

Temple Beth Or Bulletin

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

January 2014 ~ Tevet/Sh'vat 5774



RELATIONAL JUDAISM

NOTE: I rarely publish a sermon in the bulletin, but do so here in response to several requests. I offered this sermon on Dec. 6.

You all know the old story, with many variations but with a similar punch line. In one variation a Jewish man is the sole survivor of a shipwreck, and when he's finally rescued from the remote island on which he'd been stranded, he proudly showed to his rescuers how he'd managed to live – including the two synagogues he'd built for himself. “Two synagogues!” They exclaim – “But you're all alone here!” “I know,” he responds, “This one is where I go to worship, but that one? I wouldn't set foot in that place!”

I think many of us look at life the same dualistic way – you can look at almost anything and find something positive, or something negative. What one finds attractive might repel another. Some see life as a series of challenges, others face these same experiences, and see opportunity.

And so it is with Judaism. Over at least the last century or more we've seen predictions of the imminent demise of Judaism. *Shrei g'valt!* We're going to assimilate; our population is aging, mixed marriage will do us in, our institutions aren't attracting our young people, and the next generation is

drifting away. I have articles over a century old that paint a pretty dismal picture about the future of Judaism – well before the Holocaust, and well before Israel – articles that bemoan the loss of community by the immigrants who leave their villages in Eastern Europe, and as they approach Ellis Island they toss their Jewish garb overboard so they can start life in the new country. Many welcomed the new Judaism they created in the *Goldeneh Medinah*, but for others – well, they wouldn't set foot in the place, and wished they had never left the old country.

I've written and spoken in recent months about the Pew study of American Jewish life that shows, like each of the previous National Jewish Population Studies over the last 50 years, a steady loss of commitment to Judaism – a loss of personal identity and a loss of institutional affiliation on every level of American Jewish life. Many of you have forwarded to me articles you've come across forecasting the demise of Judaism as we know it, and the growing rate of disaffection. All too many, especially among our younger generation, have come to the point where they look at *any* synagogue, and vote with their feet: “I wouldn't set foot in that place!”

But where some see challenges, others see opportunity. True, some prefer to worship in the House of Negativity, but I for one prefer optimism. I do believe that Judaism has a viable future and retains the ability to teach values and

touch the soul, though how we experience our Judaism might be as different in the future from what we know now as today's house of worship differs from that of *schul* and *shteibel* in 18th century Europe.

A spate of new books tells the story. *Jews and Judaism in the 21st Century* re-envisions and re-imagines the future of Jewish personal and communal life – one of the most inspiring books I've read in a long time. *Jewish Megatrends: Charting the Course of the American Jewish Future* – is a book I regard as a must-read not just as a theoretical approach, but for the profound and very practical implications for the Jewish community of Montgomery, Alabama, and the whole way we are organized and function as a community. The book is transformational – a paradigm shift – and describes some of the most creative, exciting, innovative ways that large and small communities are reviving and energizing themselves, especially the younger generation. I highly recommend it.

Yet another is *Relational Judaism*. Sounds like a platitude, doesn't it? It's not – it's a brilliant analysis of all that congregations do wrong in how their members and staff and professionals relate to each other, and how transforming how we build our relationships and how we function in our communities can directly impact on how successfully a community can thrive moving forward.

All too often, it seems – and as true here in Montgomery as in most other communities – we focus on capital drives and deficits, and on programs and services, but not on relationships. We do a poor job of tracking our people. We don't know who is in which college, what jobs we hold, who

continued on page 12



Saturday, January 11 ✨ 9:30 AM
Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday morning, 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.

**Celebrating Our
162nd Year**



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

Temple Beth Or Officers

Jamie Loeb.....*President*
Diane Weil.....*Vice-President: Programs*
Adam Finkelstein.....*Vice-President: Finance*
Morris Capouya.....*Treasurer*
Susan Finklestein.....*Secretary*
Jenny Ives.....*Immediate Past President*

Board of Trustees

Frances Capouya.....*Adult Education*
Micki Beth Stiller.....*Cemetery*
Steve Clein.....*Co-Membership*
Bob Weisberg.....*Co-Membership*
Bob Goldberg.....*Facilities*
Marlene Beringer.....*Long Range Planning*
Andy Weil.....*Member at Large*
Jarred Kaplan.....*Religion School*
John Ives.....*Ritual*
Bruce Lieberman.....*Youth & Scholarship*

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT

Susan Bernstein

MEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Philip Bernstein/Pete Ginsburg

Temple Beth Or Staff

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

Office Hours

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

2246 Narrow Lane Road • Montgomery, AL 36106

(334) 262-3314 Tel ☆ (334) 263-5183 Fax

Office: bethor@templebethor.net
Rabbi: rabbis@templebethor.net
www.templebethor.net

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

**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.



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.

