

TEMPLE BETH EL

FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS



89th Year

April 2017

Nisan/Iyar 5777

No. 8

Regular Service Schedule

Morning Minyan (Monday & Thursday).....8:00 am
 Friday Evening Services (now every Friday!).....5:30 pm
 Shabbat Morning Services.....10:00 am

Purim Festivities!

Guest Musicians Martin Grosswendt and the two identical Dylan twins came to entertain us at TBE on Purim!



Reminder for those who RSVP'd by March 29th:

Second Night Community Passover Seder

Tuesday April 11th, beginning at 6 pm (doors open at 5:30 pm)

Cost: \$25 per adult, \$10 children under 12



Zachariah Gollub Phillips will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 29th at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. All in our Temple Beth El community are invited to the service!!

A message from our Spiritual Leader,
Cantor Shoshana Brown

Can We Talk (and Listen)?

Rabbi Mark and I participate in an interfaith clergy and community-organizers group in Fall River that discusses a variety of issues pertinent to the general welfare of our community. Some of the issues have been food, housing, health care, etc. But recently we have been trying to plan an event and a "safe space" for individuals from across the political spectrum to engage in something that we as Americans have become increasingly unskilled at: talking with one another about political and civic issues. And by this I don't mean talking at one another, or talking over one another, but actually discussing the pros and cons of certain issues, listening to one another, asking one another probing questions to truly try to understand why someone thinks or feels differently from the way you do.

Apparently, a lack of civil discourse in our society has been identified as a problem nationwide, because when I was doing a little research on this issue I discovered an advertisement for the following event, held in Santa Barbara, California:

"CAN WE TALK - AND LISTEN TO ONE ANOTHER?"
February 15, 2017 from 12:00 pm - 2:00pm

One lesson of the 2016 election is that too many of us simply don't talk to, or listen to, those with whom we do not readily agree. But the centerpiece of the League of Women Voters' work remains the expansion of public participation in governmental affairs for a healthy democracy, and respect for the voices of all Americans. We believe that a robust public dialogue is critical to a healthy democracy. Something has gone wrong and our League has made a commitment to addressing the problem.

The February 15 Forum will feature Janet Wolf, Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors, and Lanny Ebenstein, political scientist, author, and educator, who are from opposite sides of our community's political spectrum, and will include a presentation by representatives of the League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo, about their nationally acclaimed study and report on best practices in promoting "Civil Discourse" on public policy issues.

We hope to expose some new ideas about how each of us can promote and participate in more meaningful public dialogue about how we are to be governed. Please join us to listen and be a part of what promises to be a lively and informative discussion.

So this question has been on my mind. Why is it so hard for us to talk with one another – especially with someone whose ideas are different from our own? Is it because of the lack of politeness in discourse that we see on many of the cable news shows (everyone talking at once); is it because

tweeting, texting and social media in general has trained us to speak in short pithy spurts that are meant only to express how WE feel, but not to learn how others see things? Has the anonymity of our current modes of communication made it too easy for people to express horribly rude, even hateful things to one another, while erasing the concept of shame?

As a people, Jews have always valued education, reason, and intellectual prowess. We settle disagreements through reasoned discourse, not with guns or fists. We ought to be able to talk with one another, to listen to one another, to seriously consider the point of view of another person, and perhaps even find our views impacted by that consideration. It seems to me that this kind of consideration is what we need as a society right now, but it is hard work. Listening takes time, and empathy can feel threatening: if I really let myself imagine how s/he feels, will I lose some of my own power in society?

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, surely they did not all agree on why they were going, or on who should lead them. Some probably did not want to leave at all! We were renowned throughout the Torah for our complaining, our stubbornness, our lack of respect for our leader, Moses. But somehow, as our story is recounted in the Torah, God took us as a group with all of our faults, with the astonishing idea that a "kingdom of priests" and a "holy nation" could be made out of us.

I don't know whether civil discourse can be returned to our society today. Can we learn to treat each other with politeness and respect? Can we really learn to listen to one another? While many have commented on how desperately we need this ability as a nation, it is a daunting challenge. We stand, like the ancient Israelites fleeing Egypt, before a terrifying sea of hostility in the public discourse on important issues. Can we therefore begin within our own people? I believe that the Jewish people owe it to one another to strive to live up to the potential that the Blessed Holy One saw in us. We will never agree with one another on all the important issues of the day, but if we can learn to listen to one another and to discuss issues with respect and politeness, we will have taken a first step into that water...and the seas may begin to part!

