

Temple Beth Or Bulletin

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

April 2014 ~ Adar II/Nisan 5774



Huntingdon College Night at Temple Beth Or has been an annual highlight since the 1960's, as religion students come to learn something about Judaism; attend a service and stay for a wonderful reception hosted by our Sisterhood. It is a wonderful tradition.

This year more than 200 students joined us – a record, at least during my tenure here in Montgomery.

Throughout our community interest in religion seems to be at an all-time high, unlike reports we hear from other parts of the country. I well recall that when Sandy Lynn and I first arrived in Montgomery and started to meet our neighbors, the second question everyone asked was “Which church will you be going to?” [The first question, of course, was which football team we would root for!].

The neighbors have stopped asking about our football preferences, and have long since realized that we probably won't be making any choices about our church preference either.

We've learned that most people around here take their religion very seriously. My colleagues in ministry offer Bible study classes, and those classes are packed. Here at temple, my adult education programs on Torah commentaries, for example, almost invariably outdraw almost everything else I teach. This is called Bible belt country for good reason!

And many of those who attend really know their Bibles. Whether teaching here

or speaking at some church function, if I mention some Bible story – let's say I refer to an incident where a force of Joshua's army was routed at the town of Ai, after the Israelites entered Canaan following the death of Moses – someone is bound to call out “Joshua 7 verse 4!” [I only know the reference because I looked it up]. No other book in history comes close to the Bible in terms of the hours devoted to its study, the devotion many people have in attempting to live by its precepts, or by the sheer number of editions that have been published. And it's not surprising: For millions, probably hundreds of millions of people, the Bible is literally the word of God. The question of whether the Bible is “true” simply wouldn't arise, because the truth of the Bible is a given; it's axiomatic, and its truth must be accepted as a matter of belief.

I also believe in the truth of the Bible, and I would like to explore with you what I mean by that statement.

But first, we need to understand what we mean by the terms we use. When we use terms like “truth,” or “Bible,” or “God,” or “revelation,” we use these terms as if we all know exactly what we mean – and we may also assume that each of us has the same associations as everyone else when we use these terms.

Take the word “Bible,” for example. A typical Bible is printed and bound like other books, and so by long association we assume that the Bible is a book. Sometimes we even hear someone say, “I read the entire Bible from cover to cover,” as if they've read a particularly long book. But the Bible is not a book, it's an anthology of writings assembled

and edited over the course of hundreds of years, recording sometimes very ancient folk memories that undoubtedly reflect oral traditions that long preceded their redaction into written form. Moreover ancient Hebrew was written without vowels, without punctuation, and without any divisions into chapters and verses – these weren't added until the early Middle Ages – and the text itself didn't achieve final form until the same period.

When I use the term “Bible,” therefore, what I have in mind is not a single book at all, but a slowly evolving record of an evolving civilization that later came to be known as Judaism.

Then there's the word “truth.” Is the Bible “true”? This is a harder question, given the composite nature of the text. If “true” means “literal,” then we have a real problem, because the text is full of anomalies and contradictions and anachronisms. If I defined “true” as “literal,” then I would look at the anomalies in Torah, for example, and say “this can't be true, it doesn't make any sense.”

Consider these examples:

In Genesis 14, Abraham goes “as far as Dan,” but Dan at that time was called Lachish and wasn't called Dan until renamed after the death of Samson, in Judges 18. Genesis 36 mentions kings reigning over the Israelites, yet the first king was Saul, who lived long after Moses. Genesis 12 says “the Canaanites were then in the land,” clearly written much later, after the Canaanites were no longer in the land. Usages like the one in Genesis 26, “Beersheba carries that name ‘until this very day’” are very common. Genesis 23 describes how Kiryat Arba was renamed Hebron, yet Joshua 14 says this occurred after the conquest. There are many other examples – Genesis 26 tells how Abraham visited Gerar, whose origins as a city are dated by archaeologists to the 8th century BCE, about 900 years after Abraham. Already

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Saturday, April 12 ✦ 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*
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Morris Capouya.....*Treasurer*
Susan Finklestein.....*Secretary*
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Susan Bernstein

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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

Have you ever found a recipe that you had to try? A couple of weeks ago I found a recipe for Smoked Chicken Gumbo and just had to cook this. I really enjoyed spending a good part of a Sunday afternoon preparing this great recipe. I quickly realized that cooking gumbo from scratch is a labor of love and looking back, I would definitely cook this again.