TBO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last month I mentioned that we have set up a new committee to figure how we can add to our Temple life. The Rabbi, in a previous bulletin, first talked about changes we can make to our services to add to the worship experience. He has asked for suggestions, and continues to value your input on ways to enhance our worship experience. A couple of weeks ago, Turia sang as a soloist during a Friday night service. Those attending enjoyed the service and the music. They found the service more personable. We hope to have her sing a few times a year. Rabbi is going to be working with the Ritual Committee to address your suggestions on our services. Your suggestions and input are welcome, so please try to attend services so you can share your feedback.

There are many ways you can participate in life at the Temple. The Social Concerns committee has a few projects each year and would welcome your help. For example, Louisa Weinrib, co-chair of the Social Concerns Committee, has been collecting items for Bedtime Bundles for Child Protect. What a great opportunity to help a child during probably the most difficult time of his or her life. When I walk past the playpen, that is full of the items we have donated, I am reminded how we want to help those in need. This is one act that will have an affect on someone in his or her time of need.

Allow me to leave you with a story from my family experience, just this past week. It was a poignant reminder of how a small gesture can have a big impact on someone's life, even when we least expect it. After Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast in 2005, our daughter Sarah Claire's first grade class sent letters and teddy bears to Katrina victims in Biloxi, Mississippi. Sarah Claire received a thank you note afterwards from a lady who received her letter and teddy bear. This weekend, eight years after the hurricane, Sarah Claire received a box from Biloxi with a gift and a letter from the lady's son. In the letter, he said that his mother, who is 90 and suffering from Alzheimer's, still talks about receiving the letter and still has the teddy bear. He shared with us how meaningful this small gesture was at a difficult time in his mother's life. We were very touched by the gift and letter, and it put a big smile on Sarah Claire's face.

So, get involved when you can. The rewards can be tremendous!

One final note: I was late with this article and want to thank Gina for putting up with my tardiness. I know it makes it harder on her when she can't put the bulletin together in time. I'm making a new year's resolution to be more punctual!

Jamie Loeb

**Birthday and Anniversary
Blessings on January 3rd.**

WILL FLORAL FUND FAIL TO FLOWER?

The Temple Beth Or Floral Fund – providing flowers for display during worship in the Sanctuary and on special occasions – is nearing a zero balance. Lisa Weil, chair of the temple's Art and Decorating Committee, advises that without new donations, our long tradition of floral displays during worship will come to an end. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.** Thank you.

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.

ARCHIVES FUND

Good Health to Barbara Shinpaugh
Louisa and Michael Weinrib

In Memory of Marion Cohen
Louisa and Michael Weinrib

BLANCHE WINTER FUND

In Honor of
Gay and Irving Winter's 18th Anniversary
Barry Deutsch Family

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Honor of the 85th birthday of
Rubin Franco
Corinne F. Capilouto

FLORAL FUND

In Honor of Temple Beth Or
Ann P. Thorington

In Honor of Betty Bloom's 93rd Birthday
Jack Abraham, Jr.

In Memory of Cecelia Field
Gay and Irving Winter

In Memory of Diane Abraham
Jack Abraham, Jr.

In Memory of Eli R. Capouya
Frances and Ralph Capouya

In Honor of the Wedding Anniversary of Gay and Irving Winter
Cheryl and Randy Colen

In Honor of Liza and Sam Kaufman
Pat and Allen Dees

In Memory of Marion Cohen
Alan Weil, Sr.
Jack Abraham, Jr.

In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Myrna & Alan Rothfeder

Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Michelson
Joe and Bari Levin
Pat and Allen Dees

In Memory of Pat Tourial

Corinne F. Capilouto
Gay and Irving Winter
Roz Caplan and Ed Simon

In Memory of Peggy Simon
Ed Simon

In Memory of Phyllis Marcus Applefield

Alan Weil, Sr.
Jack Abraham, Jr.

In Memory of Ralph Loeb, Jr.
Alan Weil, Sr.

Gay and Irving Winter
Jack Abraham, Jr.

Ruth Rosenthal's Special Birthday

Gay and Irving Winter
Corinne F. Capilouto

In Memory of Samuel Neuman

Frances and Ralph Capouya
Roz Caplan and Ed Simon
Rubin A. Franco

In Memory of Victoria L. Levy
Jack Abraham, Jr.

