

Temple Beth El Bradenton · Lakewood Ranch

Your Reform Jewish Temple in Manatee County Discover Your Jewish Path

Nisan / Iyar 5785



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



Dearest TBE Members and Friends,

Pesach has always been a festival of paradoxes. At one and the same time, the festival calls upon us to remember the suffering of our ancestors while slaves in Egypt, but also the joy of their liberation. The Seder meal, which forms the centerpiece of the Yom tov, illustrates the inherent contradiction perfectly. We eat unleavened matza and bitter herbs, which symbolize our slavery, but we also sing jolly melodies, recline in regal fashion, drink wine or grape juice and dip foods, all of which represent our freedom.

Nothing encapsulates this apparent contradiction better than the hors d'oeuvres served at our tables – a hard-boiled egg in salt water. The salt water represents our tears, while the egg sends out a profound message. Nearly all other foods, when boiled, get softer. The egg, however, becomes harder. It reminds us that, when the heat is on in life, we can summon our inner resolve and stand firm. Therefore, in the very same dish, we combine pain and fortitude; desolation and hope.

I can hardly recall a Pesach when such mixed feelings are so prevalent. As I write this message, we are witnessing the extraordinary highs of hostages being returned to the loving embrace of their families and the agonizing lows of discovering the depths of their suffering and the fate of those who tragically did not return alive. Yet, in Jewish tradition, we never hesitate to highlight optimism and joy, even in the midst of our pain and sadness, nor do we shy away from recalling the deep traumas of our past at moments of great celebration.

For this reason, the saddest day on our calendar, Tisha Be'Av, is called Mo'ed – festival, by our Prophets, in anticipation of the day being transformed in the future to become the happiest of all days. Together with that, the Torah instructs us to celebrate all major Jewish festivals in memory of our exodus from Egypt and, at Jewish weddings, a glass is broken to remember the destruction of our Temples and all subsequent Jewish suffering.

We do this because it is from within the tragedies of our past that our resolve to build a better future is forged. The depths of our pain and the heights of our joy are therefore inextricably and permanently linked. This is why, even with our ongoing deep anxiety about the welfare of the State of Israel and, indeed, for world Jewry, we will enthusiastically celebrate Pesach with the prayer that joy will prevail over pain and the ultimate redemption will draw near.

Chag Pesach Sameach!

L'hitraot, Reb Tuviah

A Message From Our Temple President



Dear Members and Friends,

Have you ever searched the internet for a famous saying or quote? Amazingly, within a fraction of a second, at your fingertips is more information than you can process in a lifetime. If your experiences are like mine, you have found that 90% of information can be classified as junk. Most of it is the opinion of others, and there is a good chance that you disagree with it. It brings to mind the saying my grandmother used to say about opinions. If you're curious, please email me and I'll fill you in. So, with all this data, you have to decide,

unscrambling what is useful and what is just junk. Research indicates that the average person makes around 35,000 decisions each day.

I would like each of you to consider making one more decision. While researching this message, I, too, used the internet and inquired about decision-making. With the thousands of responses, the following one resonated with me. "Our lives are fashioned by our choices. First we make our choices. Then our choices make us." This is so true, especially when "our choices make us." Are you ready to make some new choices to set your life in a new direction? If so, do I have a deal for you? Be one of the wonderful people who strive daily to make TBE a warm, engaging, and spiritual place to gather. Except for our only employee, the rabbi, we are a volunteer organization, and if I have to say so myself, we are strong, dynamic, and committed. That doesn't mean we don't mess up on occasion, we are only human, but our efforts are always to make TBE better tomorrow, than it is today.

With all that said, we need your help. If you glanced over the last sentence, we need your help. Our membership is growing; we are at the threshold of a new rabbi and a new Shabbat paradigm. As Robert Allen Zimmerman (Bob Dylan) said, The Times They Are a-Changin'. There are exciting times ahead; be a part of it. We are only as strong as our people; your choices help to make us and make you. To learn more about volunteering, go to our <u>website here</u> and answer a few questions. We will welcome you with open arms. Hope to hear from you soon.

