

Temple Beth Sholom Presents

Our Voices – A Monthly Newsletter

August 2021 – Av/Elul 5781 | Issue 18 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

Return and Renewal

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM HIGH HOLY DAYS 5782

Like butterflies emerging from their cocoons—beautiful and ready to take flight—we are out of quarantine, not the same, and yet ready to explore our futures with a new and unique perspective of what is truly important. These High Holy Days, 2021/5782, we have the unique opportunity to reach out to our community, to our congregation, to our friends and relatives and say, “Our doors are open at Temple Beth Sholom! Come and renew, replenish, nourish your hearts, spirits, and souls.”

With this in mind, this year’s High Holy Days theme is “Return and Renewal.” We are thrilled to announce that we will be observing with reflective and inspiring services in our sanctuary, under the spiritual guidance of Rabbi David Lipper and Cantor David Reinwald.

We are excited to have everyone back on our beautiful TBS campus. We have so much to share in the way of enriching programs for all ages. Details are available inside this newsletter and on our website at tbsoc.com/hhd.

Throughout the High Holy Days, we will be practicing all recommended health and safety guidelines at the temple. Masks will be required for all indoor programs and services, regardless of vaccination status. For those who are unable to attend, or not yet ready to join in person, services also will be available through our streaming services. Everyone, both in-person and streaming attendees, will be asked to register with their RSVPs at tbsoc.com/hhd.

This year, tickets will be available to members in good standing and limited tickets will be for sale for in-person services. All are welcome to join us for TBS High Holy Day services and programming, as our guests, on streaming video. The community is welcome, as our guests, to in-person second day, Rosh Hashanah services as well. Participants must register to access services and programming at tbsoc.com/hhd.

Temple Beth Sholom is a welcoming, inclusive Jewish center of life, learning, and connections. All our services are made possible by financial commitments from our congregants and charitable donations from our supporters. Please help assure that we can continue to provide services to all with your support.

Temple Beth Shalom High Holy Days Calendar 2021-5782

Holiday	Date	Service/ Activity	Time
Selichot	8/28	Viewing & Discussion Northern Exposure "Shofar so Good" Apples & Honey Bake-off Service	7:30 pm 9:00 pm
Rosh Hashana			
Erev Rosh Hashanah	9/06	Evening Service	7:00 pm
Rosh Hashanah	9/07	Children's Service (1 to 9 yrs.) Congregational Service	9:00 am 10:30 am
2nd Day Rosh Hashanah	9/08	Community Service	10:30 am
Shabbat Shuvah and Tashlich at the Beach & 9/11 Commemoration			
	9/11	Corona del Mar Beach	10:30 am
Yom Kippur			
Erev Yom Kippur	9/15	Kol Nidre Service	7:00 pm
Yom Kippur	9/16	Children's Service (1 to 9 yrs.) Congregational Service Discussion Groups Afternoon Service Yizkor Service N'ilah Service Havdalah	9:00 am 10:30 am 2:00–3:00 pm 3:30 pm 4:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:00 pm
Sukkot			
Erev Sukkot	9/20	Sukkot Program	6:00 pm
Sukkot Shabbat	9/24	Service with Bring Your Own Dinner	6:00 pm
	9/25	Families With Young Children Sukkot Building Event and Havdalah	3:00 pm
Simchat Torah	9/26	Service & Celebration with Consecration	9:30 am

Rosh Hashanah 2021 begins the evening of Monday, September 6 and ends the evening of Wednesday, September 8. **Yom Kippur 2021** begins the evening of Wednesday, September 15 and ends the evening of Thursday, September 16. **Sukkot 2021** begins the evening of Monday, September 20 and ends the evening of Monday, September 27. **Simchat Torah 2021** begins the evening of Monday, September 27 and ends the evening of Tuesday September 28.

