



# **Temple Beth El**

Bradenton • Lakewood Ranch

Your Reform Jewish Temple in Manatee County

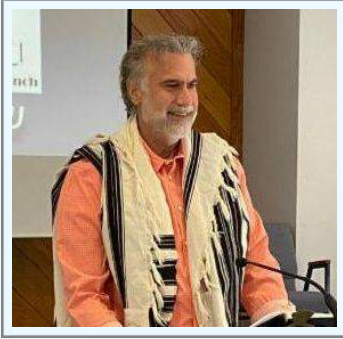
***Discover Your Jewish Path***

***December 2023 - Kislev / Tevet 5784***



**5150 Peridia Blvd. E.  
Bradenton, FL 34203  
941-755-4900 • [bethel-fl.org](http://bethel-fl.org)**

# My Message - By Reb Tuviah



Chanukah is a complex holiday. At the heart of all the themes, however, lies the name of the holiday, Chanukah. The word comes from the Hebrew word “dedication” or “rededication”, as in chanukat hamikdash, the “Rededication of the Temple” which the Maccabees undertook after their victory over the Syrian-Greeks. This ‘rededication’ was both a physical one and a spiritual one. Throughout the years of the Syrian-Greeks’ occupation of Judea, the Temple stood at the forefront of their struggle. It symbolized the heart of what they were fighting for: the right to serve G-d according to their own laws and traditions. There was a struggle over the purity of the Temple service which represented the purity and integrity of Jewish life. In

fact, the Rambam begins his description of the events of Chanukah by describing the efforts to claim religious independence from foreign influence as the primary message of Chanukah. This brings us to the second definition of “Chanukah” – “chinuch”, the term used for Jewish education. The process of Torah education - for both children and adults - is a constant ‘rededication’ of our souls, chanukat haneshama, through the light of Torah study.

Chanukah, therefore, presents us with a double message: Chanukat Habayit & Chanukat Haneshama. It reminds us that our temple is more than just a place of prayer. It is the spiritual center of our community. Our efforts to ‘rededicate’ ourselves to Jewish life must reconnect us with our synagogue, both physically and spiritually. Chanukah reminds us that the most substantial and important way to achieve this rededication is through the light of Torah learning, chinuch, on all levels – children and adults alike.

As in the days of Chanukah, Judaism was under attack. And so too, with recent events in Israel, our beautiful faith is once again being attacked throughout the world. This gives us all the more reason to stand together and defend our Yiddishkeit. To be that shining light in Manatee County the world so desperately needs. This is our challenge, this is our mission.

And so, at this time of “Chanukah” – renewal and rededication, I would like to challenge all of us to seize this opportunity – to ‘renew’ our temple and to ‘renew’ our spirit by actively engaging in the many social activities offered each and every month, in monetarily supporting our temple, in focusing on joining a committee, in looking for ways to volunteer your time and energy, and in telling others about our incredible family and inviting them to a Shabbat service or social event.

This is the ‘dual’ message of Chanukah – “Chanukat Habayit” and “Chanukat Haneshama”, rededication of our temple, and rededication of our souls. May this coming new year be the year of Chanukah - “Chanukat Habayit” and “Chanukat Haneshama” for all!

L’Shalom,  
Reb Tuviah

# A Message From Our Temple President



Dear Members and Friends,

Through the power of the media, which does not always bring out the best in people, we first witnessed the horrific events of October 7th and, fortunately, the compassion and positive thoughts and prayers of most people worldwide. However, we have also been exposed to how much antisemitism and hatred towards Jews still exists. It is very disheartening to see the violent demonstrations taking place at many institutions of high education and the lack of condemnation from their administrations. This further proves that, as a people, we must do all we can to protect our freedoms. The Jewish people have been fighting for thousands of years to reverse this type of bigotry. We must be diligent in keeping our congregation as safe as possible for our members and guests. Our Board of Directors has determined that to maintain a safer environment at TBE, we will have an armed security service at all Shabbat services and most temple-sponsored activities. These services come at a dollar cost, but we must remain diligent. As most of you know, I sent out a letter last month to all our members and friends requesting donations specifically to cover security costs. Given our current prices, these donations will help us pay for security for the next three months. Unfortunately, we foresee the need for armed security well into the future. Some of our members have volunteered to increase their monthly dues by \$25 a month, which will help provide long-term security services. Our projected monthly security costs are \$1680, and we know that many of our members are on fixed incomes, so whatever anyone can do is greatly appreciated. It is also essential to understand that the Board of Directors takes advantage of every opportunity to receive grant money to help support our efforts. The safety of our congregation will always be our priority.