Being President of the Temple is like that as well, it is also a labor of love. There is definitely a juggling act between work, family, and Temple needs. Just like cooking the roux, juggling these three can be arduous. When I took office, I did not know what to expect or what I really wanted to accomplish as President. I knew I wanted to do something that really had a lasting effect on the Temple.

It took the first year of my term to learn the Temple's processes. I think the first year is a time of learning for the President. Luckily, we had no major issues to handle.

The second year of my term was a little different. It started with major issues with the air conditioning system that we are still trying to resolve. It took us a couple of months to find the cause and now we have to correct issues. That will take longer than I had hoped but we will strive to get the repairs made soon. So far, there are no other major issues that need to be resolved.

As I wrote in an earlier bulletin, I participated in a round table of southeastern Temple presidents where I learned a lot of how temples are changing. Congregants, especially younger congregants, no longer want just religious services and learning programs. Needs are changing and people want to connect with their temple, rabbi and fellow Jews in a different way than before. How do we accomplish this while maintaining the needs of older congregants, who still want religious service and learning programs?

How do we offer religious services, programs, and ways for our congregants to connect with each other and the Temple? That is what I want to figure out for Temple Beth Or and although I know this will take longer than the few months that I have left as President, I hope to work on it next year. To help in this area, a new committee will study what other congregations are doing to get their congregation members connected. I want to thank Steve Clein, Pat Dees, Diane Weil, Bob Weisberg, and Rabbi Stevens for agreeing to serve on this committee. I hope that it will not be long before we start seeing new "programs" at the Temple.

We will have our Annual Meeting on May 18. We need you to attend. Not only will we be voting in our new officers and Board members as well as next year's budget. We will also be voting on some changes to the Temple's Constitution. You will receive notice of the meeting and proposed changes to the constitution. I will see you at the Annual Meeting.

Jamie Loeb

If you have unopened boxes of matzah after Passover, please donate them to the temple to use for praline matzah at Food Festival 2015.

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.

BAYLINSON ART FUND

In Memory of Herbert F. Jim'Levy
Sam and Liza Kaufman

FLORAL FUND

In Memory of Loved Ones
Corinne F. Capilouto

On the Yahrzeit of Ann Tillinger
Joan Hanan

In Memory of Herbert F. Jim'Levy
Joan Hanan
Pat and Allen Dees

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Clara Burke
Jo Anne and Buddy Rousso
Marlene and Rick Beringer

In Memory of Herbert F. Jim'Levy
Clare Weil & Bob Weisberg
Libby & Harvey Hieken
Major Richard Gibian
Marlene and Rick Beringer
Michel Nicrosi
Tranum and Martha Fitzpatrick
Vicki Levy Eskin

Tithe in Gratitude
Babette L. Barmettler

In Memory of Steve Ball
Alston Fitts, III
Major Richard Gibian
Maureen Kendrick Murphy
Milt Livingston

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of Herbert F. Jim'Levy
Aimee and Scott Harris

**SAMUEL SCHLOSS
COMMUNITY FUND**

In Memory of Herbert F. Jim'Levy
Burke Schloss

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Anne Franco
- 6 Paul Freehling
- 6 Lee Freibaum
- 7 Jim Levy
- 7 Alex Levy
- 8 Aimee Harris
- 9 Robert Lieberman
- 11 Elliot Stevens
- 11 Joan Loeb
- 12 Lucille Goldsmith
- 13 Sandi Stern
- 14 Anna Stevens
- 16 Alison Berman
- 16 Frances Capouya
- 17 Alan Weil Sr.
- 19 Allison Tucker
- 21 Steve Wallace
- 22 Ricky Loeb
- 22 Sandy Lynn Stevens
- 22 Maurice Mussafer
- 25 Al Benn
- 25 Steve Schloss
- 26 Steve Coleman
- 29 Ronnie Leet

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Pete & Lynne Ginsburg
- 17 Josh & Aleshia Lev
- 21 Terry & Elise Toney
- 24 Charlie & Celia Dubin
- 25 Hal & Anne Bloom
- 26 Seymour & June Cohn
- 30 Bob & Betty Goldberg

Alvin Steinhart Scholarships for Postsecondary Education are now available. Applicants must be:

- Jewish
- Members of Temple Beth Or
- Graduating High School Seniors or Current College Students

Applications are available through the Temple office. Please contact Diane Weil at dianeweil@me.com if you need further information.