Wishing you all a joyful and liberating Passover!

Cantor Shoshana Brown

LEADERSHIP

- Mark Elber.....Rabbi
- Shoshana Brown.....Cantor
- Stephen Silverman.....President
- Daniel Schafler.....Vice President
- Libby Cohen.....Secretary
- William Chebot.....Treasurer
- Libby Cohen.....Sisterhood Pres.
- William E. Kaufman.....Rabbi Emeritus

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Just a few things to note this month. The first is that thanks to the bequest from the Gold family, we will be replacing the two built-in electric heaters in the chapel so that next year the chapel will always be comfortable. This year we tried to use portable heaters, but the results were seldom what we hoped for. The new heaters should provide a comfortable, even heat regardless of the temperature outdoors or in the rest of the building. Thank you again to the family of Edith and Max Gold for their generosity!

Earlier this month we sent out an email to everyone on our email alert list that addresses the recent anti-Semitism in our country. For those who don't receive our emails, I wanted to print it here in the bulletin for you. Please see the message in the box below, and please, be vigilant.

Lastly, I want to wish everyone a very happy Passover, and hope that those of you who are joining us for our Second Night Community Seder have a wonderful time.

Steve Silverman
President

Dear Congregants:

I am sure you have heard and read about the recent anti-Semitic events which have been taking place around the country, including the bomb threat at the JCC in Providence.

We have contacted the Fall River police and asked them to pay special attention to both our temple building and our cemetery. We are also considering locking the cemetery "walk in" gate, but we will let you know before we do that, and we will provide you with the lock combination so you can continue to visit the cemetery as always.

While we don't want you to be alarmed, we do ask you to be aware of your surroundings. If you see anything unusual, please do not hesitate to report it.

We will continue to be vigilant about the safety of our community and will keep you up-to-date regarding these matters. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (508) 674-3529 or email us at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Stephen D. Silverman
President

Sisterhood President's Message

I can't believe it, but tomorrow is the first day of spring. We've sprung forward, and the days are getting longer. This is a good sign. Before we know it, the nice warm sun will be upon us. And I tell you, I can't wait.

We are now busy getting ready for Passover. Here's hoping that everyone is planning on joining us for our Second Night Community Seder. There is no reason for anyone to celebrate alone. A wonderful meal will be served, and you can join in on the festivities. So come and be part of it, please.

Those folks who were unable to attend our Purim brunch missed a lively morning. Purim is a time to laugh and celebrate. This was a true fight for religious freedom. Now that is something to celebrate.

This month's Book Club meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions, so we will discuss both "Hush" and "Small Great Things" at our April 19th meeting. Hope to see you there.

So until next month, stay safe. Shalom folks.

Libby Cohen
Sisterhood President



Mazel Tov to Charlie Stampler who turned 102 in March! Here he is with his "kids" Joe and Susan Paresky, at his recent birthday brunch.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

April 2017: Nisan/Iyar 5777

Saturday, April 1 (5 Nisan)

Weekly Portion: Vayikra 10:00 am

Friday, April 7 (11 Nisan)

Shabbat Service 5:30 pm
Candle Lighting 7:00pm

Saturday, April 8 (12 Nisan)

Weekly Portion: Tzav 10:00 am
Shabbat Hagadol

Sunday, April 9 (13 Nisan)

Search for Chametz (in the evening)

Monday, April 10 (14 Nisan)

Fast of the First Born, Erev Passover
First Seder (evening)

Tuesday, April 11 (15 Nisan)

Passover – First Day 10:00 am
Second Seder (evening)

Wednesday, April 12 (16 Nisan)

Passover – Second Day 10:00 am

Friday, April 14 (18 Nisan)

Shabbat Service 5:30 pm
Candle Lighting 7:08 pm

Saturday, April 15 (19 Nisan)

Chol Hamoed 10:00 am

Monday, April 17 (21 Nisan)

Passover – Seventh Day 8:00 am

Tuesday, April 18 (22 Nisan)

Passover – Eighth Day 8:00 am
Yizkor (approximately 9:30 am)

Friday, April 21 (25 Nisan)

Shabbat Service 5:30 pm
Candle Lighting 7:15 pm

Saturday, April 22 (26 Nisan)

Weekly Portion: Shemini 10:00 am

Monday, April 24 (28 Nisan)

Yom Hashoah
Holocaust Remembrance Day

Wednesday, April 26 (30 Nisan)