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Ralph Loeb, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Kohn

Wishes for a Happy Hanukkah and a happy healthy New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hanan
Sandra and Alan Berman

In Memory of Phyllis Marcus Applefield

Ed and Audrey Halperin
Eileen H. Mack
J.C. Dicks and Bobby Dicks
Judith Lebovitz

In Memory of Ralph Loeb, Jr.
Donald G. Ferguson

SAMUEL SCHLOSS COMMUNITY FUND

In Memory of
Amelia and Samuel Schloss, Sr.
Burke Schloss

In Memory of Ralph Loeb, Jr.
Burke Schloss

In honor of
Ruth Rosenthal's 90th Birthday
Burke Schloss

SELMA MARCUS FUND

In Memory of
Phyllis Marcus Applefield
Gay and Irving Winter
Mrs. Paul Friendman Sr. & Sandy Friedman

SPECIAL EVENTS

Many thanks for letting us bring groups.
Billy Planer

JAN BIRTHDAYS

- 3..... Linda Herzfeld
- 4..... Joe Levin
- 6..... Peggy Mussafer
- 7..... Ruth Rosenthal
- 10..... Bette Sue Strasburger
- 10..... Pam Weil
- 10..... Phillip Golomb M.D.
- 12..... Elizabeth Weinrib
- 13..... Nikki Rothschild
- 14..... Richard Hanan
- 18..... Elise Toney
- 22..... Carolyn Rothschild
- 22..... Monica Kohn
- 23..... Rita Sabel
- 26..... Herman Franco
- 27..... Deanna Sumner
- 28..... Diane Weil
- 30..... Maxine Goldner

Recent Deaths

Marion Wender Cohen ז"ל	Ralph Loeb, Jr. ז"ל	Pat Tourial ז"ל	Phyllis Applefield	Victoria L. Levy
November 24, 2013	November 27, 2013	November 29, 2013	December 1, 2013	December 5, 2013
Wife of Oscar Cohen	Husband of Ellen Loeb	Sister of Ralph Capouya	Sister of Bubba Marcus	

FEB ANNIVERSARIES

- 16Jeff & Robin Blitz
- 17Larry & Corinne Capilouto

YAHARZEITS

To be read 1/3/2014

- Gilson Capilouto
- Sylvan Robert Cohn
- Hobbie Freehling
- Sylvan Ives
- Bernice Loeb Levy
- Myron C. Lobman, Jr.
- Elise F. Shwarts
- Adolph Weil, Sr.

To be read 1/10/2014

- Diane Dreyfus Abraham
- Hermann Berger
- Arthur B. Beringer, Jr.
- Sophie Oppenheimer Hertz
- Morris Levy
- Carol W. Rothschild

To be read 1/17/2014

- Bertha S. Abraham
- Simon Hertz
- Dr. Aviva Hoffman
- Bertha Model
- Clara G. Mussafer
- Ben Neuman
- Bert C. Weil, Sr.
- Christopher Paul Wetherbee

To be read 1/24/2014

- Henry L. Abraham
- Albert Capp
- Eli Cohen
- Betty Coleman
- Jake Feinman
- David R. Franco
- Eli Hanan
- Joseph Hanchrow
- Irma Levy
- Myrtle Kaufman Loeb
- Eva Marco
- Faye Levinson Shum

To be read 1/31/2014

- Albert Abraham
- Rabbi Eugene Blachschleger
- Isaac Cohen
- Abraham Feinman
- Irma Endel Spitzer

SISTERHOOD

What a wonderful Chanukah service and dinner we had! About 70 of our members attended and enjoyed the food and fun. Randi Herring and Julie Goolsby did a great job of organizing and arranging for this event. They planned delicious food and did a beautiful job of decorating. Carol Loeb and her daughters, Sarah Claire and Catherine, had a wonderful Chanukah activity for the children and even some of the adults participated. I had a cook group that joined me in cooking the potato latkes that were enjoyed by all. We even had some to send home to continue the enjoyment. Everyone that was there seemed to have a great time.

Join us on January 10 for our annual Sisterhood Shabbat. A wine and cheese reception is planned before the service beginning at 5:15. Sisterhood members will participate and Turia Stark Williams will be on the Bimah to sing. I know you don't want to miss Turia.

As we go into a new year, we will begin thinking about new officers for next year. Please let me know if you are willing to be a Sisterhood officer. We have a lot of fun together planning and preparing for the many events at the Temple. Yes, it is a lot of work but so worth it.

Susan Bernstein
Sisterhood President

FROM THE LIBRARY

A few new titles recently added to the library collection (temporarily shelved on the windowsill):

Superman: The High-Flying History of America's Most Enduring Hero, by Larry Tye (799.77569 TYE 2013)

The Hebrew Alphabet: A Mystical Journey, by Edward Hoffman with illustrations by Karen Silver (400 HOF 1998)

The Debt of Tamar (a novel inspired by historical events), by Nicole Dweck (568 DWE 2012)

Faith Unravels: A Rabbi's Struggle with Grief and God, by Daniel Greyber, forward by Mayim Bialik (613.9 GRE 2012)

The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews 1939 - 1945, by Saul Friedlander (736.1 FRI 2007) * Follow-up to Friedlander's *Nazi Germany and the Jews: The Years of Persecution, 1933 - 1939* (736.01 FRI 1997).