YAHRZEITS

To be read 4/4/2014
Zelda Franco
Ruth Noble
Abraham Rothfeder

To be read 4/11/2014
Janice Wolf Capilouto
Elizabeth Feinman
Arthur Freehling
Charles A. Kohn, Jr.
Al Plank
Ruth R. Rothschild

To be read 4/18/2014
Lillian Brownstein
David Byck
Victor E. Hanan
Louis M. Kaufman
Carolyn Rice
Mildred Shapiro
Jane Hoskins Sheehan
Florian Strassburger

To be read 4/25/2014
Isaac Alhadeff
Anna Bean
Louna Capouya
Dr. David B. Monsky
Richard "Dick" Newman
Herbert Rice
Samuel Leopold Schloss
Ira K. Weil, Sr.

Recent Deaths

Recent Death	Recent Death	Recent Death
Herbert F. "Jim" Levy ז"ל	Steve Ball ז"ל	Clare Burke ז"ל
February 27, 2014	February 27, 2014	March 12, 2014
Father of Russell and Jim Levy		Mother of Maxine Goldner

Birthdays and Anniversary Blessings on April 4th.

SISTERHOOD

Even though our year is coming to an end the Sisterhood is still very busy. We just hosted the students from Huntingdon College with a lovely reception chaired by Joy Kaplan. The students feasted on delicious treats prepared by our members. We are always so happy to see this group come every year.

Diane Weil baked the most delicious Hamentaschen for our Purim service. We had a small but happy group dressed in costumes and enjoying the evening.

Marlene Beringer and Julie Goolsby prepared a delicious lunch to welcome the Sisterhood from Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem on March 9 for our annual Joint Luncheon. We had a wonderful time visiting with these ladies. Lisa Newcombe planned a fun program featuring Tzill Bandy giving us helpful hints on using make-up to enhance our appearance. We appreciate the hard work that went into making this such a successful event.

Mae Cohen is busy planning our Second Night Seder which will be on Tuesday, April 15th. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, April 8. We **will not take reservations after this date** so the caterer will be able to plan adequately for the dinner. Call Sharon McDaniel to make your reservations. This is always such a special service so we hope you will join us.

Susan Bernstein
Sisterhood President

* * *

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

On Tuesday, April 8th, the L'Chaim League will visit the Columbus Museum in Georgia. We will have a docent led tour of the exhibit: Shalom Y'All: The Valley's Jewish Heritage, then we will dine for lunch at the Black Cow. If we have a minimum of 10 people to make reservations, then we will also take a private tour of the Springer Opera House. Departure time from the

temple will be 8:45 a.m. Fees are \$5 each for the Opera House, no charge for the Columbus Museum and lunch is dutch. Please contact Sharon Berry at 262-3314, or email at lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com to make your reservations. Please note if you are in need of a ride, or you are volunteering to drive.

On Wednesday, April 9th, the L'Chaim League will visit our homebound members and deliver an early Passover gift bag. To volunteer, please contact Sharon Berry.

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

* * *

FROM THE LIBRARY

For April we'll highlight some of the books we have in the library collection for Passover. These and other titles can be found on the library windowsill for the next few weeks.

Children's

The Longest Night: A Passover Story, by Laurel Snyder and Catial Chien (Juv 244 SNY 2013)

The Passover Lamb: Based on a True Story, by Linda Elovitz Marshall and illustrated by Tatjana Mai-Wyss (Juv 244 MAR 2013)

Miriam's Cup: A Passover Story, by Fran Manushkin and illustrated by Bob Dacey

Wonders and Miracles: A Passover Companion, Illustrated with Art Spanning Three Thousand Years, written and illustrated by Eric A. Kimmel (Juv 244 KIM 2004)

The Little Red Hen and the Passover Matzah, by Leslie Kimmelman and illustrated by Paul Meisel (Juv 244.53 KIM 2010)