On the lighter side of the news, many fun and engaging activities are coming up in the next few months. Be sure to follow the **Weekly Wrap** and our monthly newsletter, **What's Nu?** to keep up on everything happening. Please save the date for our 50th-year Gala on February 10th, Cocktail Attire great food, a live band, dancing, and auctions. Lots of fun for all. Contact Sandy Clark at [sandra.clark79@yahoo.com](mailto:sandra.clark79@yahoo.com).

Of course, not everything outside the temple is about having fun; we also continue to support those in our community by volunteering at Meals-on-Wheels helping provide food for those less fortunate. In addition, we will be contributing to the Hannukits project. Hanukkits provides a fun and interactive educational experience about the holiday of Hanukkah to local elementary school classes. Finally, in keeping with our continued commitment to mitzvah, we are collecting toys for our annual Toy Drive. Visit our website, [bethel-fl.org](http://bethel-fl.org), for details. Thank you for helping support TBE and our community.

Warm Regards,

Joel Auerbach

# News from our Sisterhood & Brotherhood



Greetings from the TBE Sisterhood. In November, Sisterhood focused on planning for several of our upcoming events. In December 2023, we are planning our annual Chanukah potluck and gift exchange dinner. Future 2024 plans include an evening at the Piano Bar in Bradenton to hear “dueling pianos,” which has received excellent reviews from Sisterhood members, and an evening paddle wheel boat ride on the waterways of Anna Maria Island Sound and Sarasota Bay with live music. Check the TBE website ([www.bethel-fl.org](http://www.bethel-fl.org)) or the Temple Beth El weekly wrap for more details on these upcoming events as they become available. We

would love to hear your ideas and thoughts on fun events, fund raising events, and Mitzvah projects. Please share by email to [meg.weinberg@verizon.net](mailto:meg.weinberg@verizon.net) or by calling me at 401-707-2211. The next Sisterhood Board meeting will be Wednesday 20 December 2023 at 4:00pm and is open to all Sisterhood members. If you are interested, please send me an email for the Zoom link. On behalf of the Sisterhood Board, we look forward to seeing all you ladies at our upcoming Chanukah potluck. We stand with Israel!

Meg Weinberg

[meg.weinberg@verizon.net](mailto:meg.weinberg@verizon.net)

410-707-2211



The Brotherhood's next event is the Whiskey & Wine tasting Dec 20th 2023 - a blind tasting for quality whiskey and wine. Attendees will bring a bottle of their favorite whiskey and/or wine. We'll cover and number each bottle so they can't tell what brand it is - after tasting each kind we'll vote for the best of each. The winners will get a new bottle of their choice from the Brotherhood. Those bringing bottles will take their bottles home after the event.

The brotherhood is also co-sponsoring with the Sisterhood a night of music and food at Live 88 January 13th, 2024 for Dueling Pianos. This is a great show and the food is quite good too! Should be a fun event for all.

Additionally, the Brotherhood has donated 4 Walkie Talkies to the Temple to assist in communication for the security of TBE services & events.

The brotherhood's next breakfast is Jan 7th 9am-11am at the IHOP SR 64 in Bradenton.

Bob Johnson

[tbefilmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:tbefilmensclub@gmail.com)

202-368-3732



# Welcome New Members!

Joining our synagogue reminds us that we're part of a wider community and gives us a chance to reach out and unite with others. We are a warm and inviting community. Our Shabbat services are open to everyone.

*Let's all welcome our newest members:*

**Jill Salazar  
Nancie and Roger Bair**

*Welcome* to our shul!

