

Temple Beth Sholom Presents:

# Our Voices - A Monthly Newsletter

July 2021 – Tammuz/Av 5781 | Issue 17 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

## Assistance and Events

### General Assistance



Mike Winston, President – [winston.mike@gmail.com](mailto:winston.mike@gmail.com)

Rabbi David Lipper – [rabbilipper@tbsoc.com](mailto:rabbilipper@tbsoc.com)

Cantor David Reinwald – [dreinwald@tbsoc.com](mailto:dreinwald@tbsoc.com)

Ruth Irving, Executive Director – [rirving@tbsoc.com](mailto:rirving@tbsoc.com)

**Services** | Shabbat Evening Services will be streamed and offered outdoors at TBS at 6:00 p.m. throughout the summer

**Torah Study** | Virtually held each Saturday. See <https://tbsoc.com/> for Zoom Link

7/9 | 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat Parade sponsored by Lew Siegler in memory of Karen and Craig Siegler

7/9 | 5:00 p.m. – Bring the kiddos or stay after ECC pickups and join Cantor Reinwald for our monthly Tot Shabbat!

7/9 | 6:00 p.m. – Please join us for Rabbi Lipper's first service as our new Interim Rabbi

## Worship at TBS

### From the Rabbi's Study

*Rabbi David Lipper*

When the Baal Shem Tov saw misfortune threatening the Jews, it was his custom to go into a certain part of the forest to meditate. There he would light a fire, say a special prayer, and the miracle would be accomplished, and the misfortune averted. Later, when his disciple, the Maggid of Mezritch, had occasion to intercede with heaven for the same reason, he would go to the same place in the forest and say "Master of the Universe, listen! I do not know how to light the fire, but I still can say the prayer" and again, the miracle would be accomplished. Still later, Rabbi Moishe Leib of Sasov, in order to save his people once more, would go into the forest and say, "I do not know how to light the fire, I do not know the prayer, but I know the place, and this must be sufficient." It was sufficient and the miracle was accomplished. Then it fell to Rabbi Israel of Rhizin to overcome misfortune. Sitting in his armchair, his head in his hands, he spoke to God. "I am unable to light the fire and I do not know the prayer, and I cannot even find the place in the forest. All I can do is tell the story, and this must be sufficient.

And it was sufficient.

Stories are sacred. Stories are healing. Our stories tell us who we are, and that, of course, is the deepest healing of all. We are a people of stories. We have always used stories to pass on the wisdom of our tradition. We are Jews because we accept the story of the Jewish people as our own story, at least in part; for some of us an especially important part; for others, just some incidental scenery in the background of a story centered elsewhere. (cont. on page 2)

But if it were not part of our story at all, we would not be here. We would not be here if there was not something missing in the story of our lives, which being Jewish filled in, even if only in a small way.

In telling stories we are telling each other the human story. Stories that touch us in the place of common humanness awaken us and weave us together as a family once again. What is your story? What brought you to Temple Beth Sholom? What are your hopes and dreams for your family and how does Temple fit into that story?

Our faith teaches “listen.” Shema. Listen to stories. For spirituality itself is conveyed by stories, which use words in ways that go beyond words to speak the language of the heart.

Rabbi Arthur Green writes:

*The light within us needs to be rekindled, needs to have its glow restored. This usually comes about when we see a glimpse of that same light shining in another. There are moments when we catch the glow in the most ordinary of people, usually in moments of giving, sharing, or somehow showing a generosity of spirit that opens their light to our view. The light we see in that moment is that of YHWH the one beyond all form -- the being beyond names -- the unspeakable word beyond and within all words -- the eternal source of inner light.*

So many of us have stories we have of loves and losses and hurts that need healing. So many of us have yet to tell our stories. Sometimes the words fail us, and the emotions overcome us. Nevertheless, the healing that comes with being together is important. We may never be able to remember the words, but we can embrace one another as we gather for our stories. Through our retelling of our own stories, we will hopefully lead others on a path towards wholeness and peace. This will be a year of telling our stories and listening to others. Here is one to get us started:

*Once upon a time ... and there was wholeness and peace.*

I look forward to hearing from each one of you. Remember, I love stories. See you soon. Shalom.

## Welcome, Rabbi Lipper

*Ruth Irving, Executive Director*

Thank you, Rabbi Lipper, for that wonderful message! TBS is pleased to welcome Rabbi Lipper and his wife, Dora. We invite you to join us for a special Welcome Shabbat to meet them! Rabbi Lipper and Cantor Reinwald will lead services on **Friday, July 9th at 6:00pm**. After services, we will enjoy a special oneg. Please RSVP at <https://tbsoc.com/> so that we can prepare the individually wrapped oneg (attendance is not capped). Rabbi Lipper will be available to meet individually starting July 6th. If you wish to schedule a meeting, please contact the TBS office.