Adult's

The Women's Passover Companion: Women's Reflections on the Festival of Freedom, edited by Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, Tara Mohr & Catherine Spector, forward by Paula E. Hyman (244.12 ANI 2003)

The Women's Seder Sourcebook: Rituals & Readings for Use at the Passover Seder, edited by Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, Tara Mohr & Catherine Spector (244.12 ANI 2007)

Passover: the Family Guide to Spiritual Celebration, by Dr. Ron Wolfson with Joel Laurie Grishaver (244 WOL 2010)

Keeping Passover: Everything You Need to Know to Bring the Ancient Tradition to Life and to Create Your Own Passover Celebration, by Ira Steingroot (244.1 STE 1995)



FAMILY FRIENDLY SERVICES

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

5:00 - 5:30 PM in the Library

May 2
June 6

TBO would like to recognize any graduating high school or college students.



Please call the Temple (262-3314) with any graduations you might be aware of.

CELEBRATE PASSOVER AT TBO!

Join your temple community on Tuesday evening, April 15, when Rabbi Stevens will lead the second-night Seder at TBO. Sponsored by Sisterhood and professionally catered, this year's Seder again uses "The Open Door," a Passover Haggadah published by the Reform Movement. Fully transliterated and beautifully illustrated, this Haggadah includes traditional and innovative blessings, gender inclusive language and all the old favorite songs as well as many new ones.

Seating will begin at 5:30 PM, with the service to begin promptly at 6:00. The entire program, including dinner, will conclude by 8:00 PM – assuming, of course, that someone finds the Afikomen! Space is limited, so reserve now. **Deadline is April 8th and reservations will not be taken after this date.**

Cost for reservations:

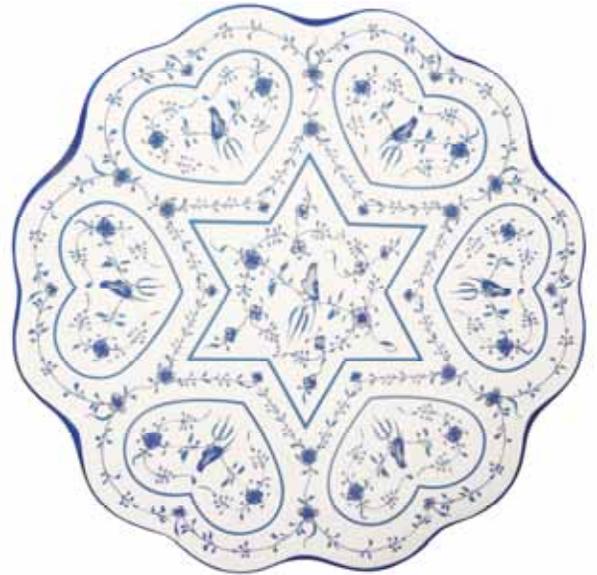
Adults: \$25.00 Adults with reservation
Children: \$10.00 Children ages 6 – 12
Children 5 & under are free

Please note: The Temple Sisterhood will be providing a delicious traditional Passover Seder and dinner which will include desserts and wine (you are welcome to bring your own wine). **Reservation deadline is no later than April 8th. Your check is your reservation.**

Send checks payable to **Temple Beth Or Sisterhood** to:

Sharon McDaniel
2632 Old Orchard Lane, Montgomery, AL 36117

We look forward to having you with us!



Detach at the crease to mail.

PASSOVER SEDER RESERVATION FORM

Send checks payable to
Temple Beth Or Sisterhood to:
Sharon McDaniel
2632 Old Orchard Lane
Montgomery, AL 36117

Name(s) of adult attendees: _____

Name of child(ren) attendees: _____

Telephone: _____
Email: _____

Seder Registration:
_____ adults at \$25.00: \$ _____
_____ children at \$10.00: \$ _____
Total Due: \$ _____

I would like to be seated with: _____

Your registration MUST be in by April 8th.

Rabbi Stevens to speak in Capitol at State Holocaust Memorial Event....