**Join today and get your new member gifts and engraved name badge!**



**Want More Information?** [Click Here](#)



# Temple Beth El

Bradenton/Lakewood Ranch  
Discover your Jewish Path

**December 2023**  
**Kislev / Tevet**  
**5784**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1  7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	2  9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
3  4:00pm Flute & Piano Soirée / Latke Bar	4  8:30am Mitzvah Project at Meals on Wheels	5	6	7  1:00pm Mah Jongg	8  7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service/ Chanukah Shabbat	9  9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
10  4:00-7:30m Chanukah Fest; Craft Fair & Celebration	11	12  4:00pm Federation's "Just Schmoozing" at Glory Days	13  5:30pm Sisterhood Chanukah Pot-Luck Dinner	14  1:00pm Mah Jongg	15  7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	16  9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
17	18	19	20  6:00pm Brotherhood; Whiskey, Wine & Water	21  1:00pm Mah Jongg	22  7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	23  9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
24	25	26	27  7:00pm TBE Board Meeting via Zoom	28  1:00pm Mah Jongg	29  7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	30  NO Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
31						

# Remember to Mark Your Calendar!

## December 2023

- Sun. Dec 3 Flute and Piano Soiree & Latke Bar 4:00pm
- Mon. Dec. 4 Mitzvah Day at Meals on Wheels 8:30am
- Thurs. Dec. 7 Chabad's Chanukah on Main St. in LWR 6:00pm
- Fri. Dec. 8 Shabbat Chanukah- "Light Up the Night" 7:00pm
- Sun. Dec. 10 Chanukah Fest! 4:00-7:30pm
- Tues. Dec. 12 Federation's Just Schmoozing 4:00-6:00pm
- Wed. Dec. 13 Sisterhood Chanukah Pot Luck 5:30pm
- Wed. Dec. 20 Brotherhood Whiskey, Wine and Water Tasting 6:00pm

[Click Here](#) to see *all of our calendar events*



## COME CELEBRATE SHABBAT!

**Kabbalat Musical Shabbat Service**  
Friday evenings at 7:00pm

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
Saturday mornings at 10:00am





# Come Play Mah Jongg!



**Every Thursday from 1-3 pm at TBE**

**Men and Women welcome**

**No RSVP necessary**

**Contact Robin Block with questions**

**[robinlblock@gmail.com](mailto:robinlblock@gmail.com)**

**Snacks provided!**



Educational  
Toys  
preferred

Temple Beth El



# TOY DRIVE

**Donate New, Unwrapped Toys**

Books, games, Legos and  
building/engineering sets- items that will  
"encourage kids to think."

*Help Local Kids*

**Nov. 24th- Dec. 10th**

**Bring your donations to Temple Beth El  
any Shabbat service or the Dec. 10th  
Chanukah Festival!**



# *Flute & Piano Soirée*

## *An Afternoon Delight*



Please join Temple Beth El as we open the doors to a unique and fun-filled afternoon of mixed music compositions for flute and piano, followed by a delightful latke bar complete with all the traditional toppings along with some creative ideas to take your latke experience to new heights! The performers are our very own Friday night Shabbat flautist Maxxine Smith and our dear friend and pianist Joan Frankel-Ford.

You'll hear music from many different genres; Klezmer, classical works by Gabriel Fauri, John Rutter, a Gentle Rag by Judith Zaimont, James Galway arrangements of Irish music and Annie's Song by John Denver. Maxx and Joan will conclude with the all-time Jewish favorite Hava Nagila!

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 4:00pm**



A truly unique  
latke bar reception  
will follow!



Temple Beth El  
5150 Peridia Blvd. E. • Bradenton, FL 34203  
941-755-4900 • bethel-fl.org





# Produce Packing

Come join us, and together we can change someone's life

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## Meals-on-Wheels

812 23rd Ave E, Bradenton

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For future dates or more information, contact ChrisAnn Allen, Mitzvah Chair  
at [ChrisAnnTBE@gmail.com](mailto:ChrisAnnTBE@gmail.com)



*Please Join Us for*

# Shabbat CHANUKAH

FRIDAY  
**DECEMBER 8**  
7:00PM  
AT TEMPLE BETH EL  
THE 2ND NIGHT OF THE  
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



*Light Up the Night!*

**BRING YOUR FAVORITE MENORAH FROM HOME.**

**LET'S LIGHT UP THE TBE SANCTUARY!**



Temple Beth El Bradenton/Lakewood Ranch

# Chanukah Festival!



Sunday, December 10 @ 4:00pm  
5150 Peridia Blvd. E.