"Our lives are fashioned by our choices. First we make our choices. Then our choices make us." – Anne Frank

Warm Regards,

Joel Auerbach President - Temple Beth El

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:

Roberta Milstein

<u>Melcame to our shul!</u>

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







Temple Beth El
Bradenton/Lakewood RanchApril 2025
Nisan / Iyar 5785

Discover your Jewish Path

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 1:00pm Mah Jongg	4 7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	5 9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service 6:30pm Conversion Ceremonies
6	7	8 4:00-6:00pm Just Schmoozing at the Parrot Patio Bar & Grill	9	10 1:00pm Mah Jongg	11 7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	12 10:00am Shabbat Service 5:00pm Passover Seder
13	14	15	16	17 1:00pm-4:00pm PBJ Drop-off 1:00pm Mah Jongg 3:15 Sisterhood Mtg.	18 7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service / Yom HaShoah	19 9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service Yom HaShoah
20 10:00am TBE @ LWR Farmers Market	21	22	23 7:00pm TBE Board Meeting (via Zoom)	24 9:30am Feeding those in Need at Our Daily Bread 1:00pm Mah Jongg	25 7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	26 9:30am Shabbat School 10:00am Shabbat Service Baby Naming
27 4:00pm TBE's Annual Membership Meeting	28	29	30			

Remember to Mark Your Calendar!

April 2025

Saturday, April 5	6:30 pm	Christine's and Randy's Conversion Ceremonies
Tuesday, April 8	4:00 pm	Just Schmoozing -Parrot Patio Bar and Grill
Saturday, April 12	5:00 pm	Passover Seder
Thursday, April 17	1:00 pm	PBJ Sandwich Drop-Off
	3:15 pm	Sisterhood Meeting
Friday, April 18	7:00 pm	Shabbat / Yom HaShoah
Saturday, April 19	10:00 am	Shabbat / Yom HaShoah
Sunday, April 20	10:00 am	TBE at the LWR Farmers Market
Wednesday, April 23	7:00 pm	TBE Board Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursday, April 24	9:30 am	Mitzvah Project: Feeding the Hungry
Saturday, April 26	10:00 am	Shabbat/Baby naming
Sunday, April 27	4:00 pm	TBE Annual Membership Meeting

Mah Jongg every Thursday from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm at TBE ***Shabbat School every Saturday at 9:30 am***

COME CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH US!

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service Friday evenings at 7:00 pm

Traditional Shabbat Morning Service Saturday mornings at 10:00 am



<u>Click Here</u> to see all of our calendar events

Our Mitzvah Projects

Serving Meals at Our Daily Bread

Feeding The Hungry is a heart warming mitzvah project that temple members and friends participate in. We arrive at 9:30 am on the 4th Thursday of every month to prepare and serve food to those in need. It is a meaningful and



rewarding opportunity to help others that are less fortunate. No rsvp needed, just come to "Our Daily Bread of Bradenton" soup kitchen and help the staff prep and serve meals. We typically serve over 200 meals to men, women and children. Join us!



Collecting Toiletries

"Our Daily Bread" in Bradenton is 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. Please place your donated items under the bulletin board in the lobby.



TBE PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY PROGRAM IS BACK!

It's easy-peasy. All you need to do is make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or peanut butter and fluff sandwiches, wrap them in individually sealed zip lock bags, and bring them to TBE on the 3rd Thursday of every month. You can drop them off at the temple between

1 pm and 4 pm. Ken Handelman will come to TBE to pick them up and deliver them to Our Daily Bread, so they can be handed out at the food pantry on Friday. The smallest things can make a HUGE difference.

Ask the Rabbi

Question:

What is the meaning of having a cup of wine and an empty chair for Elijah at the Passover Seder?

Answer:

A cup of wine and an empty chair is often set at the Passover Seder table for the prophet Elijah. Based on the teachings of Judaism, it is believed that someday, the prophet Elijah will take his seat on that empty chair, drink the wine, and announce the arrival of the Messiah.