Each year, the Governor of Alabama convenes a gathering of Holocaust survivors and guests for a special program commemorating the Holocaust, under the auspices of the State Holocaust Commission. This year's gathering, open to the public, will be in the State Capitol building on Tuesday morning, April 29, at 11:00 a.m. Rabbi Stevens has been invited to be this year's speaker. He would welcome the presence of TBO members to join other participants from throughout the state.

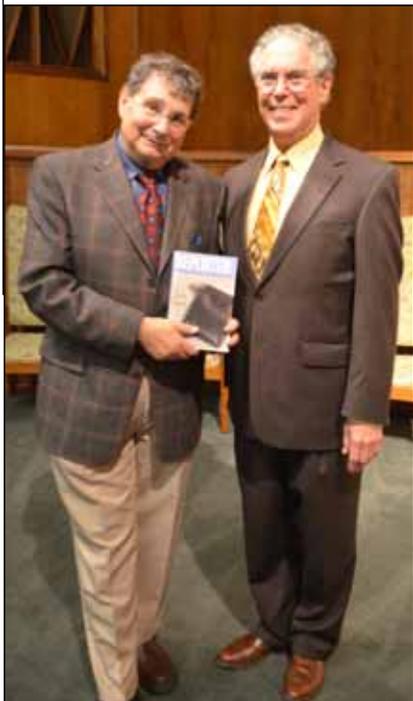
...AND ADD THIS YEAR'S INTERFAITH HOLOCAUST SERVICE TO YOUR CALENDAR, SET FOR TBO ON APRIL 27

Interfaith Montgomery, representing dozens of clergy from across a large part of Montgomery's religious spectrum, is cosponsoring this year's 5th annual interfaith Holocaust memorial service, in conjunction with Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue and Temple Beth Or. This year's observance is set for Sunday afternoon, **April 27 at 3:00 p.m.**, and will take place at Temple Beth Or.



The service, sponsored by Interfaith Montgomery, is the only Holocaust-related event in Montgomery held as a service under religious auspices. The service is a very moving experience of music, prayer, ritual and memory, during which clergy of different faiths attest that the Holocaust marked us all, and that the obligation to

remember rests with us all. In addition to interfaith clergy, Turia Stark Williams will add her beautiful voice in song.



Al Benn, guest speaker for the Men's Club Shabbat, and Rabbi Stevens after service on March 21st.

The AUM Department of Psychology announces its annual
HOLOCAUST
 Education Program

SIX MILLION DEAD

WEDNESDAY
 APRIL 9, 2014
 9:30 A.M. - NOON
 AUM ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Admission and parking are free and open to the public. Program is ADA-adapted.

Activities will include:
 Stories from Holocaust Survivors
 Survivors Q&A session

AUBURN MONTGOMERY

Questions? Contact Sheila Gудry at 334-244-3306 or sgudry@aum.edu

Receive a Tolerance armband (provided by SGA Student Activity Fees)

Carnegie Deli 6" Cheesecakes are available for \$25 each. Contact the Temple office at 262-3314 if you'd like to make a purchase.

JEWISH ETHICAL DILEMMAS – RABBI STEVENS'S CLASS TO BEGIN IN APRIL

From the time of the prophets on – indeed, all the way back to the days of Torah – Judaism has provided guidance on both public and private behavior; issues of social and economic justice, international relations, education, family life and personal behavior can all be studied and debated from the perspective of traditional Jewish texts. In this course of three classes, we will explore some contemporary ethical dilemmas through the lens of Jewish tradition. Classes will meet on Wednesdays at noon in the Blachschleger Library at TBO, starting April 16. The subjects are:

- April 16.....Issues of Social Justice
- April 30.....Issues Relating to Money
- May 7.....Issues Relating to Power
- May 14.....Issues Relating to Sex and Intimacy
- May 21.....Issues of War and National Security
- May 28.....Issues Relating to the Human Body



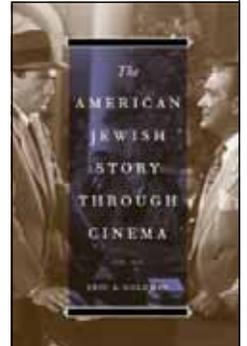
Eric A. Goldman at TBO April 3rd at 7 p.m.

Using film clips and research from his book, Eric Goldman will explore the complex relationship between Jewish filmmakers, the Jews who helped found Hollywood and the onscreen images of American Jewry, past and present.