- ~ LIVE MUSIC
- ~ CRAFT FAIR
- ~ KIDS GAMES
- ~ BOUNCE HOUSE
- ~ FOOD TRUCKS
- ~ FOTO BOOTH
- ~ LATKES
- ~ SING ALONG
- ~ MENORAH LIGHTING

Sponsored by



[www.bethel-fl.org](http://www.bethel-fl.org)



The Jewish Federation  
OF SARASOTA-MANATEE



**Tuesday, December 12, 2023, 4:00-6:00pm**

**Glory Days Grill  
8253 Cooper Creek Blvd., Sarasota**

Meet fellow tribe members for fun and laughs!

Cash bar and complimentary light appetizer nosh.

Made possible by the Arthur and Beatrice Michaels Endowment Fund  
for Adult Senior Programs and Services.

Please register in advance so they can prepare enough food.

Wear your TBE t-shirt if you have one and your TBE name tag!

[Register Now](#)



11"03

# Sisterhood

## Chanukah Pot Luck

Wednesday, December 13 @ 5:30 pm  
at Temple Beth El

Bring a dish to share, a \$10 wrapped gift to give and wear your favorite blue or chanukah outfit

RSVP to Meg Weinberg - [meg.weinberg@verizon.net](mailto:meg.weinberg@verizon.net)

**BROTHERHOOD**  
**WHISKY, WINE &**  
**WATER TASTING**

**AT THE HOME OF BROTHERHOOD**  
**PRESIDENT BOB JOHNSON**

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20**

**6:00PM**

**RSVP NO LATER THAN**  
**DEC 10TH**





# Looking *ahead*



## Mark Your Calendar!

Tues. Jan. 2 - Mar. 5 Ten Path's to G-d Class on Zoom - 7:00pm

Sun. Jan. 7 Brotherhood Breakfast IHOP SR 64 - 9:00am

Sat. Jan. 13 88 Live Piano Bar Event - 8:00pm

Thurs. Jan. 18 Rosh Chodesh Circle; Shevat - 7:00pm

Sat. Jan. 20 Shabbat/Tu B'Shevat Seder - 10:00am/12:00pm

Wed. Jan. 24 TBE Board meeting on Zoom - 7:00 pm

Fri. Jan. 26 Shabbat Shirah - 7:00pm

Sat. Jan. 27 Shabbat Shirah - 10:00am

Thurs. Feb. 8 Rosh Chodesh Circle; Adar I - 7:00pm

Sat. Feb. 10 TBE 50th Anniversary Gala

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT [www.bethel-fl.org](http://www.bethel-fl.org)

B"H



# Ten Paths to G-d

A 10 Week Curriculum Based on the Teachings of **Rabbi Jonathan Sacks**

*Join Reb Tuviah to explore the fundamental principals of Judaism and Jewish Identity*

***Tuesdays at 7:00pm via Zoom***

<i>Jan 2</i>	<i>Identity</i>	<i>Feb. 6</i>	<i>Chesed</i>
<i>Jan 9</i>	<i>Prayer</i>	<i>Feb. 13</i>	<i>Faith</i>
<i>Jan 16</i>	<i>Study</i>	<i>Feb. 20</i>	<i>Israel</i>
<i>Jan 23</i>	<i>Mitzvot</i>	<i>Feb. 27</i>	<i>Kiddush Hashem</i>
<i>Jan 30</i>	<i>Tzedakah</i>	<i>March 5</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>

**Suggested Donation:**

**Members: \$40 • Non-Members: \$60**

**To receive the Zoom link, you must register online at [bethel-fl.org](http://bethel-fl.org) or call the temple office at 941-755-4900**

**Temple Beth El  
5150 Peridia Blvd. East • Bradenton, FL 34203**

[Register Now](#)



