

Temple Beth El Bradenton · Lakewood Ranch

Your Reform Jewish Temple in Manatee County

Discover Your Jewish Path

April 2024 - Adar II / Nisan 5784



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

A Message From Our Rabbi



Frogs. To be honest, I'm not their biggest fan. Although, when doing a Google search for cartoonish images of frogs, they sure do look cute. And have you noticed the dramatic rise in the popularity of frogs in the past decade or so? Amazon has hundreds of frog-related merchandise ranging from cheap plastic frogs to straws, t-shirts, socks, ties, and headbands.

Frogs are relevant to the Passover story, as they were the second plague and they probably have a greater commercial potential than that of blood and of locusts. A story I read recently involving frogs gave me a new way

to look at the Exodus story and life in general.

"Once, a bunch of frogs decided to go on a climbing competition. The frog that would reach the top of the tower first would be the winner. A big crowd gathered around to watch this race and cheer on the contestants.

The tower was very high, so almost no one in the crowd really believed that the frogs could reach the top of it.

During the race, you could hear the crowd saying:

'No way, this is too difficult!'

'They will not succeed. Not a chance!'

'They must be stupid to believe that they can make it to the top.'

The contestant frogs could hear the crowd.

Finally, one by one, the frogs abandoned the game.

Some of them continued to struggle and managed to climb higher and higher.

'They will not make it, this is way too difficult,' the crowd continued.

So even those persistent frogs got tired and gave up. In the end, there was only one frog that wouldn't give up. The little frog struggled to climb higher, and after a huge effort, was the only one to reach the top.

A frog asked the winner how he had found all this strength to make it.

The winner did not respond.

It turned out that the winner was deaf.

Moses' biggest challenge was not with Pharaoh but rather with the Israelites who, like the spectator frogs, had the attitude of defeat and lack of confidence in their ability. This attitude ultimately prevailed and forced God to wait forty years before leading his people to the Promised Land.

Often, to achieve our goals we need to close our ears when those who don't believe in us talk. And even harder, we must know when to silence our own minds when it erodes our confidence.

Happy Passover! Reb Tuviah

A Message From Our Temple President

Dear Members and Friends,

As we say goodbye to March, it is with some fantastic memories. The best way to describe our Purim Palooza; we rocked the house, well, actually, the temple. The rabbi and the bimah band were fantastic, with much singing and dancing, yay's and boo's to

our biblical comrades; a great time was had by all. And, lets not forget the hamantaschen. Of course, as always, we did not forget the events in Israel, and appropriate tributes were paid.

In other news, our Sisterhood learned about the splendor and architecture of the beautiful Sarasota Opera House while the Brotherhood engaged in the age-old art of throwing an axe — it was quite fun. Clearly, both clubs gained different experiences, but the common denominator was camaraderie and fun.

Looking at the TBE calendar, Weekly Wrap or Newsletter, you will see that April has a few significant events. Passover is quickly approaching, and we are celebrating our Seder on Monday, April 22, at the beautiful Tara Golf and Country Club. RSVPs are required, and the deadline is April 14. Please don't delay; we are filling up fast. The easiest way to register is via our website. A link is provided here. In addition, registration forms may be obtained from the temple office.

Our Annual Membership meeting will occur on Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 pm at the temple. All members in good standing are welcome and encouraged to attend. Your vote is needed to amend our By-laws and approve the new 2022/2023 fiscal budget. At the same time, our Temple Board of Directors will provide reports on our progress during the past year. All members are welcome to ask questions regarding Temple Beth El. Our proposed budget and by-laws will be emailed to every member before the end of March, and we encourage you to review them carefully.

Additionally, you can view copies in the "Member Portal" section of our website starting April 1st. The "Member Portal" link, which may be found at the top right and bottom left of every website page is password-protected. You will receive the password with your email containing the budget/by-laws. The portal will have a section for your comments and concerns or you may also email me at <u>joela@bethel-fl.org</u> or leave a message at 941-755-4900 and I will return your call.

It is no secret the Jews have a unique prospect regarding our heritage, and we have never settled for what most might think is normal. For example, we celebrate two New Year's, one on the last day of December and another on Rosh Hashanah. At TBE, we are recognizing a third "new year," our fiscal year. This fiscal year is unique because it marks one year of service with our new Board of Directors. I want to thank the entire Temple Board of Directors for their hard work in helping guide our shul as we navigate our future path of growth. I would also like to thank all the committee members and volunteers who helped plan all our events, along with our weekly Oneg and Kiddush offerings. Everyone plays an essential role in TBE's success, and I appreciate everyone's commitment and support.