Rosh Chodesh Iyar

Thursday, April 27 (1 Iyar)

Rosh Chodesh Iyar

Friday, April 28 (2 Iyar)

Shabbat Service 5:30 pm
Candle Lighting 7:23 pm

Saturday, April 29 (3 Iyar)

Weekly Portion: Tazria-Metzora 10:00 am

TEMPLE OFFICE

385 High St, Fall River, MA 02720
Tel: (508) 674-3529 Fax: (508) 678-6735
E-Mail: templebethel@comcast.net
Website: frtemplebethel.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday, 9 am to Noon

OFFICE CLOSED:

Tuesday, April 11 –Passover, First Day
Wednesday, April 12 –Passover, Second Day
Monday, April 17 – Passover, Seventh Day
Tuesday, April 18 – Passover, Eighth Day

Sisterhood Gift Shop

Passover is fast approaching. Do you need a hostess gift? One of our more popular items is a covered lucite matzo box. If you have any Red Sox or Patriots fans in your family, we have some wonderful gifts for them.

Do keep us in mind when you're looking for a wedding or shower gift. A beautiful seder plate, menorah, *ketubah* or even a Passover cookbook make **memorable gifts**. Browse our new selection of jewelry for your grandchildren (or great-grandchildren!).

Wishing you all a Happy Passover.

Hannah R. Evans
Phone: 508-674-2505
Email: hannahbecky@comcast.net

Temple Family

- Our deepest condolences to Victor Field on the loss of his beloved wife, Joy.
- Our deepest condolences to the family of Lillian Lepes.

Monday Mah Jongg

Our Monday Mah Jongg game will be back in action beginning Monday, May 1st at noon. It will be here before you know it!



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Fall River United Jewish Appeal, Inc.

385 High Street, Fall River, MA 02720
Tel: (508) 673-7791 Fax: (508) 678-6735
e-mail: fruja@comcast.net

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

Friendly Visitor: Jackie Gedacht is ready, willing and able to visit the sick or shut-ins. Call the UJA office at (508) 673-7791 to schedule a visit.

Senior Center: (at the Fall River Jewish Home)
Open 5 days a week for lunch...Kosher and delicious. For reservations/cancellations call the Nutrition Office at (508) 324-4619 before 1:30 pm on the previous business day to reserve a meal.

Book Club News

The March Book Club meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, so during the April meeting we will discuss both "Hush" and "Small Great Things." Both are great reads, so if you would like to join us, you still have time!

April 19: "Small Great Things" by Jodi Picoult
May 17: "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah
June 21: "The Other Wes Moore" by Wes Moore
July 19: "The Bridge Ladies" by Betsy Lerner

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Temple Library from 10:30 am to noon.

There are plenty of seats at the table! Come and join in the lively discussion and take part in our future reading choice decisions.



Clifton HEALTHCARE CAMPUS

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Clifton Rehabilitative Nursing Center

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Clifton Outpatient Rehabilitation Clinic

508-675-0329

Clifton Assisted Living Community

508-324-0200

Clifton Hospice Services

(a community hospice agency)

508-675-7583

Celebrating Over 60 Years of Dedication to Excellence



Zachariah Gollub Phillips will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 29th at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. All in our Temple Beth El community are invited to the service!!

Zach is a 7th-grade GATE student at Kuss Middle School. His favorite subjects are Math and Science. Zach has a great sense of humor, enjoys hanging out with his friends and adores Phoebe, his Labradoodle. Zach's favorite sport is basketball and he has played on several city league teams. He is a big fan of superhero movies and television shows. The Flash is his must-see TV. Zach spends his summers attending Camp Metacomet, and playing at Bakers Beach.

Please join us on Zach's special day!

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William "BT" Hathaway
Mike Roberts