**Save The Date!**  
**Temple Beth El's**

**50**<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
*Gala*

**SAT. Feb. 10 | 5PM**

**Celebrating 50 years in Manatee County**

*Cocktail Attire*

Dinner, Live Band, Dancing,  
Silent Auction, & Live Auction

**If you questions, contact**  
**[Sandra.clark79@yahoo.com](mailto:Sandra.clark79@yahoo.com)**

# Farmer's Market Day!



# Happy Birthday Steve Feldman



# Chavurah Fun!





# Our December Simchas

## December Birthdays

Robyn Spirtas	12/02
Sandy Clark	12/03
Peral Friedman	12/08
Nancie Bair	12/15
Joshua Leuchter	12/16
Meg Weinberg	12/16
Lisa Leuchter	12/18
Betty Klein	12/20
Roger Bair	12/22
Carol Bodzin	12/25
Cynthia Zamikoff	12/25
Linda Hoffman	12/26
Arni Nashbar	12/28



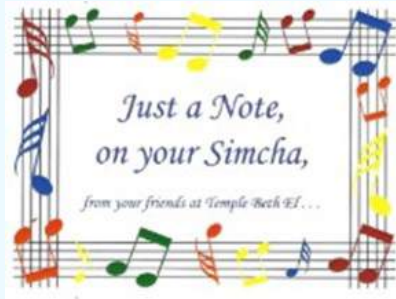
## December Anniversaries



Arni & Cheryl Nashbar	12/15
Howard & Helen Hammerman	12/26
Roy & Ginger Manas	12/18
Marvin & Marion Howard	12/29
Craig & Linda Hoffman	12/24
Ron & Robin Eiseman	12/26
Bob & Phyllis Hemler	12/31

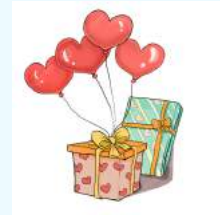
If you are a member of TBE and don't see your birthday or anniversary listed, please email [the office](#) so that you can be listed here.

# Simcha Grams



TBE sends Birthday and Anniversary, "Simcha Grams" to members in honor of their special day. This is a great way to contribute to your Synagogue and to send your TBE family good wishes.

Names must be received at least two weeks prior to the date. The donation is \$3.00 per name. The card will be mailed to those individuals prior to their special day. Thank you for your support!



## January Birthday

ChrisAnn Allen 1/3  
Andrew Clark 1/3  
Helen Hammerman 1/3  
Caroline Zucker 1/3  
Jeffrey Corey 1/5  
Ruthie Weiss 1/6  
Carol Harris 1/18  
Loren Hoffman 1/18  
Lisa Breitberg 1/21  
David Basham 1/23  
Howard Hammerman 1/28  
Rhonda Kaplan 1/28  
Francine Fontaine 1/29  
Phyllis Hemler 1/30

## January Anniversary

Murray and Jerilyn Dimant 1/25

If we have somehow overlooked your Simcha or made an error in printing the date, please accept our apologies and call the temple office at 941-755-4900 or [send an email](#) so that we may update our records.

# Yahrzeits

It is traditional to light a Yahrzeit candle on the evening of observance. In addition, we urge you to attend Shabbat services to honor the memory of your beloved and to recite Mourner's Kaddish on the Yahrzeit. May your memories of the departed always be a blessing.



## **SERVICES December 8th & 9th**

ChrisAnne Allen IMO Mark Mason Esformes  
David Basham IMO Deborah Basham  
Ken Handelman IMO Henry Handelman

## **SERVICES December 15th & 16th**

Robyn Spirtas IMO Jim Campbell  
Marla Perlstein IMO Jack Louis Nedelman

## **SERVICES December 22nd & 23rd**

Ira Kramer IMO Paula Kramer  
Barbara Cole IMO Pearl Melamerson  
Marcy Cohen IMO Rosaind Cohen  
Robyn Spirtas IMO Michael Roesser  
Marlena Johnsky IMO Harry Klein  
Beverly Safron IMO Henry Hartwich  
Katherine Richmond IMO Louise Richmond  
Joe Tully IMO Paul Marcus Tully  
Louise Klain IMO Jack Gallagher