Eric A. Kidwell, MLS

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

On, Tuesday, Dec. 10th, the L'Chaim League welcomed home author, Teresa Katz Thorne. She shared an insightful review of her book, "Noah's Wife", and we all enjoyed getting to know her over lunch. Teresa enjoyed a reminiscent tour of the temple after her presentation.

January's event is in the planning and will be announced in the L'Chaim League's January newsletter.

Sharon Berry, L'Chaim League
Director
(334)262-3314 ext. 223
lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com

Respite Program – Volunteers Needed

First United Methodist Church, our long time friend, has started a respite program for families dealing with dementia and it is open to the entire community. It is their hope that the program will be utilized and supported by the general community. They would like to have volunteers from a variety of churches and synagogues and already have volunteers from six different churches including FUMC and Church of the Ascension. Having Temple Beth Or volunteers working with them would be a natural continuation of an already strong relationship.

The respite program is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. Attendees and volunteers may choose 1, 2 or 3 days a week and enjoy activities, art, games and lunch. For some it is an opportunity to socialize; for families who need a break, it is an incredibly important program that offers many positives for the loved one in a safe, welcoming environment. I can tell you without reservation that this is a wonderful program that is meeting a very important need in Montgomery and we have Temple families participating.

The volunteers, male and female, are crucial to the success of the program and they will tell you they LOVE it! There is a training session on Tuesday, January 15th from 9:30-12:30. If you are interested, please contact the director, Daphne Johnston at 440-9911. If you have questions that I can answer, please call me at 279-6211 or 324-7550.

Diane Hanan Weil

Friday • January 10 • 6 PM

Sisterhood Shabbat

A wine and cheese precedes the service at 5:15 PM with Turia Stark Williams, soloist.



Sunday • January 26 • 5 PM

JFCA's Sh'lichah event at TBO

Tzlil Bandy shows the television series "Arab Labor" at TBO. The series focuses on the family and work situations of Amjad, an Arab-Israeli journalist. Much of the comedy is derived from the paradox of Amjad's love-hate relationship with his Arab identity and his simultaneous wish to integrate comfortably into Israeli society.

Join us to see a different perspective on the complex situation in Israel.



Sneak glance at the upcoming release of "SHADOW IN BAGHDAD"

Shir, daughter of the protagonist of the film, "Shadow in Baghdad", will share her experience of growing up within a multi-cultural identity. Shir's presentation will include screening of clips from "Shadow in Baghdad"



Shir Mnuchin (27) holds an MBA in Social Leadership and a bachelor degree in Israel Studies and Politics and Government from Ben Gurion University of the Negev. She has served as an Israeli Emissary in the States, leading lectures, educational and social programming and cultural events. In the past few years she has been extensively involved in community work combining a great passion for social justice and empowerment while practicing leadership. Shir serves as an Education Officer reservists in the IDF.



The film **SHADOW IN BAGHDAD** is structured around a rather surprising narrative: A young journalist from Baghdad sets out to write about Linda Abdul Aziz, who escaped Iraq to Israel in the early 70's and about her father who decided to stay in Iraq only later to disappear with his fate remaining unknown. The physical barrier between Linda who is in Israel and the Iraqi journalist is broken by the internet and suspicion evolves into trust. Slowly they uncover the tragic end of Linda's father, as well as that of a whole Jewish community that thrived in Iraq for over 2000 years

The Jewish Federation of Central AL invites to Café Israel on January 21, 7 PM at Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem. For more information call Tzlil Bandy at 224-4220.

RABBI OFFERS SERMON SERIES
ON REFORM JUDAISM

Reform Jews understand Reform in many different ways. Almost by definition, "Reform" means that we adapt and interpret our Jewish heritage to meet our own interests and needs. Yet Reform has never meant that "anything goes," or that our sole criterion is individual autonomy. In American Reform Judaism, national bodies of rabbis have adopted platforms that articulate where Reform stands in important areas of theology and practice in their day – in areas such as our perception of God, what "Torah" means, our relationship to Israel (land and people), and the concept of "mitzvah." These major platforms were adopted in 1885 (the famous "Pittsburgh Platform" that defined Classical Reform), 1937, 1976 and 1999, the latter describing where mainstream Reform sees itself in our day.

Rabbi Stevens will speak on these four platforms in a series of sermons starting in January. Copies of the platforms will be available at each service, on the following dates:

January 17, the Pittsburgh Platform of 1885
January 24, the Columbus Platform of 1937
February 7, the "Centennial" Platform of 1976
February 14, the Pittsburgh Platform of 1999

THE RABBI IS OUT TO LUNCH –

And invites you to join him!