"Ask the Rabbi" is a column in the newsletter. If you have a question about Judaism, and think others would also be interested in the answer, click above to email the Rabbi directly.

Ask the Rabbi a Question

Did you know we have a lending library? Check out the book box, located outside of the temple. There are some wonderful books in it! Take one, give one, enjoy!



March Oneg Sponsors

March 1, 2025

The anniversary of the passing of my dear father, Yosef. I miss you! May his memory be blessed. Sponsored by Randy and Hila Files

March 7 - 8, 2025

In honor and memory of our beloved, Ruthann"Ginger" Manas. You will be missed Sponsored by TBE

March 14 -15, 2025

In honor of our beloved husband and father, Arthur Littell's passing 20 years ago. Sponsored by Judie and Howard

March 15, 2025 In Loving Memory of our son Jonah Samuel Weiss. Sponsored by Brian & Ruthie Weiss

> March 21, 2025 Temple Beth El in honor of our wonderful TBE kitchen staff

> > March 28 - 29, 2025

It's been a Wonder-filled 56 years! Sponsored by Carol and Craig Harris Welcome Rabbi Jennifer! Sponsored by Temple Beth El



Our April Simchas

April Birthdays

Lynn Graham
Neil Spirtas
Judie Littell
Roger Danziger
Brigitte Cavanaugh

April 1	Richard Toppel	April 15
April 2	Joel Weiner	April 21
April 10	Mallory Rosenstein	April 24
April 11	Brian Weiss	April 26
April 13	Mitch Mallett	April 29







Sharon and Ray Carlson April 17 Cynthia and Irving Zamikoff April 22

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.

Yahrzeits for April

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.



April 04-April 05	5
Michael Wald	
Beth Cooper	
Karen Knoell	
Judie Littell	

Remembers Remembers Remembers Barnett Wald Joshua Hilbert Roger Knoell Isadore Rabinowitz

April 11- April 12 David Morgen Staci Rosenstein Neil & Sandy Clark Mitch Mallett Joel Auerbach Betty Klein Beverly Safron Neil & Sandy Clark

Remembers Remember Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Moyra Cohen Ellen Minix Goldie Solomon Reuben Oscar Adam Mallett Bernard Auerbach Arnold Klein Anne Hartwich Aaron Milch

April 18-April 19 Joel Auerbach Neil & Sandy Clark Neil Spirtas Judie Littell Lynn Talit Graham Marlena Johnsky

Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Doris Auerbach Helen W. Kleinman Gert Levison Spirtas Fannie Rabinowitz Benjamin Talit Max Johnsky

April 18-April 19 Lois Gerber Alida Gorin Judith Loew Beverly Safron Lois Gerber Richard Toppel

Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Remembers Eli Gerber Ida Finkel Spirn Michael Forman William Safron Rebecca Gerber Beatrice Toppel

Events in March

Musical Extravaganza and Auction

Temple Beth El's March 3rd fundraiser was filled with lots of color and music. Albert and Stacy Rosenstein's son Kevin, entertained with top hits throughout the decades to entertain and put on their dancing shoes. The fabulous auction items, jewelry, books and tchotchkes that were donated by the estate of Ilene Baranowitz made the event a very special night.



















More Musical Extravaganza and Auction Pics

























Purim Celebration

Purim is such a fun holiday, and the Temple members did not disappoint with their creative costumes! Everyone had a great time hearing the Megillah being read by Reb Tuviah and many of the temple members. There was singing , dancing and laughing. Everyone had a wonderful evening!





















More Purím Pícs











Oneg Celebrations and other special moments





Feeding the Hungry at Our Daily Bread

Every month, TBE members help the staff prep and serve meals.



The Jewish Young Adults Meet Up

The Jewish Young Adults Meet Up at 3 Keys Brewing, sponsored by TBE was a huge success. So many new faces. Representative from the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee as well as from the Pittsburgh Pirates and Bradenton Marauders were in attendance. A great time was had by all!





Both Christina and Randy have faithfully completed their Jewish conversion studies and are now ready for their formal conversion!