Just a reminder that the Manatee County Food Bank still needs our help! Many unfortunate people struggle to buy food, especially now with the increasing costs of consumer goods. If you would like to donate money, I am attaching the link for your convenience. https://securepayment.link/mealsonwheelsplus/

Warm Regards, Joel Auerbach



PASSOVER 2024... ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR JOURNEY?

TBE ADULT EDUCATION
Tuesday, April 16th at 7:00pm (via Zoom)



Join us as we explore the Passover story in depth and be ready to be challenged!

"Come, speak to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and he will let the children of Israel out of his land..."

So begins the story of the Exodus.

Together, we'll delve into the story we think we know and quite possibly be amazed by what we'll learn. This just may change the way we experience this annual observance!

Class is FREE for TBE members and \$10 for non-members.

To RSVP, make payment and get the Zoom link, go to bethel-fl.org

Register Today!

News from our Sisterhood & Brotherhood

Greetings from the TBE Sisterhood. In March, the Sisterhood toured the historic Sarasota Opera House and had lunch afterwards in Sarasota on Main Street. The tour was fantastic, and we all ate outside and enjoyed the beautiful warm sunny Florida day. In May, we'll end our year with our annual Spring Fling luncheon and membership drive. Check the TBE website (www.bethel-fl.org) or

the Temple Beth El weekly wrap for more details on the Spring Fling. In June, the Sisterhood Board will begin planning our next year's events. 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 or by calling me at 401-707-2211. The next Sisterhood Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 17 April 2024 at 4:00pm and is open to all Sisterhood members. If you are interested, please send me an email for the Zoom link. We would appreciate your help in future planning. On behalf of the Sisterhood Board, we look forward to seeing all you ladies at the Passover Seder in April and the Spring Fling luncheon in May 2024.

meg.weinberg@verizon.net 410-707-2211





The Brotherhood has assumed leadership of the Lakewood Ranch Farmer's Market community outreach effort. This event continues to be an excellent recruitment venue for TBE. It's been nine months since the temple originally started attending

this venue and thanks to Neil Spirtas & Joel Auerbach we've been able to expand our participation as a non-profit at no cost to TBE. Special thanks to March's volunteers Bill Gregory, Marcy Cohen, Ron Eiseman, Joel Auerbach, and Neil Spirtas who helped to greet the market's visitors and set up/take down our exhibit! The Brotherhood will be there again April 14. We need volunteers for the 12-2 pm time frame, please contact Bob Johnson or Neil Spirtas to volunteer. It is a fun outing.

Brotherhood's axe throwing outing was a wonderful adventure. Everyone who participated loved it. Our March breakfast at I-HOP was filled with camaraderie and togetherness.

Interested in holding office for brotherhood?? (President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary), notify Bob Johnson as soon as possible. New leaders will be announced and will take their offices starting June 1st.

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

Let's all welcome our newest members:

Alida Gorin Helene and Joel Weiner



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











Temple Beth El Bradenton/Lakewood Ranch

Bradenton/Lakewood Ranch Discover your Jewish Path

April 2024 Adar II / Nisan 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 1:00pm Mah Jongg 7:00pm Rosh Chodesh Circle; Nisan	7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
9:00am Brotherhood Breakfast at IHOP	8:30am Mitzvah Project at Meals on Wheels	9	10	1:00pm Mah Jongg	7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service 7:00pm Regina's Conversion
10:00am TBE at the LWR Farmers Market	15	7:00pm Adult Ed; Are You Ready for Passover? FREE! (via Zoom)	17	18 1:00pm Mah Jongg 6:30pm Marauder's Baseball Game	7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
21	5:30pm TBE's Community- Wide Passover Seder	23	24	1:00pm Mah Jongg	7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service
4:00pm TBE Annual Membership	29	30				



Remember to Mark Your Calendar!

April 2024

Wed. Apr 3 -Sun Apr 7 "My Son the Waiter" Play Manatee Performing Art Center

Thurs. April 4 Rosh Chodesh Circle; Nisan (via Zoom only) - 7:00 pm

Sun. April 7 Men's Club Breakfast at IHOP on SR 64, Bradenton - 9:00 am

Mon. April 8 Mitzvah Day at Meals on Wheels - 8:30 am

Sat. April 13 Regina's Conversion Ceremony at Coquina Beach - 7:00 pm

Tues. April 16 Adult Ed. Passover Prep (via Zoom) - 7:00pm

Thurs. April 18 TBE at the Marauders Baseball Game, LECOM Park - 6:30 pm

Mon. April 22 Community-Wide Passover Seder at Tara Country Club - 5:30 pm

Sun April 28 TBE Annual Membership Meeting - 4:00 pm

Click Here to see all of our calendar events



COME CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH US!