Looking Ahead Together

By Rabbi David A. Lipper

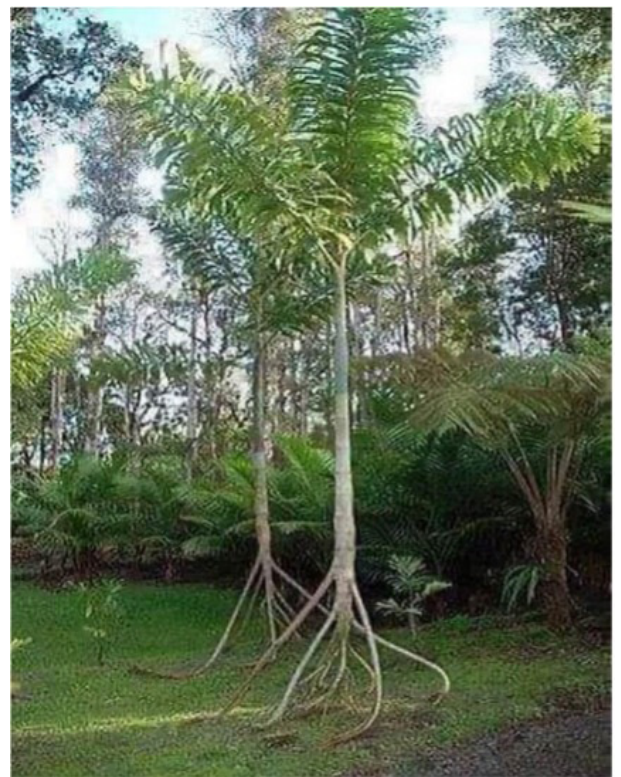


It is humbling to pen a High Holy Day message to a congregation that I have yet to meet. Creating spiritual movement for a community is a daunting task. I look forward to the opportunities that this year of “Return and Renewal” affords us. Dora and I are excited to be here at this moment and we are grateful for the welcome we have already received.

As we were driving across the country to join this amazing congregation, I read about this plant. Fate must have been smiling on me. The “*Socratia Exorrhiza*” palm is found in Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. This interesting palm has the common name, “Walking Palm.” It grows naturally, where light is at a premium. If a space in the canopy opens up on one side of the tree, it puts out extra stilt roots on that side, and when they are established, it lets those on the other side die off, thus physically moving the tree a small distance towards the extra light. It is unique because it moves from one place to another, until it reaches more sunny places. While we imagine a tree growing in place, this palm can move a distance of 60 feet a year. Isn’t that amazing?

I love this story. While we moved more than 60 feet (North Carolina to California), our search for the sun brought us together. But more importantly, this tree shows us all that movement is possible. We can take the necessary steps forward to make our TBS community reflect our values, hopes and dreams for our Jewish future. I have been repeatedly impressed by the care and concern that is felt toward TBS. The history of membership and the continuity of leadership, coupled with new engaged leadership, show the magic of TBS. Maybe that is the “secret sauce” of our community. As 5782 unfolds in a few weeks, I hope that we will continue to share, grow, and innovate in ways that will make this year exciting and energizing. Please join me for one of the many opportunities for group engagement or just reach out and meet me for coffee. Like the walking palm above, we have to help each other to lean toward the light.

Dora and I are overjoyed to be here and to be a part of Temple Beth Sholom. Working with this amazing staff team is a real *mechayah*. Its wonderful history, its continuity of leadership, its beautiful sanctuary and grounds all add up, for us, as the right place to be. We are hopeful for the future and committed to help make this congregation a bright light amongst the stars.



We wish you a healthy and sweet New Year.
L'Shanah Tovah Ticateivu,
Rabbi David A. Lipper

Look to the Rainbow

By Cantor David Reinwald



What is it about a rainbow that immediately excites us and draws our attention? This just happened to me. I was driving and looking at the sky. It was totally grey and cloudy, a state of the weather that can bring us down here in perpetually “sunny Southern California.” And then on the horizon, there was a break of totally clear sky and I said to myself, “Gosh, that is weird.” And then there it was -- a rainbow.

Jewish tradition has a blessing for seeing a rainbow. It is:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, zocher ha'brit v'ne'eman bivrito, v'kayam ba'ma'amaro.

Blessed are you, Adonai, our God, ruler of the universe, who remembers the covenant, and is faithful to the covenant, and who keeps the promise.

This blessing is drawn from the story of Noah and the flood. At the very end of that classic tale, a dove is sent out to scout dry land and a rainbow shines overhead. The flood has ended and now peace can reign. The rainbow represents the covenant between God and the people, an unbreakable bond. It is the sign of a new era, and in its spectrum of colors, it represents the diversity of hope and possibility heading into the future.