Rabbi Stevens will be going out to lunch, and would be delighted to have some company. If you'd like to break bread with Rabbi Stevens – with no program and no agenda – you can join him at these times and places, Dutch treat:

January 14, Sommer's Place East [Vaughn]
January 29, Chappie's Deli [Perry Hill]

Lunches will be at 12:00 noon, and an RSVP will be appreciated via email (Rabbis@templebethor.net) or to his cell phone (201-6139).

SAVE THE DATE!

TURIA STARK WILLIAMS TO
PRESENT

SEPHARDIC MUSIC RECITAL

HOLD THE DATE for March 27, when temple member Turia Stark Williams will present a recital of Sephardic music at Temple Beth Or. Turia, a soprano trained at the Boston Conservatory of Music, is Adjunct Voice Faculty at Huntingdon College, a member of the TBO choir and has also co-lead services with Rabbi Stevens. She has also soloed with the Montgomery Chorale. This recital will feature Sephardic music of different countries and genres, ranging from liturgical music and art song to folk and popular melodies.

Watch for information about this exciting program in the next bulletin. In the meantime, **HOLD THE DATE!** This is one you won't want to miss!

Sunday • Jan 12
3 PM

The Men's Club will be showing the movie "The Final Countdown." Pizza and snacks served. TBO Social Hall. All are invited!

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN: The USS Nimitz, a modern-day nuclear-powered aircraft carrier captained by Kirk Douglas, passes through a time warp and finds itself at Pearl Harbor on December 6, 1941. Douglas is all for preventing the infamous Japanese attack by unleashing the 1980s technology at his disposal. But wait-- what will happen to future events if the attack doesn't come off? For nearly two hours, pros and cons are volleyed back and forth by Douglas, by ambitious senator Charles Durning, and by concerned observer Martin Sheen.



STUDY OPPORTUNITIES WITH RABBI STEVENS

JUDAISM BASICS & BASIC HEBREW

This basic survey of Judaism runs for eleven sessions, starting Tuesday, October 15. 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 4:30 to 5:30 PM.

- October 15** Overview of Judaism.
- October 22** A Whirlwind Tour of Jewish History.
- October 29** The Basic Texts of Judaism.
- November 5** Modern Judaism; Denominations; Israel.
- November 12** Lifecycle: Birth through Bar Mitzvah.
- November 19** Lifecycle: Marriage and Divorce.
- December 3** Lifecycle: Illness, death, mourning.
- December 10** Holidays: Shabbat and Festivals.
- December 17** Holidays: Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
- January 7** Holidays: Minor holidays (Chanukah, Purim, etc.).
- January 14** Modern Judaism: Israel; Denominations.

SHEMONAH PERAKIM STUDY GROUP

One of the greatest classics of Jewish literature is *Pirkei Avot*, translated literally as “Chapters of the Fathers.” This 1,800 year old tractate records the wisdom of our sages on such themes as virtue, vice, free will, ethics and God. *Pirkei Avot* includes some of Judaism’s most famous sayings, such as those of the great Rabbi Hillel.

Perhaps the most important commentary on *Pirkei Avot* is Maimonides’ 12th century introduction, which he called *Shemonah Perakim* [“Eight Chapters”]. This commentary not only covers some of the grand themes of Judaism, but also gives valuable insight into the philosophy of Maimonides.

Join our text study group! Rabbi Stevens will begin a weekly class that will cover – all in English translation – the original text, commentaries and gleanings from modern sources. Our discussions will be wide-ranging, engaging, and hopefully fun. Let’s learn together! No prior knowledge necessary!

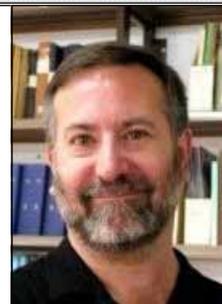
First session will be Tuesday, January 21, from 5-6 p.m. Additional classes, at the same time, will be on February 4, 11 and 18 – and we’ll see where we go from there.



Agudath Israel ☆ Etz Ahayem Adult Education

Introduction to Judaism 7 PM

Tuesday, January 7



We need you!!!

Mark your calendar now for our 2014 Food Festival –

February 23rd, 2014 Hours: 9 AM until 3 PM

Deadline for Treasure Market Items is January 28th.

Please contact Pat Dees or Alan Weil, Sr. to arrange for pick-up of large, furniture type items.

Please review the list of scheduled cooking and baking dates published in the bulletin. **VOLUNTEER** now to be a part of the preparation and cooking! Just contact any of the committee chairs listed in the bulletin and let them know that you will be there to help.

Also, please complete and submit the enclosed Volunteer Form to Karen Goldstein for working on the day of the Food Festival.

Thank you,
Jenny Ives

Treasure Market

Moving? Spring Cleaning? Redecorating?

We are now accepting the following items for the 2014 Treasure Market!