In the beginning, Hollywood's Jewish moviemakers were careful not to represent the American Jewish experience for fear of alienating the greater majority. Today's movies often feature Jewish characters or tell a distinctly Jewish story. What were the influences, the personalities, the historical events that brought about such changes? Eric A. Goldman is an adjunct associate professor of cinema at Yeshiva University and the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City.

He is an expert on Yiddish, Israeli and Jewish cinema.

The program, sponsored by the Rothschild-Blachschleger Lecture Series, starts at 7:00 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing, courtesy of Capital Book and News. All are welcome, at no charge.



FAMILY DINNER TO FOLLOW YOUTH-LED SERVICE APRIL 4

Join us for Shabbat on April 4, when some of our youngest members will help to lead us in worship. We will be using a special family-friendly prayer book, hear a wonderful story, and rejoice as we let our beautiful kids take center stage. As a special treat, Tiffany Nishibun, who sings with our temple choir, will join us on the bimah to lead us in song.

To top it all off, we're all invited to a pot-luck dinner after the service in the Baylinson Social Hall. I hope *everyone* will join us and dinner assignments follow:



- Last name starts with A-H, dessert
- Last name starts with I-N, main dish
- Last name starts with O-Z, vegetables and/or salad

Agudath Israel ✡ Etz Ahayem Adult Education



Adult Education
Tuesdays, 7 PM

- April 1:** Four Streams of Judaism + Women and Judaism
- April 29:** Values Roundtable: I: Kedusha and II: Hesed and Tzedaka

Biblical
Hebrew

Thursdays, 7 PM
April 10 & 24

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:

Thursday, April 10
Chappie's Deli at 1611 Perry Hill Road

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

1,000 years ago Jewish commentators were pointing out that Moses could not have written about his own death. Even the presence of Israelites in Egypt and the Exodus has been questioned, given the complete lack of literary or archaeological evidence.

As long as a thousand years ago, Jewish commentators were pointing out that the kings named in Genesis 36 lived long after the time of Moses, or that Torah describes places that Moses had never been – and often refers to Moses in the 3rd person.

Yes, if “truth” can only mean “literal,” we have a real problem.

But there are other ways of looking at “truth.” The historian and scholar Yosef Haim Yerushalmi, in his gem of a book called “Zakhor: Jewish History and Jewish Memory,” sees truth in terms of the collective memory of the Jewish people. He draws an analogy with how tribal cultures to this day think of memory. Thus for the Kuba tribe in Central Africa, the past is what the majority think is worthy of belief. Another tribe in New Guinea, the Trobriand tribe, sees the past as whatever their ancestors have declared to be true, even events that everyone knows did not happen.

We Jews the world over have celebrated Passover for century upon century, telling the story of slavery, the plagues, the Exodus and God’s miracles. For us, this is our collective memory and our collective truth, because our very identity as a people and as a religion depends on it. This is our collective truth because this is what we teach our children – along with the values we learn through telling and teaching the story. We accept Torah not

because it is literal, but because we can ground our lives on its teachings of right and wrong, justice and mercy and social values. The stories of the Bible don’t have to be literal in order to convey great truths. Even the early rabbis showed clearly in their commentaries that they understood the language of metaphor, and weren’t troubled over the question of whether the Torah’s six days of creation should be understood as literally six days, or whether someone could live for hundreds of years, or whether God made the sun stand still until the Israelites had vanquished an enemy.

Did Moses hear God on Mt. Sinai? Again, it comes down to language. We are limited to a word like “hear,” but we can’t really know what happened when Moses encountered God. The word “hear” sounds so inadequate, so limiting. Moses, in a supreme moment of religious awareness and connection, understood himself to be in the presence of God – perhaps heard an inner voice of some sort – and the Torah reports this with the word “hear.” But even if “hearing” didn’t happen in the sense of sound waves, sensory perception, neural receptors and so forth, that encounter impressed itself upon the collective consciousness and psyche of our people – and thereby is “true.”

Do not be troubled, therefore, if you cannot accept the literal truth of the stories in the Bible. The larger truth still endures – that the Torah is a Tree of Life to those who hold it fast, and all who cling to it find happiness. Its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace.