This past year, we have survived so many floods and so many unexpected moments. I am looking forward to what the new year holds in store for us, and I am feeling more confident that the promises we make can and will be kept.

When we return the Torah to the ark, we conclude with the words:
Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha v'nashuvah, chadesh yameinu k'kedem.

Cause us to return, Adonai, and we shall return. Renew our days as of old.

The very act of reading Torah is one that is supposed to be enlightening and even transformational, each and every time. When we place the Torah back into the ark, we are acknowledging the powerful moment that has passed and how we can carry that forward with us, until we return to reading the Torah again.

I hope that this period of renewal and transformation will be exciting and satisfying for all here at Temple Beth Sholom. May it be like that moment of spotting a rainbow on the horizon or looking into the open ark and feeling the radiant energy of all of the joy, knowledge, and hope that is possible.

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu.

A Reflection on Positive Change

By Mike Winston, President



As the High Holy Days approach each year, my wife Mimi and I like to reflect on the previous year. We remember the good things, but also think about the challenges that come with raising two young kids. We share our high and low moments, what made those moments meaningful, and what problems we encountered. We have found that without an open discussion and a deliberate plan each year, nothing really changes. Without actively altering the trajectory of our actions, we continue to act and proceed in the same way we did last year. In our last newsletter, I outlined three areas that I would like to see TBS focus on this year: our membership base, our financial stability, and our future leaders. These are areas where the board and staff will research, plan, and develop constructive steps for positive change.

I had the opportunity to meet with Rabbi Lipper shortly after he arrived in Orange County. During a conversation about rebuilding and coming back from COVID restrictions, Rabbi Lipper said something that was very inspiring to me. He said, “If we ever wanted to try something different, this is the time.” This is so very pertinent to what we are trying to do. What was done at TBS in years past may not necessarily be what is best for TBS moving forward. We know that change is not always easy, but it is often necessary. Now is the time to renew and rebuild with creativity, while we recognize and respect the foundation and traditions that have made TBS an exceptional congregation.

With this year’s High Holy Day theme “Return and Renewal” in mind, I ask you to think about the following: as you return to our beautiful facility, how are you able to help and to shape our renewal? What conscious change(s) are you willing to take on? Is it coming to Shabbat services once a month, is it attending our popular Torah Study, or is it coming to an adult learning session? Are you able to bring someone new to TBS and introduce them to our community, or are you willing to introduce yourself to someone you don’t know and get to know them? Are you willing to stretch your financial contribution or donate your time to Mitzvah Meals or to a TBS committee? What active role are you willing to take for the renewal of TBS? However you choose to help, your efforts will be greatly appreciated by our congregational family. Thank you in advance for being an integral part of our future success!

L'Shanah Tovah, A Sweet New Year.

One Community

By Ruth Irving, Executive Director



Growing up I always knew it was the High Holy Days because it was at the same time as the LA County Fair. The fair managers obviously agreed that this time of year was special! High Holy Days, for me, meant a time together with family that was comforting and familiar. My parents and my sister and I would dress up and head to the synagogue. As I entered the doors, I knew the greeters, the layout of the seats, shared smiles with friends and members who I recognized...it was my home. The service was a replica each year, with slight variations on song choices and sermons. I knew what to expect and how the days would progress.

As an adult, hearing the familiar prayers and songs, I am transported back in time. However, now I am the one greeting members as they walk in. I’m witnessing as memories are being made. There is an energy in the building that is felt with the buzz of people. This year, we look forward to welcoming you back in person for our High Holy Day services. To feel the sense of coming together-in one space-ringing in the new year as a community. For those who choose to join in spirit, we will also stream our services. However you choose to participate, may this year be a year filled with family and friends, health, and happiness. To making new memories!

L'Shanah Tovah

To Once Again Hear the Songs and Laughter of Our Children

By Johannah Sohn, Ed.D., Director of Youth Education



One of the most beautiful things about Judaism is the predictability of the calendar. Throughout the pandemic, my children stayed anchored to Jewish time as we celebrated Passover, Channukah, Yom Haatzmaut, and more. We held on to our family traditions throughout the craziness of the time. Secular time may have been morphed into “COVIDtime,” but we knew it was spring as we crunched our matzvah and sang the four questions.