## **SERVICES December 29th & 30th**

Howard Millstein IMO Anna Millstein  
Judie Littell IMO Mildred Littell  
Rise Bausch IMO Leonard Baumgarten  
Sylvia Kupferman IMO Elsie Epstein  
Phyllis Cohen Hemler IMO Isadore E. Cohen  
Craig & Linda Hoffman IMO Reuben Hoffman  
David Klain IMO Evelyn Klain

To commemorate your beloved, it is also customary to memorialize the departed by making a donation to the synagogue. You can donate here or mail your check to the Temple at 5150 Peridia Blvd East, Bradenton 34203.

[\*\*DONATE\*\*](#)

# Donations *Thank you for your donation!*

## General Donations:

Bob & Charlene Eredics  
Helen & Howard Hammerman  
Diane Hart  
Bayla Kolton  
Ron & Robin Eiseman  
Sandra Williams  
Lewis Lefer  
Janet Ramano  
Karen Knoell  
Center for Faith & Freedom

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Sophi Kingson  
Bruce and Judy Prince

## Security Fund

A very big thank you to the many people who donated to the security fund, your donations are always appreciated!

## Yahrzeit:

Barbara and Mark Friedman IMO Bonnie Krasik  
Diane Hart IMO her mother, Cecile Roth  
Bill Gregory IMO his Step-father, Stephen Gregory  
Jill Salazar IMO her mother, Jean MacGregor  
Jeff Schneiderman IMO his mother, Dottie Schneiderman  
Howard and Helen Hammerman IMO Bonnie Krasik  
Stacey Gould IMO Bonnie Krasik  
Marlena Johnsky IMO her mother, Florence Harris  
Joanne Guyton-Simmons IMO Bonnie Krasik  
Wilma Dalton IMO Bonnie Krasik  
Phyllis Hemler IMO her grandparents Ida and Henry Cohen  
Susie Konicov IMO Hannah  
Alan Loew IMO his father, Joseph Loew  
Robyn Spirtas IMO her grandmother, Flora  
Susie Konicov IMO her sister, Hannah Weinberg  
Lisa Novack IMO Cantor Alan  
Ann Rosenfield IMO Cantor Alan  
Robyn and Neil Spirtas IMO Cantor Alan  
Edward Harwitz IMO Cantor Alan  
Iris Levive IMO Cantor Alan

## Future Expansion Fund:

Rise Bausch



And to all that donated to the United  
Hatzalah Israeli EMS service...

Israel thanks you!  
Am Yisrael Chai



## November Oneg Sponsors:

Rise Bausch - IMO her brother Anton Baumgarten  
Roy Manas - "HAPPY BIRTHDAY GINGER"  
William Gregory - In Honor of Our Veterans  
Craig and Linda Hoffman - IMO Mae Samson, Founding Member  
Jill Salazar - blessed with Refuah Shleima and could not be more grateful.  
Anna Feldman -in honor of Steve's birthday!  
Alan Loew - IMO his brother, Joseph Loew

Thank you to all of our generous donors. Your gift helps keep Reform Judaism alive in Manatee County. There are many ways and reasons to make a donation to TBE



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We're close by to serve you better.



Our area has grown, and so have the services we offer. No matter what your idea of a perfect memorial is, it's likely we already have the experience comfortably providing the best service and accommodations for it.

*Jeff, Robert, and Jason Toale at their Celebration of Life Center at Lakewood Ranch*

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[www.mybradentondermatology.com](http://www.mybradentondermatology.com)

[Learn More](#)

## **Are you in need? Do you know someone in need?**



The mission of TBE's Caring Circle is to support any member who may be in need. If you or someone you know is struggling, reach out to us! As a family at Temple Beth El, we care about you and your loved ones!

Please notify the temple office, or Phyllis Hemler, the coordinator, with your name or the name and contact information of any TBE member in need. With your consent, we will also include you/them in our MiSheberach Prayers each week.