Elliot L. Stevens

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Sisterhood Gift Shop carries
Gary Rosenthal



Every so often something comes around that manages to capture the spirit of Jewish tradition in a new and exciting way. Gary Rosenthal, a prominent artist and sculptor, has done exactly this with the latest gem in his Judaica collection, a Seder plate that people are calling "The Most Interesting Seder Plate In the World."

This year as we sit down to repeat the ancient customs of our ancestors, Rosenthal's unique design brings a new look to our Seder table. Standing vertically, this Seder plate not only has a place on it for the traditional six dishes, but for the matzah, salt water, and a bowl of charoset as well. Rosenthal jokes that this is the one Seder plate that could really be called "the whole Megillah."

Stop by Sisterhood's Temple Beth Or Gift Shop to see "The Most Interesting Seder Plate In the World" and for all your Passover needs.

Temple Beth Or

2014 ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 18

4:00 PM Reception

5:00 PM Meeting

Quorum required to conduct business.

Members Only

Thursday, April 17, Noon, ArchiTreats: Food for Thought at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Dan Puckett presents "The Resettlement of Jewish Refugees in Alabama, 1938-1941." Feel free to bring your lunch.

"Israeli Movie Night"
The Matchmaker (2010)
Tuesday May 20
7:00-9:00 PM
Temple Beth Or

in partnership with the
 הסוכנות היהודית בארץ ישראל
Jewish Agency for Israel

And Beyond!

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

Sunday, May 4, 1:00 - 3:00 PM, Yom Ha-atzma-ut (Israel Independence Day) celebration hosted by the Jewish Federation. Dancing, food and wine at the Alabama Activity Center on Dexter Avenue.

Wednesday, May 7, Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas meets in the Blachschleger Library. Topic: Issues Relating to Power.

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 Temple Beth Or hosted by Tzlil Bandy. Topic: To be announced.

Wednesday, May 14, Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas meets in the Blachschleger Library. Topic: Issues Relating to Sex and Intimacy.

Friday, May 16, 6 PM, Shabbat service in the "Classical" style – using Mishkan T'filah, but with minimal Hebrew and the music of composer Harold Green.

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

Wednesday, May 21, Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas meets in the Blachschleger Library. Topic: Issues of War and National Security.

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

Tuesday, May 27, 5:45 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

Wednesday, May 28, Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas meets in the Blachschleger Library. Topic: Issues Relating to the Human Body.

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, 5:45 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.

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

JEWISH FEDERATION OF CENTRAL ALABAMA WELCOMES ANNA BERN

I am honored to join the efforts of the Jewish Federation here in Central Alabama, working to promote a purpose that is so important to me personally. As I end my second week as the Executive Director, I would like to paint my vision—my hope for our organization and greater Jewish community and how we can work together in new, powerful ways as we prepare ourselves and our organization for the future.

The JFCA has a rich history and strong philanthropic tradition. Because of our location in the capital city, we also have a unique opportunity to engage state leaders and policy makers in causes we care about as a Jewish community. Growing up in Montgomery has allowed me to gain a clear understanding of the strengths and challenges facing our community. I see opportunities we have as an organization to reach more people by embracing technology, engaging young leaders, and most importantly, championing a renewed engagement of the entire Jewish community to ensure the continuity and quality of Jewish life in Central Alabama.

As a proud product of our Jewish community, I have a vested interest in our future success. Our strong community instilled in me a Jewish foundation that made me the person I am today. Since my childhood, my parents, grandparents, and our tight-knit community taught me the importance of Jewish unity, philanthropy, and of having a connection to Israel – all of which are now the driving force as I begin my work with JFCA.

The next few months promise to be very exciting. As I settle into my new role, I welcome your thoughts, guidance, and participation. Your insights and collaboration are essential to our success.

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to help shape the future of our Jewish community here in Alabama as your new Executive Director. Together, I believe we can achieve great things.