The High Holy Days this year feel like such an incredible opportunity to return, to come back to our community and post-COVID “new normal” lives. Perhaps this is the year to add to or create family traditions that you and your loved ones can hold for years to come?

The word *machzor*, in Hebrew, means “cycle” from the root of the same word meaning “to return.” It feels especially fitting this year that we dust off our *machzorim*, High Holy Day prayerbooks, and return to our lives, our communities, and our connection to Judaism.

Religious school programming is back in the building! This year we have so many exciting additions to the program, including electives like dancing, arts and crafts, cooking, and model building, to name a few. We have a wonderful program for our teens focused on Jewish values and how they apply to their everyday lives. Our teachers are well prepared and excited to greet our students in-person, as we come together for meaningful Jewish learning opportunities.

As we find our way back to the Temple Beth Sholom building, the walls will once again hear the songs and laughter of our children, the prayers of our community, and the joy of celebration. The predictability of the cyclical Jewish calendar brought us comfort during a chaotic time and now, as we come together to celebrate the High Holy Days, our community brings us solace as we return to the world outside.



Wings of Color

By Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education



The excitement built steadily, as we began to realize that the preschool might, in fact, have an in-person graduation ceremony and end-of-year barbeque. Could this be true? We had spent the past year isolated in our pods. The teachers, their faces obscured, scurried into their classrooms, only to emerge fleetingly for a lonely lunch. As the year progressed I listened, at a careful distance, to parents hungry for contact, who shared pieces of their lives. New families joined our community and spoke of loneliness. Within all dark moments, there is potential for light. We just need to find it.

The graduation ceremony took place and it was beautiful. Parents cheered and cried, while their children, awed by the crowd, sang their goodbyes and welcomed the future. On the morning of the barbeque, the TBS Sisterhood descended in a blaze of purple shirts. They spread across the Temple kitchen expertly preparing for our celebration. They worked together, laughing and chatting. It was spectacular. My assistant, who has been part of this community for the past 17 years, turned to me in joy and said, "This is what it is about. This is who we are."

We are a community. Our shared experiences bring meaning to our lives. By entering our preschool, you become part of a larger family. This is where we make lifelong connections and build memories. This is where we formulate the beginning of our Jewish identity. Our children may not remember the details of their experience, but they will remember how they felt, and so will you.

When I look ahead to visualize the future; I want to remember this historical experience and the lessons we learned. To know that out of darkness comes light unfurling purple wings. We are not designed for isolation and we do not need to walk alone.



Support the High Holy Days Food Drive

The annual High Holy Days Food Drive is a significant tradition at TBS. It is likely that at no time in recent years, have we so visibly seen hunger and food insecurity in Orange County. Below is a shopping list that can get you started on supporting families and individuals in Orange County who are in need. We ask all of you to pick up a bag at the grocery store or in the TBS office and begin filling it with items listed below. Better yet, purchase a reusable bag for recipients to use and re-use. Then, be sure to bring your donations to services or the temple office.

Suggested items:

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta/spaghetti, packaged macaroni and cheese, marinara sauce (canned), canned soup, ramen noodles, cereal (family sized and individual), canned fruits and vegetables, family-size and individual: crackers, granola and breakfast bars, juice boxes; also milk and water boxes with attached straws; also small snack-sized items including cheese and crackers, small packages of hand wipes and sanitizer, small packs of tissues (ie Kleenex).

Thanks for your generosity and support.

High Holy Day Sermons for 5782

To shine, reflect, lift up and move us forward with the magic paint

Erev Rosh HaShanah: Shining your light

"What is the ultimate goal of Jewish life?" The answer; "Judaism does not suggest that the highest goal is to withdraw from life and to live a life of contemplation and solitude. Rather, it challenges us to live with all the frustration and temptations of life in the world, and to find a way to elevate every moment, to seek the holiness in our smallest gestures and behaviors." (Rabbi Bonnie Koppell). Whether it is offering a stranger a cupcake and some root beer, opening the door for someone, sharing our toys, or lending a hand to another, remembering that each of us is made in God's image and treating others as such is one of the highest commandments we can observe. To rise up, we need to be present and we need to care.

Rosh Hashanah Day: Answering the call

The Holy days come each year like an incandescent lamp illuminating a path through our own darkness. The Days of Awe and these awesome moments of personal prayer are like a life preserver to which we cling as we rock and roll on the waves of our own lives. And in the midst of it all, we hear a call. It is a cry from the depths of our soul. God calls to each and every one of us for awareness ... for an answer ... and as we have learned, Abraham answers ... *Hineini* ... Here I am.