HATHAWAY
FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES

Thank you for your donations received through March 20, 2017

Yahrzeits

For the yahrzeit of my beloved...	Donated by:
Father, Louis Bachman	Marilyn Sokoll
Elena (Lee) Cohen	Cohen/Novek Family
Mother, Marian Cohen	Anne Griffin
Father, Nathaniel Dashoff	Gene Paranzino
Husband, Robert Dickerman	Sara Dickerman
Mother, Regina Elber	Rabbi Mark Elber
Grandfather, Adolph Feder	Joyce Juda
Brother, William Feinberg	Joseph Feinberg
Father, Louis Galitsky	Howard Galitsky
Mother, Thelma Greenberg	Rebecca Greenberg
Father, Dr. Jacob Helfanbein	Barry Helfanbein
Alice Jean Horowitz	Jay Horowitz
Father, Joseph Horowitz	Herbert Horowitz
Grandmother, Selma Juda	Joyce Juda
Father, Hyman Karp	Glenda Goldberg
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Mother, Edith R. Kusinitz	Enid K. Lomax
Mother, Madeline Leonard	Marion Wilner
Father, Morris Levine	Lila Matlin
Mother, Ruth Levine	Anita & Alan Levine
Mother, Ruth Levine	Wendy & Richard Levine
Father, Arthur Littman	Ken Littman & family
Mother, Sadie Lovit	Nathan Lovit
Father, George Lucove	Sara Dickerman
Father, William Meyerson	Anita Bolski
Mother, Rita Minkin	Libby Cohen
Father, Louis Nulman	Sybil Michelson
Father, Philip Ostroff	Rhoda Falcow
Mother, Barbara Shore	Nancy Shore
Father, Richard Shore	Nancy Shore
Mother, Minnie Somer	Norman Somer
Father, Samuel Stampler	Charles Stampler
Father, Abraham Trieff	Richard Trieff
Mother, Adelle Wiener	Sharon Waxenbaum
Father, Philip Zalkind	Lisa Remy

CAPITAL FUND

- In honor of Charlie Stampler celebrating a special birthday**
Anita & Norm Bolski
Connie & Marty Rabinovitz
- In memory of our beloved mother, Sheila Holtzman**
Charron & Michael Holtzman
- In memory of Harold Katzman**
Bernard & Pat Herman & family
- In memory of Hyman Laudon**
Anita & Norm Bolski
- In memory of Barry Novek**
Chester Nuttall
- In memory of Martin Schlam**
Anita & Norm Bolski
Hannah Evans
- For the recovery of Rosilyn Bolski**
Anita & Norm Bolski

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- In honor of Rabbi Mark Elber**
Victor Field
- In memory of Joy Liebmann Field**
Toby & Maurice Reifman

DR. & MRS. N. KENNETH SHAND BUILDING RESTORATION FUND

- In memory of Dr. Irving Fradkin**
- In memory of Myron Wilner**
Ellen & Terry Shand

SYLVIA S. & ALBERT B. YOKEN MEMORIAL FUND

- In honor of Fishy Sokoll celebrating a special birthday**
- In memory of Leslie Bernstein**
- In memory of Dr. Irving Fradkin**
- In memory of Barry Novek**
- In memory of Arnold Siegel**
- In memory of John Strickland**
- In memory of Myron Wilner**
Cindy & Dr. Mel Yoken

ANNA & MORRIS LEPES CEMETERY FUND

In memory of beloved father, Morris Lepes
Ellen & Terry Shand

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Compassionate Care ... With a Difference

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Cantor Shoshana's News & Notes

As all who joined us last month for **Purim** know, we had a wonderful and lively celebration! Thanks to the Sisterhood (especially **Libby Cohen** and **Hannah Evans**) for arranging the brunch, thanks to Daniel Schafler for helping out with the chanting of the Megillah, and to our special musical guest **Martin Grosswendt** for accompanying the "Zimmerman twins" (see photo) on their Megillah-themed songs. Thanks also to **Ruth Hollenbach** for the photos and videos of the musical performances (which should soon be linked to our website, if you haven't seen them!)

In fulfillment of the **mitzvah of tzedakah on Purim**, we took up a collection of **\$100**, which was given to **United Neighbors of Fall River** to help out with the great service to the poor of our own community which is this organization's mission.

On March 7th, **Rabbi Mark** was the featured presenter in our interfaith discussion series "**Caffeine and Conversations**." Due to the success of this series, we have moved from the Pink Bean Café to the **Fall River Public Library** to accommodate the nice crowd that has been showing up. Rabbi Mark's presentation was entitled "What is Kabbalah?" Our April meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 4th at 2 PM** (also at the library – in the downstairs meeting room). The **Rev. Jeremi Colvin** will present "**Climate Change: Is Religion Part of the Solution or Part of the Problem?**" Please join us! (And stay tuned for the announcement of future meetings.)

We are happy that the calendar this year will allow us to once again share a TBE community **Passover Second Night Seder**. (Please see cover of this bulletin for more information about this event.)

