requirements are that we work on a fiscal year beginning in July of each year. I am hopeful that we will be far enough along to be able to begin a fiscal year this July, 2012, with some sort of a plan in place.

Please remember that the goal is to have a strengthened and energized Jewish Community. This cannot happen overnight. This cannot happen without all members being a part of the process and all members having a commitment to the same goal. I encourage you to become involved in the process. This is your future and the future of generations of Temple Beth Or.

I would appreciate your comments as we progress in this endeavor and I wish you all a very happy new year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Ives".

Jenny Ives,
President

DID YOU REMEMBER?

Did you remember to turn in your form for the upcoming Book of Remembrance? If not, please contact the Temple (262-3314 or bethor@templebethor.net) no later than September 6th to place your loved ones names in the Temple's 2011 Book of Remembrance.

The Food Festival is a project for the entire congregation, so we need your help. Call Susan Finklestein if you want to volunteer for baking. Call Karen Goldstein for other volunteer opportunities.

Are you downsizing or cleaning out your home? Please remember the Temple and our Collectable and Treasure Market. We would love any of your pre-loved items. Just call Pat Dees at 399-1212 for collectibles and she will pick up your items. Call Alan Weil, Sr. (281-1737) or Charlie Strasburger (279-7059) for Treasure Market item donations.

Beyond September!

Sunday, October 2, 9:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Eternal Rest Cemetery

Sunday, October 2, 10:30 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (new section)

Sunday, October 2, 11 AM, Cemetery Memorial Service: Etz Ahayem Cemetery (old section)

Wednesday, October 5, 7:30 AM, L'Chaim Leagues visits Belle Chevre, home of hand-crafted fine French style goat's milk cheese in Elkmont, Alabama.

Friday, October 7, 7:30 PM, Kol Nidrei Eve. Sermon topic: NEVER THE TWAIN? WHAT WE BELIEVE; WHAT WE SAY, AND WHAT WE DO.

Saturday, October 8, 10 AM, Yom Kippur Morning. Sermon topic: GOD, TORAH AND ISRAEL: SEEKING A COMMON GROUND.

Saturday, October 8, 12 PM, Rabbi's Discussion. Topic: THE MUSAR MOVEMENT OF ISRAEL SALANTER.

Saturday, October 8, 2:30 PM, Children's Service

Saturday, October 8, 3:30 PM, Afternoon Service

Saturday, October 8, 4:15 PM (appx.), Memorial Service. Sermon topic: THE BLESSING OF MEMORY.

Saturday, October 8, 5 PM, Concluding Service followed by Break Fast.

Wednesday, October 12, 6 PM, Sukkot service. This service will be held outdoors at our TBO sukkah; join us as we celebrate together with worship and a symbolic meal inside our sukkah.

Thursday, October 13, All Day, TBO Office closed for Sukkot.

Friday, October 14, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Saturday, October 15, 7:30 PM, Concert at TBO with Dan Nichols, one of the most beloved and influential

Jewish contemporary musicians in North America. Co-Sponsored by JFCA and URJ Camp Jacobs.

Wednesday, October 19, 6 PM, Simchat Torah Celebration.

Thursday, October 20, All Day, TBO Office closed for Simchat Torah.

Saturday, October 22, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Monday, October 24, 7 PM, JFCA presents 2 guest speakers: 1) Moshe Yeshayahu, who left Ethiopia at age 8 and now directs a Federation funded program providing comprehensive educational and community services to Israeli-Ethiopian pre-schoolers; and 2) Jennifer Kraft, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's Director of Community Relations. Location TBA.

Thursday, October 27, 7 PM, Guest Speaker: Rabbi Jamie Korngold, author of THE GOD UPGRADE. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series.

Thursday, October 27, 9 AM, L'Chaim League cooking day in preparation of Thanksgiving lunch/ bingo event.

Thursday, November 3, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Study of the Holocaust. Session I: The Origins and History of Anti-Semitism. TBO Social Hall.

Friday, November 4, 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Saturday, November 5, 10 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Sarah Claire Loeb's Bat Mitzvah. Lunch to follow.

Friday, November 11, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Tuesday, November 15, 11:30 AM, L'Chaim League's Thanksgiving lunch and bingo for Capital Heights Place.