- Professionally Cleaned Ladies Evening and Cocktail Dresses/Suits
- Ladies' Accessories Costume Jewelry,
- Hats – Scarves - Evening Bags - Purses
- Toys - Lamps - Paintings – Pictures
- Furniture - in good condition
- Electronic Equipment

* Please make sure all items are clean and in working condition.

* Please donate large box TV's to your favorite charity.

2013 Food Festival Cooking Schedule

Cooking time begins at 9 AM unless otherwise noted. Time and dates are subject to change so please call the Temple to confirm times.

* - denotes that date is reserved on an "if needed" basis.

January 4	Rugelach set-up	Sharon Berry, 290-0445/daberry40@netscape.net
January 5	Rugelach	Sharon Berry, 290-0445/daberry40@netscape.net
January 8	Challah prep	Marlene Beringer, 272-6688/grammyberinger@gmail.com
January 9	Challah bake	Marlene Beringer, 272-6688/grammyberinger@gmail.com
January 13	Praline Matzah	Diane Weil, 324-7550/ dianeweil@me.com
January 15	Challah prep	Marlene Beringer, 272-6688/grammyberinger@gmail.com
January 16	Challah bake	Marlene Beringer, 272-6688/grammyberinger@gmail.com
January 19	Latkes	Susan Bernstein, 281-4340/susanbernstein@gmail.com
January 25	Rugelach set-up	Sharon Berry, 290-0445/daberry40@netscape.net
January 26	Rugelach	Sharon Berry, 290-0445/daberry40@netscape.net
February 2	Kugel	Kelly Capouya, 244-9638/kncapouya@gmail.com
February 9*	Kugel	Kelly Capouya, 244-9638/kncapouya@gmail.com

Religion School Schedule



1/12 1st Day at AIEA,
 Tu B'Shevat
 1/26
 2/2
 2/9
 3/2
 3/9
 3/16 Purim Celebration

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.

Quajado bakers needed. Pans and recipe can be picked up from the Temple. Please be sure to leave your name on the form provided.

Volunteer Now for Temple Beth Or's Eleventh Annual Jewish Food Festival and Treasure Market

Please select the items which interest you and which shift you prefer:

Starting now and during the next few months:

- Putting up signs
- Being a guest on radio/television shows



Week of:

- Helping in kitchen on Tuesday
- Helping in kitchen on Wednesday
- Helping in kitchen on Thursday
- Helping in kitchen on Friday

<u>First Shift</u>	<u>Second Shift</u>	<u>All</u>
<u>8:30 to 12:00</u>	<u>11:45 to 3:00</u>	<u>Day</u>

Day of:

- | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling tickets at table | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling tickets-walking around | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling cookbooks | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling in the bakery | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving lunch | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping in the Treasure Market | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-up | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with anything needed | _____ | _____ | _____ |

We need your items for the Treasure Market and the Collectible Market. Please deliver to the Temple, Tuesday thru Friday and specify if for Treasure Market or Collectible room.

Contact Pat Dees at 399-1212 if you have any questions.

Please mail or drop this form off at the Temple office as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

All proceeds benefit the Temple General Fund.

2246 Narrow Lane Road § Montgomery, Alabama 36106 § (334) 262-3314

Sunday, February 23, 2014

9 AM - 3 PM

Detach at the crease to mail. Fold, seal and stamp and it's ready to go.

**Kahl Montgomery
Temple Beth Or**
2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

Seal here



Karen Goldstein
2026 Myrtlewood Drive
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

fold here

I can't wait to help!

Sign Me Up!



Temple Beth Or thanks our 2013 sponsors

Montgomery Advertiser
A GANNETT COMPANY

Please support our
community
sponsors!

Publix
WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE®

- Aliant Bank
- BBVA Compass Bank
- Bern, Butler, Capilouto & Massey CPA

RIVER
BANK & TRUST

- Cohens Electronics & Appliances Inc.
- Dignity Memorial
- Sterling Bank

Servis 1st Bank

OUR NAME IS OUR MISSION.

Contact Lisa or
Andy Weil at
(334) 279-8979
for 2014 pricing.

shares which hobbies or, on a deeper level, what keeps us up at night, and what motivates us to get up in the morning. Sure, many of us have relationships – we have a lunch bunch, or a golf group, or the buddies we watch football with, and many of these relationships are life-long. But we also have members here who attend on a pretty regular basis, and yet when I mention their name someone is bound to say, “I have no idea who that is.”

We – again, here but also true of communities throughout the country – do our programming here in this building, while “relational” communities reach out much more deeply into the larger community.

This book gives an interesting example of what I’m talking about: Many congregational websites on their home page show photos of their building, or their sanctuary, or their logo, or their beautiful stained-glass windows. The most effective, however, show people – celebrating, studying, dancing, repairing the world. Stained glass windows don’t attract the way that relationships attract.