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service Friday evenings at 7:00pm

Traditional Shabbat Morning Service
Saturday mornings at 10:00am



Ask the Rabbi

Question: During the Passover Seder, why do we drink four cups of wine? Why not two cups, or three cups...or better yet, a baker's' dozen?

Answer: There are actually many reasons for drinking four cups of wine. Here are three of them:

- 1. When promising to deliver the Jews from Egyptian slavery, G-d used four terms to describe the redemption (Exodus 6:6-8): a) "I shall take you out..." b) "I shall rescue you..." c) "I shall redeem you..." d) "I shall take you..."
- 2. We were liberated from Pharaoh's four evil decrees: a) Slavery. b) The ordered murder of all male progeny by the Hebrew midwives. c) The drowning of all Hebrew boys in the Nile by Egyptian officials. d) The decree ordering the Israelites to collect their own straw for use in their brick production.
- 3. The four cups symbolize our freedom from our four exiles: a) The Egyptian, b) Babylonian,
- c) Greek, d) and our current exile which we hope to be rid of very soon with the coming of Moshiach or the Messianic Era.



Our Mitzvah Projects

Temple Beth El has been working with "Our Daily Bread" in Bradenton. They are a community-driven organization supported by churches, foundations, and numerous other community-oriented organizations. In addition to feeding the hungry, they collect health and beauty aids,

everything from soap and shampoo to lotion and sunblock, to give to those in need. Please consider donating to this worthwhile project.

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).



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

Next Date is Monday, April 8th at 8:30 am

Contact ChrisAnn Allen for more info- chrisanntbe@gmail.com



March Oneg Sponsors

Robin and Ron Eiseman IMO Charlie Eiseman

Judie Littell IMO Arthur Littell

Howard Hammerman IMO Gertrude "GG" Hammerman

Brian and Ruth Weiss IMO Jonah Samuel Weiss

Carol and Lonnie Bodzin IHO Helen and Howard Hammerman

Diana Tully IHO Joe Tully - Happy Birthday Joe!

Craig and Carol Harris for their 55th wedding Anniversary!

Click Here to Sponsor!

Our April Simchas

April Birthdays

Lynn Graham	4/01	Richard Toppel	4/15
Neil Spirtas	4/02	Mallory Rosenstein	4/24
Judie Littell	4/10	Brian Weiss	4/26
Roger Danziger	4/11	Mitch Mallett	4/29
Jill Salazar	4/11		



April Anniversaries



Joseph and Diana Tully 4/01
Sharon Carlson and Ray Carlson 4/17
Irving and Cynthia Zamikoff 4/22

Yahrzeits for April ADAR II/NISAN 5784

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



TBE MEMBER	REMEMBERS	Friday / Saturday
Gorin Alida	Alfred Abraham Spirn	March 29/March 30
Murray Dimant	Akiva Dimant	
Susanne Konicov	Louise Weinberg	April 05/April 06
Joel Auerbach	Bernard Auerbach	April 12/April 13
Beth Cooper	Joshua Hilbert	
Helen Hammerman	Ruth Pollinger	
Karen Knoell	Roger Knoell	
Judie Littell	Isadore Rabinowitz	
Bev Safron	Anne Hartwich	
Joel Auerbach	Doris Auerbach	April 19/April 20
Neil Clark	Goldie Solomon	
Lynn Graham	Benjamin Talit	
Betty Klein	Arnold Klein	
David Morgen	Moyra Cohen	
Amy Talit Moriarty	Benjamin Talit	
Mitch Mallett	Reuben Oscar Adam Mallett	
Neil Spirtas	Gert Levison - Spirtas	
Neil & Sandy Clark	Aaron Milch	April 26/April 27
Neil & Sandy Clark	Helen W Kleinman	
Judie Littell	Fannie Rabinowitz	
Judith Loew	Michael Forman	

Beatrice Toppel

Richard Toppel

March was a very busy month - in addition to Brotherhood Breakfast, weekly Mahjong, Rosh Chodesh, and educational classes, members also enjoyed the Annual New Member Tea, a fashion show, a trip to the Opera House, and of course a fun filled Purim celebration.