**TBE Caring Circle**

**Phyllis Hemler: 609-203-0110 [phyllishemler@gmail.com](mailto:phyllishemler@gmail.com)**

[Click here to reach Phyllis](#)



# Temple Beth El

## Make an Oneg or Kiddush Announcement

- \* Commemorate your special day
- \* Honor or remember someone
- \* Celebrate a special occasion
- \* Recognize someone's hard work  
or "Just because"

**Friday Night Oneg \$50**

**Saturday Kiddish \$50**

**Both days \$100**

( To celebrate, consider bringing a small bakery cake! )



**Sign up online by going to**

**[www.bethel-fl.org](http://www.bethel-fl.org)**

**(Payments & Donations)**

**or call: 941-755-4900**

**\*please note- there may be more than  
one announcement at any given Oneg**

**BOOK NOW**



## Our Mitzvah Projects

Temple Beth El has been working with the Salvation Army since the spring of 2020. People staying at the shelter need health and beauty aids; everything from soap and shampoo to Vaseline and sunblock. These items are only available as they are donated. Please consider donating to this worthwhile project. Items can be brought to the Temple. Please drop your items in the blue bins under the bulletin board in the lobby.

TBE will once again have the opportunity to participate in "produce packing" at Meals on Wheels at 811 23rd Avenue East. The Food Bank purchases fresh produce for their meal delivery clients. The project involves sorting and bagging the produce. No lifting required. If you choose to sit, you can sit. For a lot of people, this is the only fresh food in their diet. They very much look forward to receiving it. The more people we have the faster it goes. Arrive 8:30 am. (Typically just 2 hours or less of your time).



***VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.***

***WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN THIS WORTHWHILE MITZVAH PROJECT.***

***Next Date is Monday, December 4, at 8:30 am***

Contact ChrisAnn Allen for more info- [chrisanntbe@gmail.com](mailto:chrisanntbe@gmail.com)



*The synagogue can purchase burial plots in the "Gardens of Abraham" section of the Skyway cemetery and pass the savings on to our members.*

*Our Treasurer, Ira Kramer is taking names of those who might be interested.*

*Contact him for more information  
[treasurer@bethel-fl.org](mailto:treasurer@bethel-fl.org) or 908-723-4078*

# Religious School - A New Way, An Exciting Way!



No longer on Sunday, now "Hebrew School" happens every Saturday starting at 9:30 am and is "Shabbat School!" It is a delight for all. Children are included in the true celebration of Judaism. They become a part of their religion in a meaningful, practicing way, participating alongside their parents or grandparents and the rest of the congregants. This is the way learning was meant to be.



If you know of anyone interested in "Shabbat School" for their children, please have them contact Rabbi Tuviah.

***If you would like more information, including Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparations and how to enroll, contact, Rabbi Tuviah – [rebtuviah@gmail.com](mailto:rebtuviah@gmail.com)***

[Learn More](#)



## From Our Temple Treasurer

### Ways to Make Tax-Advantaged Contributions to Temple Beth El

The 2019 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act more than doubled the standard Federal income tax deduction and placed limits on the itemized Schedule A deductions. Consequently, in the following years more than 95 percent of taxpayers took the standard deduction.

The 2023 standard deduction will be \$13,850 for single filers and \$27,700 for couples filing jointly. Each person sixty-five years old and older by the end of the tax year gets an additional \$1850. This brings the total standard deduction for a senior couple filing jointly to \$31,400.

Your contributions to the Temple along with mortgage interest, real estate taxes, medical bills (not covered by insurance) and other deductible expenses would have to exceed these amounts to have an impact on your tax bill. Total taxes are calculated by subtracting either the standard deduction or the itemized deductions, whichever is greater, from your adjusted gross income. This means that charitable contributions, unless they are very large, will not have an impact on your tax bill.

However, there are at least two ways to make a significant contribution to the Temple and save money on your taxes:

1. Set up a Charitable Remainder Trust with the Temple as the charitable beneficiary.
2. For those over the age of seventy-two with a traditional IRA, have your bank pay all or part of your distributions directly from the IRA to the Temple.

In both cases, the contribution is subtracted from your income from other sources reducing your adjusted gross income resulting in less taxes and, in many cases, a lower tax bracket.