Erev Yom Kippur: The long march forward

Thirty four years of life as a rabbi have taught me that there is no shortage of adversity in life. Whether it's a minor setback or a major trauma, we all endure hardships across our lives. The differences among us lie, not only in the shape hardship takes for us, but in how we respond, when it knocks at our door. Do you find yourself weighed down by the challenges life throws at you? Or do you courageously embrace the struggle?

Yom Kippur Day: Lifting each other up!

What does it take for us to quiet ourselves long enough to breathe deeply and listen? How do we lower the volume on our frenetic lives so that we can hear the whispers of enlightenment that come with sacred living? And then, when we hear the voice, the call, the direction, what do we do next? Are we the man clinging to the branch on the edge of an abyss shouting "Is there anyone else there?" I began these Holy Days with a premise: We all matter to each other. We have talked about each other, about seeing the person who sits next to us, about reaching out to the stranger in this room, about filling our lives with meaning.

Yom Kippur Yizkor: The Magic Paint

Signor Amato di Prima was the agent of an Italian paint company. He had come across a sample of a paint that, according to its developer, protected one from misfortune and would quickly replace amulets, four-leaf clovers and charms in general. What would you do if you could find the magic paint?

Selichot Brings us Northern Exposure, Bake-offs and Awe-Inspiring Services

This year TBS will usher in the awe-inspiring celebration of Selichot with the viewing of a Northern Exposure episode. (Remember that old television series that took place in Alaska?) The episode is called, "Shofar So Good" and it's bound to lead to some interesting discussion after its showing.



There will be plenty of time for visiting with friends as well as noshing on delicious desserts, all in the comfort of our beautiful, air conditioned social hall.

We challenge all attendees to an "Apples and Honey Bake Off." Let's sample those family-favorite recipes. Does your mother's honey cake surpass any other you've ever had? Do you have a favorite apple pie, apple cakeapple brown betty recipe?

Please bake something special and bring it to share. We will have fun sampling and awarding prizes to the crowd favorites.

This will be followed by the Selichot Service, where Cantor Reinwald will lead us through a beautiful melodic service, as we change the Torah mantels and prepare our hearts and minds for the Holy Days ahead.

Selichot August 28, 2021

7:30 pm: Film, Discussion, Bake Off - Social Hall

9:00 pm: Selichot Service - Sanctuary

Yom Kippur Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Renewed Life vs. Returning to Life

When the world began opening up again in the spring and summer, we were faced with “returning to normal life.”

But, what if we don’t want to return to what “normal life” was in the past? Combining this dilemma with the self-reflection and quest for change that Yom Kippur brings, this session will explore:

- What positive takeaways did you glean from the pandemic and how can you incorporate these into your “new normal?”
- How did you change, as a person, during the pandemic? What do you want more or less of in your life?
- What does renewal mean to you?
- How do we keep the changes we want to make at Yom Kippur throughout the year?

Facilitator – Rachel Benson

Licensed Clinical Social Worker in California and mental health therapist

The Rise of Anti-Semitism Across The Political Spectrum

Anti-Semitism in the United States is increasing in incidents and intensity. From attacks on synagogues to unprovoked assaults on individuals, from vicious postings on social media sites to ever-increasing hostilities on college and university campuses, the specter continues to grow. A startling number of Jews report personal experiences with anti-Semitism, in both subtle and overt occurrences. “History’s oldest hatred” is holding sway across our political spectrum and inserting itself in our political divide.

How can we understand this alarming trend? Are there historical and social precedents that can provide context? And what can we, as individuals, congregants, and a community, do to understand and stem this disturbing tide? Join the discussion as we try to shed light on this hotly debated issue.

Facilitator – Joel Kotkin

Presidential Fellow in Urban Futures at Chapman University Executive Director of the Urban Reform Institute; Latest book is “The Coming of Neo-Feudalism”

Flexible Bodies, Inside and Out

Come join our Feldenkrais movement class and learn how to use slow, mindful movement to give you more flexibility in your body and more harmony between body, mind, and spirit. Moshe Feldenkrais believed that, “We move according to our perceived self-image.” This is the time to improve our self-image as we move with ease and feel good doing it.