At Temple Beth El there is something for everyone to do!

"Wine, Women and Wardrobe at Bradenton Women's Club" Several TBE ladies got together to enjoy a beautiful Saturday afternoon sipping mimosas and looking at the latest fashions being offered at the local boutiques!





~Sisterhood at the Opera House~

Our TBE "sisters" had a wonderful outing getting a backstage tour at the Opera House and then to Mattison's Restaurant for a lovely lunch.





New Member Tea

March was a wonderful opportunity for new members to get to know each other in an informal setting on a beautiful Sunday afternoon













~ Purim Palooza 5784 ~

















More Purim Palooza 5784 Photos















Special Moments in March

Welcome back Rise!





Thank you Joe Tully for sharing your musical talent at the March 22 service

Micah and Amelia at the Bimah







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,

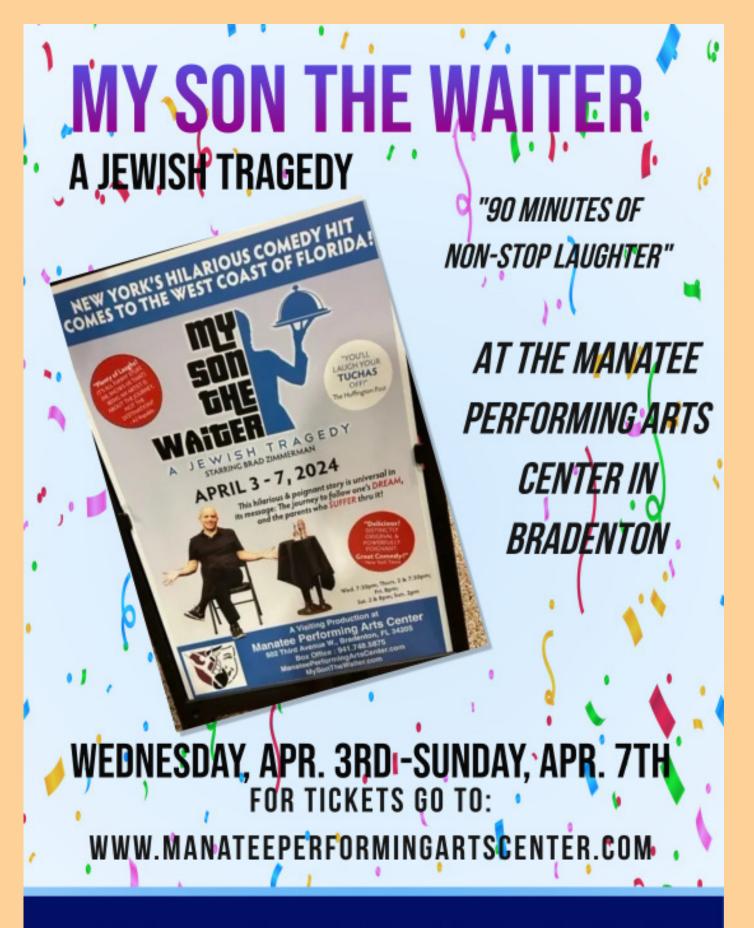
Rabbi Tuviah – rebtuviah@gmail.com

Learn More

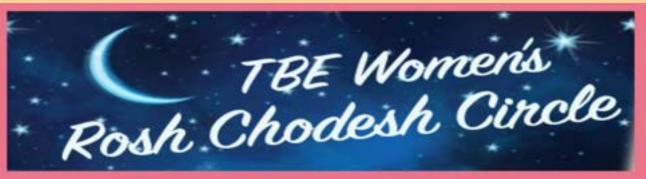








Visit the Temple Beth El booth before the show!



Thursday, April 4th 7:00 pm Via Zoom only

Inviting all women to celebrate the new moon, make new friends & new spiritual connections...



...anyone who blesses the new month in its proper time, it is as if she greets the Face of the Divine Presence.

-Sanhedrin 42a

Contact the temple office for more information info@bethel-fl.org 941-755-4900

Brotherhood Brotherhood Breakfast

SUNDAY, Apr. 7, 9:00-10:30am

No RSVP Necessary IHOP - 6320 SR-64 E Bradenton



Contact Bob Johnson for info tbeflmensclub@gmail.com



Produce Packing

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

Meals-on-Wheels

812 23rd Ave E, Bradenton

For future dates or more information, contact ChrisAnn Allen, Mitzvah Chair at ChrisAnnTBE@gmail.com

Please join us in celebrating Regina Fluellen-Reitwiesner's conversion ceremony!