Thursday, November 17, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Study of the Holocaust. Session II: The Rise of Nazism through

Krystallnacht. TBO Social Hall.

Tuesday, November 22, 7 PM, Joint Thanksgiving Service with First United Methodist Church. Held at TBO. Reception follows.

Thursday, December 1, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Study of the Holocaust. Session III: The War Against the Jews and the World's Response TBO Social Hall.

Friday, December 2, 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Saturday, December 3, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Thursday, December 8, 7:30 PM, Guest Speaker: Rabbi Michael Cook, author of MODERN JEWS ENGAGE THE NEW TESTAMENT: Enhancing Jewish Well-Being in a Christian Environment. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series. Location: Ligon Chapel at Huntingdon College. Followed by a reception hosted by Huntingdon College. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

Friday, December 9, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Friday, January 6, 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Saturday, January 7, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Friday, January 13, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Friday, February 3, 5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Saturday, February 4, 7 PM, Dinner and Cabaret Benefit with Andrea Rae Markowicz. Advance reservations required.

NEED HELP GETTING AROUND DURING SERVICES?

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

September 2011

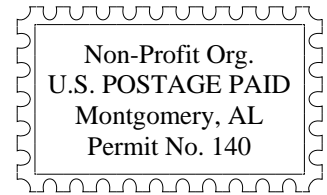
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 <i>6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.</i>	3
4	5	6	7	8 <i>4 PM, Montgomery Area Hearing Loss Support Group meeting at Wesley Hall, First United Methodist Church</i>	9 <i>5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library</i> <i>6 PM Shabbat Service</i>	10 <i>9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.</i>
11 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at TBO</i> <i>2:30 PM, A CONCERT OF REMEMBRANCE, Montgomery Chorale, at ASF</i>	12	13 <i>11:30 AM, L'Chaim League's Opening Luncheon and Tango Dance Program.</i>	14 <i>5:30 PM - 7 PM, Sisterhood Social: Cocktails & Conversation at Aimee Harris' home.</i>	15	16 <i>6 PM Shabbat Service</i>	17
18 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at TBO</i>	19	20	21	22	23 <i>6 PM Shabbat Service</i>	24 <i>6 PM, S'lichot Service.</i>
25 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at TBO</i>	26	27	28 <i>7:30 PM, Rosh Hashanah Eve Service - followed by Annual Reception.</i>	29 <i>10 AM, Rosh Hashanah Morning Service.</i> <i>10:30 AM, Children's Service in Library</i> <i>1 PM, Tashlich at Montgomery Museum Pond.</i>	30 <i>5 PM, Family Chavurah Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library</i> <i>6 PM Shabbat Shuvah</i>	

Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

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Montgomery, AL 36106

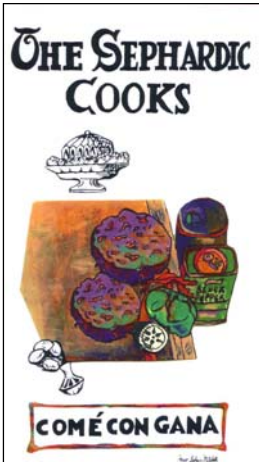
SEPTEMBER 11 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

L' Shanah Tovah

Have a sweet year!



COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE MEMBERS TOO!!

We would like to keep in touch with your children who are in college or living away from home by sending monthly bulletins. Please call the Temple office at 262-3314 or email bethor@templebethor.net with their address.

SINGLES GROUP
Attention All Jewish Singles 50 & up

Jewish Singles 50 & Up meets at **Roux** at 503 Cloverdale Road on Saturday, September 10th at 5:30 PM. If you are interested in attending contact: Carol Ronning at 279-0140.



TBO Office will be closed on Thursday, September 29th in honor of Rosh Hashanah.

Cookbooks are available for \$22.00.

Thursday ♦ September 8 ♦ 4 PM

Dr. Georgia Holmes, longtime director of AUM Speech and Hearing Clinic, will return to the Montgomery Area Hearing Loss Support Group for its One-Year Anniversary. She will speak on "Things I Have Learned Along the Way about Hearing Loss." The public is invited to Wesley Hall, First United Methodist Church, THURSDAY September 8th at four o'clock. Dr. Michael Crouse will also give free hearing screenings.