Let’s follow the Feldenkrais motto and, “make the impossible into the possible, the difficult into the easy, and the easy into the pleasant.” Who is ready to move better? Come with a towel or mat, comfortable clothes, and an open mind to feeling better and better every day. Don’t we all deserve that right now?

Facilitator – Elinor Silverstein

Feldenkrais Teacher, Practitioner, TTouch Practitioner, Movement Solutions Teacher

Please Consider Volunteering at Services

High Holy Day Services are made possible because of our many TBS volunteers. Thank you for helping make services so special! If you would like to volunteer during the holidays, please contact Ruth Irving, in the TBS office (714) 628-4600.

Register for Services

Participants must register to access services at tbsoc.com/hhd



Adult Education: Deepening Our Understanding of Our Relationship with Judaism

As we emerge from challenging events that have tested our vision for the future of Temple Beth Shalom, Adult Education is determined to commit their support to the congregation through thoughtful and engaging literary and cultural activities. These activities will be focused on deepening our understanding of our relationship with Judaism. We are committed to supporting all the auxiliary groups at our Temple by offering additional programming that responds to the goal of strengthening connections to our faith and relationships that strengthen our community throughout the year.

The Adult Education committee is composed of representatives from all TBS groups, as well as at-large members. Each representative provides input from their association and participate, as volunteers, in additional program planning. We will continue our partnerships with the Community Scholar Program, Hebrew Union College and the Orange County Jewish Film Festival. Community input is welcomed. Please contact us with ideas, requests and insights and keep in contact with all the media communication sources that advertise program activities. Let us reflect on the Book of Dvarim and the thoughts of Rabbi Sachs:

“Spiritual and intellectual pursuits are one of the greatest contributions of Judaism, the pursuit of which touch the moral horizons of human kind. Lessons of laws and lessons that survive time inspire for as long as there are human beings on earth.”

Echoes of Elul: Sharing Your Reflections of “Return and Renewal”

Shalom! The month of Elul begins on August 9th this year. TBS is pleased to announce the return of our popular program called, “Echoes of Elul.” The Echoes are a compilation of personal reflections, insights, and memories. The format includes short essays, poetry, art, photography, audio stories, and music. Introspection helps guide us as we reflect on the past year and move forward with faith, forgiveness, and renewal. Contributions are shared online with the congregation during Elul.

Please limit written text to 250-300 words. The Microsoft Word program works best. Each piece should have a title. Include contact information and email to: risekirbo@yahoo.com

Possible writing prompts include, but are not limited to:

- In what ways do you “recharge” yourself?
- How do you view “returning” as more freedoms become available?
- A favorite book passage, a quote, or song lyrics that have meaning and why?
- A look in the rearview mirror – Lessons from the last year and a half. What will you return to? What will you leave behind?

Looking forward to hearing from you!
Risè Kirbo



Shabbat Shuvah and Tashlich at the Beach

Saturday, Sept. 11 at 10:30 am, Corona del Mar Beach

Join us for a casual Shabbat morning at the beach when we celebrate Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat of Return, and notably the first Shabbat of the year! We will include the Tashlich ceremony in the service, which prepares us for Yom Kippur, as we symbolically cast away our sins with bread crumbs tossed into the water. We will also give honor to the 20th anniversary of 9/11/2001, on this day, which carries many powerful memories and deep meaning for us all.

A Reunion Like No Other

By Melanie Pollak
Board of Directors, Fundraising

We joined arms swaying side-to-side, concluding services on Friday evening, while singing “Oseh Shalom,” as pleasant breezes flowed through the outdoor setting, in front of the great glass doors of the living room. It was the most natural thing; a Jewish community praying together, as Jews have done for centuries. But this June service was special because it was the first in-person service post-pandemic.

Among the many lessons our country and communities were forced to learn during the COVID-19 pandemic, one has been the value and necessity of community. While praise of the “rugged individual” has always been a cornerstone of legend, when put to the test in 2020, many of us discovered that we weren’t as autonomous as we always wanted to believe. The aggravating scrambles to wake up early enough to feed the kids, get them ready, get ourselves ready, make the drive, find a parking spot, and get to shul on time for High Holy Day services gave way to casual pajama viewing from our living rooms. And while convenient, this experience left us with a longing for the fulfilling connection that a sanctuary full of community brings.