Yom HaShoah: We will commemorate Yom HaShoah this year on **Sunday, April 23rd at 5 PM**. This year some of our **Christian clergy neighbors** and members of their congregations will be joining us for this commemoration. In the light of the disturbing rise in anti-Jewish incidents that have been occurring across the U.S., our Christian neighbors have indicated interest in joining us as a way of expressing their solidarity with us as together we stand against all forms of bias and hate-crimes across the world. **Please be with us to welcome our Christian neighbors and thank them for their concern!**

Save the Date for our **Celebration of Israel** Friday Night "Seder"- Service. This year Israel celebrates its 69th birthday. Although Yom HaAtzma'ut this year is on Tuesday May 2nd, our community celebration will take place on **Friday, May 12th, beginning at 5:30 in the Vestry**.

Cantor Shoshana



This film is Natalie Portman's (screenwriter, director, and actor) passion project, a kind of movie so rare in formula-obsessed Hollywood that at first you might not recognize the breadth of its feeling or the scope of its ambition. Portman enters the world of Amos Oz, one of Israel's leading authors, through his acclaimed 2002 memoir "A Tale of Love and Darkness," a book in which the writer tracked his own coming of age along with the state of Israel. As writer and director (this is her feature debut), Portman takes the point of view of young Amos (Amir Tessler), a boy growing up in Jerusalem in the years before statehood... employing stark images of beauty and terror to craft a portrait of an artist in the agonizing act of becoming himself. Every frame of "A Tale of Love and Darkness" reflects Portman's passionate striving and her grieving heart.

Please join us April 30th at 4 pm!

IN MEMORIAM

JOY LIEBMANN FIELD

FEBRUARY 28, 2017 - 2 ADAR 5777

LILLIAN LEPES

MARCH 23, 2017 - 25 ADAR 5777

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING

"Whenever you feel the need for spiritual renewal, along with some intellectual stimulation or just plain old camaraderie, come celebrate Shabbat with us at Temple Beth El – we would love to have you join us!"

Marilyn Sokoll



Our website is constantly changing, so be sure to check it out regularly. There are links to new articles written by Rabbi Mark and Cantor Shoshana, updated service schedules and upcoming events. You can also see the bulletin there first, especially if you live outside the greater Fall River area! Go to www.frtemplebethel.org

YAHARZEITS

4/1/2017 5 Nisan 5777
Milton Lifrak
David Sacknoff

4/2/2017 6 Nisan 5777
Barbara Shore
Martha Saxe Sobel

4/3/2017 7 Nisan 5777
Ethel Kravitz

4/6/2017 10 Nisan 5777
Harry Meretsky

4/8/2017 12 Nisan 5777
Bernard Goodman
Maury Kusinitz

4/9/2017 13 Nisan 5777
Dr. S. Benjamin Kaufmann
Foster Lowenthal

4/10/2017 14 Nisan 5777
Jerry Gold
David L. Gourse

4/12/2017 16 Nisan 5777
Harold Morris

4/13/2017 17 Nisan 5777
Esther R. Lakin

4/15/2017 19 Nisan 5777
Rabbi Moshe Babin
Abraham Fradkin
Max Simring

4/16/2017 20 Nisan 5777
Revelyn Baron

4/17/2017 21 Nisan 5777
Melvin Belford
Jacob Joseph Thaler
Hyman Udovin

4/18/2017 22 Nisan 5777
Frances Levien
Morris Phillips

4/19/2017 23 Nisan 5777
Rebecca Gerstenzang
Geraldine Kesselman

4/20/2017 24 Nisan 5777
Hon. Aileen Belford
Susan Entin

4/22/2017 26 Nisan 5777
Sally Cohen
Philip Sacknoff
Stanley Scher

4/23/2017 27 Nisan 5777
Leonard Levien
Dr. Israel Rudolph

4/24/2017 28 Nisan 5777
Lillian Goldsmith
Jack Resnick
Isadore Saxe

4/25/2017 29 Nisan 5777
Myrna Resnick
Lillian Schwartz

4/26/2017 30 Nisan 5777
Joseph Liebmann
Debra E. Reiser

4/27/2017 1 Iyar 5777
Norman Chebot
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4/29/2017 3 Iyar 5777
Annie Cohen

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jeffnjan11@comcast.net



IRA JAY FLEISHER
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

458 HOPE STREET
PROVIDENCE, RI 02906
E-MAIL: ira.fleisher@sci-us.com

TEL: 401-331-8094
800-447-1267
FAX: 401-331-9379