The most successful communities touch people. We have beautiful music and a beautiful sanctuary, but the book would have us ask: When was the last time someone cried? Laughed? Raised their voices in ecstatic prayer? We’ve become really good at engaging the head, in other words, but lousy at engaging the heart, and it is precisely the way we touch heart and soul that so many of today’s disaffected Jews are seeking.

I’ve been speaking with Jamie Loeb about “relational Judaism”; he brought

this book to my attention after hearing about it from other congregational presidents, and I know he intends to take up the discussion with our Board. The book raises questions like this: How can we enable ourselves to tell and listen to each other’s stories? How can we find our commonalities, our interests, our concerns – the basic elements of our shared peoplehood? How can we institute planning not based on what leadership wants, but on what members want? We know how success Chabad is in reaching out with passion and warmth to disaffected and unaffiliated Jews in the smallest towns: Can we create a non-Orthodox Chabad to pick up on their great success?

One model I read about is CBCO – congregation-based community organizing, a model whereby a skilled community organizer trains a group in the art of conducting a “listening campaign,” with sessions over lunch or coffee in neutral locations. Another model describes “radical hospitality,” reaching out beyond our comfort zone and usual relationship circle. Many of our Board members last September called as many temple members as they could just to wish them a good year – and the response was amazing, especially from some of our members who were thrilled to get a call that wasn’t asking for something. We could benefit from more pot-luck and family dinners; even these are just a starting point.

Here’s an inspiring story: Our previous shaliach, Ori Tal, and now our *sh’lichah* Tzlil, have brought together many of our young Jewish singles and young couples a number of times over the last couple of

years for occasions that are strictly social – no agenda, no rabbis. The inspiring part is that they’ve identified a fair number of young Jewish people in town who are not affiliated with either congregation. Some of these social gatherings have had two dozen or more participants. I find it inspiring because the model of relational Judaism doesn’t stop with who pays dues and who’s on the membership roster. Build relationships, and the membership will follow.

We have a lot of work to do. We need to have an active Long Range Planning committee, ritual committee and engaged members of the Board; I as rabbi will have my work cut out for me, for synagogue transformation doesn’t happen by itself.

Fortunately, we also get a lot of things right. Our warmth and hospitality and the way we embrace new members are values we celebrate. Our volunteerism is good, our affiliate arms are healthy and fully committed, and our leadership is as dedicated and engaged as any I’ve seen.

I am excited to discover how our congregation and community will grow and change and thrive in the years ahead. I hope that each of you will pepper me and our lay leadership with your ideas and creativity. I look forward to the day when Temple Beth Or will be *the* place in our community where all will look at what we do, and exclaim, “That synagogue? *That’s the one where I wish to set my feet!*”

Elliot L. Stevens

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.



12/2 Cooking Levivut (Latkes לביבות) at the Shalicha's Apartment



The festival of lights in Montgomery

Young Adults Social on December 3rd – Happy hour for Hannukka



There are more young adults in Montgomery than you think! If you're interested in meeting them, and you are between 21-49, join us for the Young Adults Social! For more information please contact:

Josh Seagall 334-328-9184 joshua.segall@gmail.com,
Anna Bern 334-294-9372 anna.e.bern@gmail.com or
Tzlil Bandy 334-224-4220 Tzlil.jfca@gmail.com



And Beyond!

Tuesday, February 4, 5 PM, "Shemonah Perakim," text study on Jewish ethics with Rabbi Stevens

Friday, February 7, 5 PM, Family Chavurah "Tot" Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Friday, February 7, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. Serman Series on Reform Judasim: the "Centennial" Platform of 1976.

Saturday, February 8, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Tuesday, February 11, 5 PM, "Shemonah Perakim," text study on Jewish ethics with Rabbi Stevens

Tuesday, February 11, 7 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah's Café Israel at TBO hosted by Tzlil Bandy. Topic: To be announced.

Friday, February 14, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. Serman Series on Reform Judasim: the Pittsburgh Platform of 1999.

Tuesday, February 18, 5 PM, "Shemonah Perakim," text study on Jewish ethics with Rabbi Stevens

Friday, February 21, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Sunday, February 23, 9 AM - 3 PM, Temple Beth Or's 11th Annual Food Festival.

Tuesday, February 25, 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Friday, March 7, 5 PM, Family Chavurah "Tot" Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Saturday, March 8, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Sunday, March 9, 12 noon, Joint Sisterhood luncheon with Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem and Temple Beth Or. Held at Temple Beth Or.

Tuesday, March 11, 7 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah's Café Israel at Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem hosted by Tzlil Bandy. Topic: To be announced.

Friday, March 14, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. Huntingdon College Night. Reception follows.

Saturday, March 15, 7 PM, Purim Service - Costumes (adults, too!), Purim Pranks, the famous Megillah and Hamentaschen! In the TBO Library.