Regina has faithfully completed her Jewish conversion studies and will be officially welcomed into the Jewish faith!

Saturday, April 13 - 7:00pm

Havdalah will start promptly at 7:00pm, folllowed by the conversion ceremony.

Held on the beach right near the Coquina Beach Cafe, 2650 Gulf Dr. S.
Bradenton Beach

Come see your temple friends at the LWR Farmer's Market at "Waterside"

Sunday, April 14th • 10am -2pm



Over 100 vendors! Grab a knish or a bagel, shop, eat, visit. Bring the dog! Stop by the TBE table!





TBE Goes to the Bradenton Marauders

BASEBALL GAME

THURSDAY, April 18 6:30 pm

TICKETS \$15 + \$2 PARKING Free drink and hat!





\$2 Beer!

Sponsored by the TBE Brotherhood Open to All. Bring the kids!

LECOM Park 1611 9th St W, Bradenton, FL 34205



SAVE THE DATE~



Click here to reach Marla

An Easy Way to Donate to TBE

Most of use 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



Legacy Gift Giving

Please consider Temple Beth El in your Trust or Will stating a gift is to be made upon your passing. Your legacy gift will help ensure that Temple Beth El's 50-year history will serve the community for generations to come.

Aside from the tax incentives, there is no greater gift than leaving a lasting memory. Your gift can be a monetary gift, a piece of property, or a valuable or collectible item that might be relevant to your faith in G-d. And just as importantly, your gift might inspire others to give back as well.

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 or 908-723-4078



Donations Thank you for your

Help us in supporting Israel. DONATE TO ISRAEL HERE

Please help support our efforts to provide Israel with funds for muchneeded medical supplies and services. Our homeland is under attack, and we must be as helpful as possible. Select the "DONATIONS FOR ISRAEL" button



Future Expansion Fund
Bob and Charlene Eredics
Murray Dimant
Anonymous donors

And to all who donated to the United Hatzalah Israeli EMS service... Israel thanks you! Am Yisrael Chai

Yahrzeit/In Memory Of

Phyllis Hemler IMO Fannie Kreutzer
Howard Hammerman IMO David Hammerman
Marlena Johnsky IMO Marcella Johnsky
Howard Hammerman IMO Gertrude Hammerman
Freda Feibel IMO Sheldon J. Feibel
Ken Handelman IMO Phyllis Cutler
Darcy Guyton-Hanna IMO Bonnie Krasik
David Frane & Charla Gabert IMO Bonnie Krasik
Murray Dimant IMO Akiva Dimant
Anna Feldman IMO Stephen Feldman
Beverly Safron IMO William Saffron
Beverly Safron IMO Anne Hartwich



Security Fund

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

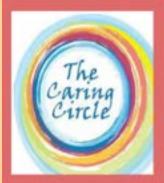
A Special 'Thank You' to the TBE Brotherhood and Sisterhood for their generous donations to the security fund!



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

We Care! TBE's Caring Circle

If you, or someone you know is ill, had a fall, was in an accident, or has other needs, we are here for you!



The mission of TBE's Caring Circle is to support any member who may be in need. If you or someone you know needs our help, 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 Jill Salazar, 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 Mi Shebeirach Prayers each week.

Go to bethel-fl.org or contact Jill Salazar Text - 941-779-3051 or E-mail -jillsciullo@gmail.com

Click here to make a prayer request

Check Out our Wonderful Advertisers!

Treating Patients like Family



Most Insurances accepted

Compationate - Loving - Caring



lan M. Kahane, MD



Krystle Gish, DO

completecaredocs.com 3007 Manatee Ave W. Bradenton 941-748-8069

Learn More

Bradenton Dermatology

Medical, Surgical and Cosmetic Dermatology

- Board Certified Dermatologists
 Emergency Appointments
 40+ Years of Experience
 Non-surgical Skin Cancer Treatment

Bradenton Dermatology & Laser Center

Skin Cancer Treatment MOHS Surgery Superficial Radiation

Skin Disorders: Acne, Rosacea, Psoriasis, Rashes, & Moles

www.mybradentondermatology.com

Learn More

Learn More





Learn More

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 <u>FaceBook page</u> 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



And follow us on Instagram: @tbemanatee

Watch live services or see a past service.... Go to www.facebook.com/tbebradenton