TBE is celebrating Christina McIntyre and Randy Files

Please join us as the TBE family officially welcomes them into the Jewish faith!

Saturday, April 5th - 6:30pm

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



Tuesday, April 8, 2025 4:00-6:00pm Parrot Patio Bar and Grill 7230 52nd Pl E, Bradenton

Join us for a fun evening of socializing! Cash bar and complimentary light appetizer nosh provided!

Questions? Contact Lauren Cohen at lcohen@jfedsrq.org.



RSVP required

A Joyful, Meaningful, Musical and Engaging **PASSONER Sponsored by: Temple Beth El**

Unique Musical Seder conducted by Rabbi Tuviah Schreiber with the TBE musicians!



SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 5:00 PM Courtyard Marriott-Downtown Bradenton 100 Riverfront Blvd

Members: \$75 * Non-members: \$85 * Kids: \$35



Tickets at bethel-fl.org

<u>RSVP Required CLICK HERE -</u> no later than Apr. 1st! THURSDAY, April 17 3:15pm @ the temple

Sisterhood

Meeting

Open to all TBE Women Just \$36/yr to join sisterhood

> Contact Marla Perlstein for questions 860-989-5569



THE TBE PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY PROGRAM 15 BACK!

Make a difference in someone's life. Once a month, buy a loaf of bread (or two) and make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or peanut butter and fluff sandwiches, wrap in a sealed zip lock and bring to TBE - 3rd Thursday of every month from 1-4 pm

Next date: Thursday, Apr. 17

Contact Ken Handelman for more info 941-840-4132 kmhande63@ymail.com SUPPORTING OUR DAILY BREAD OF BRADENTON

Shabbat Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day

We Will Never Forget

Friday, April 18 - 7:00pm and Saturday April 19 - 10:00am



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

Sunday, April 20th 10am - 2pm



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





JOIN US! 4th THURSDAY of each month

Serving Meals at Our Daily Bread



NEXT DATE: APRIL 24 9:30AM-11:30AM

Our Daily Bread's mission is to 'feed the hungry'...to provide for the nutritional needs of the poor and the needy of our community. It is a soup kitchen for those individuals and families with food insecurity in the Bradenton area.

701 18th Ave W. Bradenton

Questions? Contact Ken Handelman kmhande63@ymail.com

RSVP Required CLICK HERE



FRIDAY, APRIL 25 @ 7:00PM AND SATURDAY, APRIL 26 @ 10:00AM Let's celebrate after each Service!

Kiddush Sponosered by Ryan Hoffman Mazel Tov to Sydney and Alex on the birth of their daughter,

Alice Mae Sabin

TBE thanks you for your donation!

TBE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP



All TBE Members Needed

- * Meet & Greet new members
- * Learn about the future of TBE
- * Vote on by-law changes
- * Say hello to old & new friends

Your Vote Counts!

Sun. Apr. 27th 4 pm at Temple Beth El



- Museums
- Lunches
- Bake Sales
- Parties
- Fundraising
- Outings
- And so much more!



Join the "Women of Beth El"! Open to all temple members for just \$35/yr

> Learn more about the TBE Sisterhood by going to: bethel-fl.org

Men's Club

As a part of the Men's Club, you will:

- Make friends
- Work with a purpose to support temple programs
- Cultivate your spiritual and emotional growth
- Attend fun outings and activities



Join this wonderful group of men at Temple Beth El! Open to all temple members for just \$36/yr

> Learn more about the TBE Men's Club by going to: bethel-fl.org



Every Thursday from 1-3 pm at TBE Men and Women welcome. No RSVP necessary. Contact Robin Block with questions: robinlblock@gmail.com