Friday, March 21, 6 PM, Men's Club Shabbat Service.

Tuesday, March 25, 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Friday, March 28, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Thursday, April 3, 7 PM, Guest Speaker: Eric Goldman,

author of THE AMERICAN JEWISH STORY THROUGH CINEMA. Sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series.

Friday, April 4, 6 PM, Shabbat service led by Temple Beth Or youth (grades 4-9).

Tuesday, April 8, 7 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah's Café Israel at TBO hosted by Tzlil Bandy. Topic: To be announced.

Saturday, April 12, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Tuesday, April 15, 5:30 PM, Second Seder. Seating will begin at 5:30 PM, with the service to begin promptly at 6:00.

Tuesday, April 22, 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Friday, April 25, 6 PM, Shabbat service with guest speaker, Tzlil Bandy, JFCA Sh'lichah.

Sunday, April 27, 3 PM, Community Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service at TBO.

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

Sunday, May 4, 3 - 6 PM, Yom Ha-atzma-ut (Israel Independence Day) celebration. Location and more information to follow.

Sunday, May 4, TBA, Israel Independence Day. Details to come.

Saturday, May 10, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.

Tuesday, May 13, 7 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah's Café Israel at Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem hosted by Tzlil Bandy. Topic: To be announced.

Sunday, May 18, 4 PM, Reception and Annual Meeting at 5:00 PM. Reception precedes at 4 PM. Members only.

Friday, May 23, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

Tuesday, May 27, 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Tuesday, June 3, 7 PM, Erev Shavuot program, including a reading of the Book of Ruth and a light dairy repast.

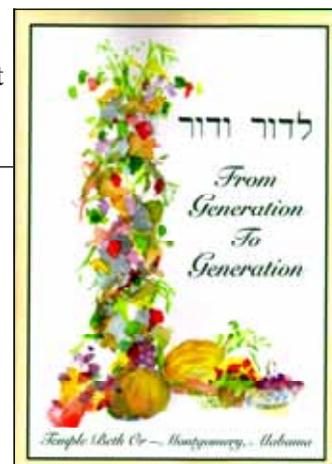
Friday, June 6, 5 PM, Family Chavurah "Tot" Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library - suitable for children of all ages.

Tuesday, June 24, 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Friday, June 27, 6 PM, Shabbat Service. TORAH READING AND D'VAR TORAH.

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.

From Generation to Generation cookbooks are available for \$22.00.



January 2014

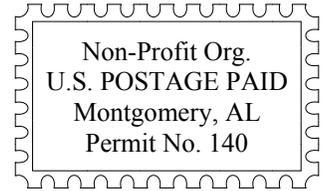
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Closed for New Years Day.	2	3 6 PM Shabbat Service. Birthday and anniversary blessings.	4
5	6	7 4:30 PM Basic Judaism	8	9	10 5 PM, "Tot" Shabbat service in the Blachschleger Library 5:15 PM Reception 6 PM Sisterhood Shabbat Service with soloist Turia Stark Williams.	11 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served
12 9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School 1 st Day at AIEA, Tu B'Shevat 3 PM, The Men's Club will be showing the movie "The Final Countdown." Pizza and snacks served.	13	14 12 Noon, Dutch treat lunch with Rabbi Stevens. Sommer's Place East (Vaughn). 4:30 PM Basic Judaism	15	16	17 6 PM, Shabbat Service. Serman Series on Reform Judasim: the Pittsburgh Platform of 1885.	18
19	20	21 5 PM, "Shemonah Perakim," text study on Jewish ethics with Rabbi Stevens 7 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah's Café Israel at Agudath Israel*Etz Ahayem	22	23	24 6 PM, Shabbat Service. Serman Series on Reform Judasim: the Columbus Platform of 1937.	25
26 9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at AIEA. 5 PM, JFCA's Sh'lichah event: Film Club shows the television series "Arab Labor" at TBO.	27	28 5:30 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.	29 12 Noon, Dutch treat lunch with Rabbi Stevens. Chappie's Deli (Perry Hill).	30	31 6 PM Shabbat Service. JFCA's Tzlil Bandy will speak on the challenges Israel faces from Iran.	

Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

JANUARY 2014 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



<p>FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICES especially for babies, toddlers, kids, moms, dads and grandparents too! 5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Library</p>	<p>January 10, 2014 February 7 March 7 May 2 June 6</p>
---	---

Holiday Hours and Information

Temple will be closed on Wednesday, January 1st for New Year's Day.

Gina Friday will be on vacation from December 24 - January 2. Office hours on December 26, 27 and 31 will be 9 AM - noon. All efforts will be made to keep the office open and the phones staffed during her absence.

On Friday, December 27th the building will open at 5:00 PM for the 6 PM service.