A Charitable Remainder Trust must be set up by an attorney. It is an irrevocable trust funded by a transfer of cash or assets (such as stock). In addition to a qualified charity (such as the Temple) there must be one or more living individuals who will receive income from the trust for a specific number of years or for life. At the end of the term the remainder of the trust passes to the Temple.

Donating directly from your IRA is much easier. Simply inform the IRA administrator (typically a bank) that you want a fixed amount of money to go to the synagogue. You can change the amount at any time or stop it all together. The end of year statement (1099-R) will show the total distribution and the taxable amount. You can still take the standard deduction.

These paragraphs are for your general information only. You should consult with a qualified income tax professional before making any changes. They were written by Howard Hammerman, the former treasurer, and based on publicly available documents and the IRS website.



## Tax Planning and Gift Giving

If you have appreciated stock in any publicly traded company, you can donate the stock to Temple Beth El. You may be able to deduct the current market value from your 2021 taxable income as a Schedule A deduction without paying capital gains tax. The Temple can then sell the stock and use the funds to continue our good work.

Tax year 2021 appears to be the last year that most taxpayers can take up to a charitable cash contribution to a non-profit organization (such as Temple Beth El) directly from adjusted gross income. This "above the line" deduction is limited to \$300 for taxpayers filing as single, head of household, qualified widow(er)s, and married filing separately. Taxpayers filing joint returns are limited to \$600.

As in all things tax-related, there are exceptions and additional rules. Each person's situation is unique. Please check with your tax preparer to be sure. These are general suggestions only based on publicly available information.

## An Easy Way to Donate to TBE

Most of us have a dish where we collect coins that fell into our pockets or purses. Please consider donating them to the Temple's "Pushki Fund." One hundred percent of the coins donated will go to the Temple's general fund and help us fund on-going operations. We will acknowledge your donation by letter and, if you itemize deductions, you can use the amount to lower your tax bill. Just put the coins into a sturdy plastic bag along with a note with your name and address. Leave the bag on the Temple's desk in the office the next time you come to services. We'll take it from there.

Ira Kramer, Treasurer  
908-723-4078  
[treasurer@bethel-fl.org](mailto:treasurer@bethel-fl.org)



Please remember to add your temple family to your will. There is no greater gift than leaving a lasting memory.

## Respecting Holiness in Our Gathering Place

The TBE Sanctuary is a special place where we go for spiritual connection, reflection, and prayer. We ask that during services, congregants refrain from wearing tank tops, spaghetti straps, mini-skirts, shorts, or t-shirts. Please turn your cell phone off or place it on vibrate and refrain from social conversations once the service has begun.



### TREE OF LIFE!

Leaves are available on the Tree of Life in the temple lobby. Have your leaf custom engraved to honor a loved one for \$100. Call the temple office for details.  
941-755-4900



Do you have a facebook page? Have you “liked” TBE’s page? Go to our [FaceBook page](#) and hit “like”. Keep up with everything going on at the Shul. Also, consider joining the “Jewish Community of Manatee” on facebook too. We can comment and support each other there.

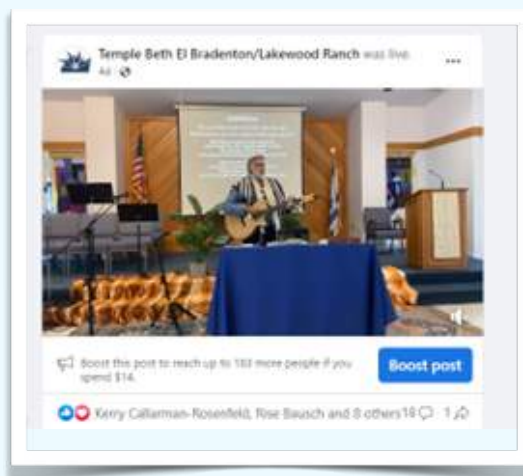


For questions about using Facebook, contact Robyn Spirtas  
941-962-0884 or [publicity@bethel-fl.org](mailto:publicity@bethel-fl.org)



And follow us on Instagram:  
**@tbemanatee**

**Watch live services or see a past service.... Go to [www.facebook.com/tbebradenton](http://www.facebook.com/tbebradenton)**



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