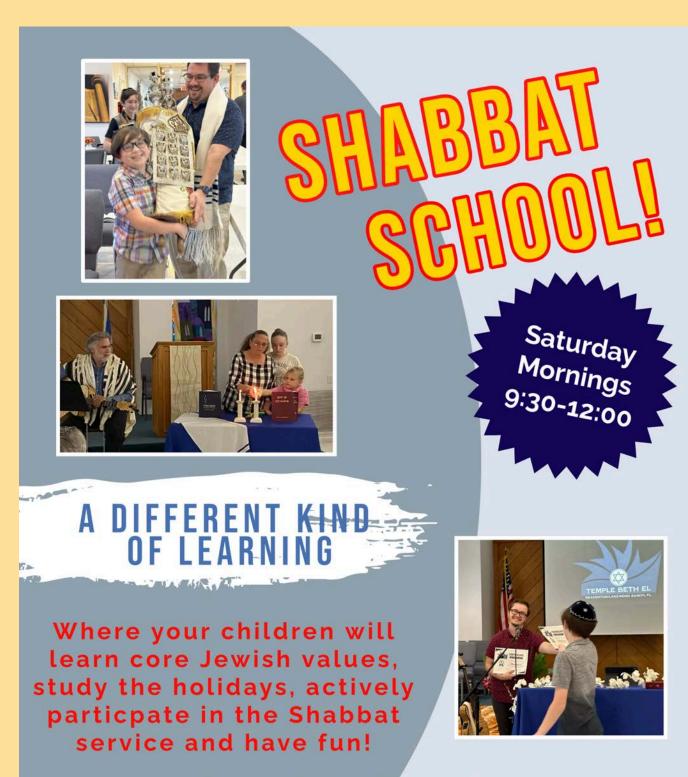
Join the TBE

Chavurah

Games* Social Outings * Dinners * Parties * Events

For more info contact Robin Block RobinLBlock@gmail.com





For more information, contact: REB TUVIAH AT REBTUVIAH@GMAIL.COM

Scholarships available

Religious School - A New Way, An Exciting Way!





Our religious school, called "Shabbat School" happens every Saturday morning beginning at 9:30am. The students are included in the true celebration of Judaism. They become a part of their religion in a meaningful, practicing way, participating alongside their parents and/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 at rebtuviah@gmail.com

<u>Learn More</u>







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

Help us in supporting Israel. <u>DONATE TO ISRAEL HERE</u> Please help support our efforts to provide Israel with funds for much-needed medical supplies and services. Our homeland is under attack, and we must be as helpful as possible.

Special thanks to Robert Toale and Sons for their generous donation to the TBE Color Splash Musical Extravaganza Fundraiser.

Future Expansion Fund Anonymous Donors

Yahrzeit/In Memory Of Roy Manas IMO Ginger Manas Fran and Todd Manas IMO Ginger Manas Judie Littell IMO Arthur Littell Robyn Spirtas IMO George Elkin Beth Cooper IMO Bertram Cooper Robyn and Neil Spirtas IMO Ginger Manas Susie Konicov IMO Lisl Weinberg Phyllis and Bob Hemler IMO Fannie Kreutzer

In Honor Of Karen Knoell IHO her sons Joshua and Joel Thank you for your donation!





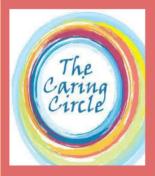
Security Fund A very big thank you to the many people who donated to the security fund this month, your donations are always appreciated!



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 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 call the office 941-755-4900

Click here to make a prayer request

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Skin Cancer Treatment MOHS Surgery Superficial Radiation Skin Disorders: Acne, Rosacea, Psoriasis, Rashes, & Moles

www.mybradentondermatology.com



<u>Learn More</u>

<u>Learn More</u>



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





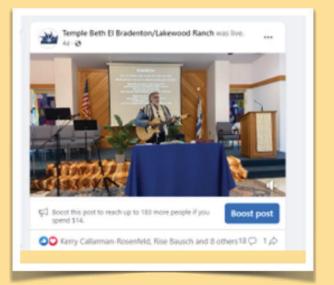
Do you have a facebook page? Have you "liked" TBE's page? Go to our <u>FaceBook page</u> and hit "like". Keep up with everything going on at the Shul. Also, consider joining the "Jewish Community of Manatee" on facebook too. We can comment and support each other there.

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



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