For thousands of years, we have gathered. Gathering is so fundamental that we are not able to fulfill the most basic mitzvot of worship without a minimum number, because we are not considered a “community.” Rabbi Jonathan Sacks said, “Community is a society with a human face – the place where we know we’re not alone.” As we reunite our Temple Beth Sholom community during these upcoming High Holy Days, we are reminded of the vital role that each of us plays in our TBS community, and that continuing to build and

Temple Beth Sholom Clergy & Staff

Rabbi David A. Lipper
Cantor David Reinwald
Ruth Irving, Executive Director
Johannah Sohn, Director of Youth Education
Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education
Rabbi Emeritus Shelton J. Donnell
Cantorial Soloist Emeritus Mark Thompson

Temple Beth Sholom Board of Directors

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Co-Executive VP: Rachel Benson & Jeff Merkow
VP of Membership: Mary Gonzalez
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VP of Education: Steffanie Belasco
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Director for Fundraising: Melanie Pollak
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Director for Financial Development: John Bornstein
Brotherhood President: Arnold Shugarman
Sisterhood Representative: Nancy Silverman



strengthen this community is the greatest gift we can give to ourselves, our children, and to future generations.

To ensure that the TBS community continues to thrive, it is important for each of us to participate in creating a commitment to TBS’s future by donating to the High Holy Day Appeal, to the greatest extent that we are able. Through our past collective efforts, we have made this appeal a success and raised funds for the programs and services we all value. We hope to do the same this year. During each service, High Holy Day Appeal envelopes will be available at the registration/greeting area, and there will be a link to donate on the TBSOC home page. We ask you to stand together with us, arm-in-arm, as a community, during this most glorious of High Holy Day reunions and continue our commitment to our beloved community and its future.

TBS Brotherhood Sweet New Year Wishes

By Arnold Shugarman
TBS Brotherhood President

Greetings from your TBS Brotherhood. We are so excited to see Temple Beth Sholom begin to open up and can't wait to renew our traditional activities in person as well as begin some new activities to bring men and their families together.

We look forward to the annual Pancake Breakfast on December 25th, Monday/Thursday Night Football at Benjies, Monthly Poker Night, in-person Brotherhood Speakers' Series events, and reading to the younger students on Sunday during Religious School. Look for announcements about Sunday Morning Breakfast and Football at TBS and Men's Night Out events. Please stay tuned. We can't wait to get started.

Shanah tovah um'tukah. May you have a good and sweet new year.

Sisterhood is Calling You

Now is an exciting time to join Temple Beth Sholom Sisterhood. As we return to something closer to normal life, the Sisterhood of TBS is looking for women who want to join us in our support of the temple, youth programming, cultural programming and a variety of activities to lift us up spiritually, while we create wonderful lasting friendships.

Sisterhood has something for every woman. Come talk to us about what you're looking for. Share your passions and ideas and let's see if we can do great Jewish things together. For more information, please contact Brenda Beck at 714-403-3237.

As we look forward to the coming year of joy and happiness with our Temple Sisters, Sisterhood is pleased to provide our traditional foods after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Services. Our Sisterhood Committee sends their best wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year. *L'Shanah Tovah*



Your Thoughts and Ideas Count – Join a TBS Focus Group Discussion

Have you ever met a Jew that didn't have an opinion about something? What do you think about TBS? Are we headed in the right direction? What's important to you about Jewish life? What kind of a spiritual leader do we need to best express our Jewish, congregational values, in the future?

We'd like to hear from you when we hold these congregation-wide focus groups. Your thoughts and ideas count! The focus groups will be designed to gather information for our strategic planning process and for our settled rabbi search. This is an exciting opportunity to connect with all of our congregants and gather information to help us decide how we can best meet their needs and prepare for the future.

Focus groups will be held in the beginning of October. To make sure that we are as thorough and representative as possible, we will reach out to every congregant to ask them to participate in these discussions. We will have sign-up tables at all High Holy Day events, and we will make phone calls to ask you to participate if you haven't already signed up. We really hope that you will sign up, or that you say "yes," when you answer the phone. This is a great opportunity for you to have a voice in the Return and Renewal of TBS life, and to help us plan for the future.