Best,
Anna Bern



Executive Director
Jewish Federation of Central Alabama



April 2014

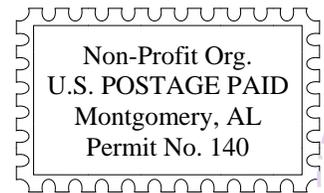
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 <i>7 PM, Guest Speaker: Eric Goldman, author of THE AMERICAN JEWISH STORY THROUGH CINEMA</i>	4 <i>6 PM, Shabbat service led by Temple Beth Or youth (grades 4-9). Pot-luck dinner to follow service.</i>	5
6 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at AIEA.</i>	7	8 <i>8:45 am, L'Chaim League will take a docent-led tour of the exhibit: Shalom Y'All: The Valley's Jewish Heritage at the Columbus Museum in Georgia.</i>	9 <i>9:30 - Noon, 2010 AUM Holocaust Education Program.</i>	10 <i>12 Noon, Dutch treat lunch with Rabbi Stevens at Chappie's Deli</i>	11 <i>6 PM, Shabbat Service.</i>	12 <i>9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Rabbi Stevens. Light brunch served.</i>
13 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at AIEA.</i>	14	15 <i>5:30 PM, Second Seder. Seating will begin at 5:30 PM, with the service to begin promptly at 6:00. Temple office closed all day.</i>	16 <i>Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas</i>	17 <i>Noon, ArchiTreats: Archives and History. Dan Puckett presents "The Resettlement of Jewish Refugees in Alabama, 1938-1941." Feel free to bring your lunch.</i>	18 <i>6 PM, Shabbat Service.</i>	19
20	21	22 <i>5:45 PM, Temple Beth Or Board Meeting.</i>	23	24	25 <i>6 PM, Shabbat service with guest speaker, Tzliil Bandy, JFCA Sh'lichach.</i>	26
27 <i>9:30 AM, Kol Ami Religious School at AIEA. 3 PM, Community Interfaith Holocaust Memorial Service at TBO.</i>	28	29 <i>11 AM, Rabbi Elliot Stevens will be the guest speaker at the State Holocaust Memorial at the State Capitol Building</i>	30 <i>Noon, Adult Ed class on Jewish Ethical Dilemmas</i>			

Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

APRIL 2014 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.templebethor.net

Help Us Make Our First Wine Pull a Success

this Israeli Independence Day

To add to the enjoyment of the event & raise additional funds to offset costs, JFCA is holding a Wine Pull. The Wine Pull is a grab-bag style fundraiser where participants select a mystery bottle of wine for \$20. You may be surprised by the value of what you get! We need your help to make this a success.

Please donate a bottle of wine (\$20 minimum value), or donate \$20.

To make your donation with a credit card, call Susan at 334-277-5820. Please plan to drop off the wine by April 30th to the Federation office, Agudath Israel-Etz Ahayem, or Temple Beth Or. You also can arrange for a pickup by sending an email to mail.jfca@gmail.com or calling 334-277-5820.

Thank you for your support!

SAVE THE DATE

ISRAEL'S 66TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 4th
1-4 pm

Alabama Activity Center
201 Dexter Avenue,
Montgomery, AL

featuring

The Tevye Party Express Band
Traditional Israeli Food
Games
Wine Grab
Fun for All Ages

Admission- \$15
Children under 8- \$10

Hosted by the Jewish Federation
of Central Alabama

For more information, please call 334.277.5820

Invitation to follow

The Jewish Federation of Central Alabama invites you to:

Israeli Programs with our Shlichah Tzili Bandy



Café Israel

February 11, 7:00 PM
Israel's health care system
Temple Beth Or

March 12, 7:00 PM
Guest speaker - Bob Feferman
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

May 13, 7:00 PM
Music Voyage
Temple Beth Or



D'var Torah

February 21
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

April 25
Temple Beth Or

May 30
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem



Cinema Israel

March 2, 4:00 PM
"Footnote" (2010)
Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem

May 20, 4:00 PM
"The Matchmaker" (2010)
Temple Beth OR



Youth & Israel

April 6, 4:30 PM
"Someone to run with"
Tzili's apartment

June 1, 9:00 AM
Nike to Swayback Trail



Young Adults Social

March 8, 6:00 PM
Wine and cheese
True restaurant

May 19, 11:00-3:00
"When Was I?"
Birmingham



Additional information:
334-224-4220
tzili.jfca@gmail.com

in partnership with the
אגודת ישראל מונטגומרי
Jewish Agency for Israel



May 4th - celebration of YOM HA-ATZMA-UT - Israel Independence day!!!