# President's Message

## An Introduction and Focus

*Mike Winston, TBS President*



Shalom. I'm Mike Winston, the new Temple Beth Sholom President. It is with great pride and honor that I introduce myself this way, as TBS has been my home for 40 years. I have celebrated my preschool graduation, kindergarten graduation, Bar Mitzvah, Confirmation, and marriage to my amazing wife, Mimi, at TBS. Now my kids are preschool graduates and beginning their B'nai Mitzvah learning.

Though this past year has been challenging for TBS, I feel we have turned a corner. We have returned to celebrating Shabbat in person as a community, and we are welcoming our new Rabbi. Although celebrating each week at home with my family was wonderful, having the ability to pray and sing together as community reminds me that we are part of something more. I use the word community with intention, rather than talking about our facility. While our facility is necessary and gorgeous, it is our community and its warmth that is precious to me.

As I look to the future of TBS, I see growth. Through my tenure, I plan to focus on three specific areas of development: growing our membership base, securing our financial stability, and fostering our future leaders. I am grateful for an amazing set of board members who are ready to hit the ground running. The board and I will be meeting for a weekend at the end of this month to look at these areas of development and how we can strategize for the coming years. My initial talks with Rabbi Lipper left no doubt that he is going to be an integral part of starting this strategy. His goal will be to help us continue to heal and really understand and decide, as a community, what we want our next steps to be.

I look forward to more in-person opportunities at TBS to introduce myself and say hello. Please always feel free to let me know what is on your mind.

## Brotherhood | Community – Fellowship – Action – Service

*Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership*

Brotherhood has made a \$2,000 donation to the preschool to buy much needed new furniture. The preschool is growing by leaps and bounds and we want to be part of that.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> we had the largest Zoom program we have put on yet. Together with the Jewish Federation of Orange County and the Holocaust Studies Department of Chapman University we featured Amy Spitalnik of Integrity First for America (IFA) speaking on White Supremacy 2021, Putting Violent Extremists on Trial. Nick Gerda of Voice of OC was the moderator, and we featured a video of our State Senator David Min. TBS President Mike Winston welcomed everyone and introduced the program. People from all over Orange County joined us including one Nazi leader who is being sued who sent an email complaining about unfair treatment. Wait until the trial, he hasn't seen anything yet. The video is on the IFA.org website and linked on our temple website at <https://tbsoc.com/>.

We have extended our deadline for the 4 x \$500 scholarships to **any graduating high school seniors** in our Temple. Please contact Arnold Shugarman at [ashugarman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ashugarman@sbcglobal.net).

Lots of exciting things going on at TBS and at the Brotherhood. I am inviting all men of TBS to join the Brotherhood and make a difference in the Jewish Community and for our TBS youth programs. Contact me at [sylvan@swartzcre.com](mailto:sylvan@swartzcre.com) for more information. No experience necessary and not much money either.

## Sisterhood



Plans are underway for the Sisterhood Year 2021-2022, and we are currently in our Membership Drive. We are looking forward to offering even more to those who seek friendship, socialization, and ways to enrich your spiritual journey (while having fun too!). We are a diverse, dynamic group of women from all walks of life – in all stages of life who come together through TBS Sisterhood. When you join our Sisterhood, you will make friends and have fun while making a difference in our temple community. (cont. on page 4)

Whether you are renewing your membership, or joining Sisterhood for the first time, we hope you will be part of our upcoming year, and all the great events and activities we have planned. If you have not received your membership application, or if you have any questions regarding Sisterhood membership, please contact Elizabeth Cohen, VP Membership at [ejcwiz1@gmail.com](mailto:ejcwiz1@gmail.com) or (714) 904-3585.

## Shaloms and Shout-Outs

If you would like to send a “Shalom and Shout Out” in this section, please contact Ruth Aptaker ([ruth.aptaker@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.aptaker@gmail.com)) or the TBS office. Please send submission by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be feature in the following month’s newsletter.



Wishing **Phyllis Robby** the happiest of birthday’s! We love you very much and can’t wait to celebrate. Love, Arielle, Sean, Myles, and Harrison

Wishing **Robbie Aptaker** a happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday! “Tink You” for always making us smile. Love, Mom, Dad, Miles, and Chase.



## Our Youth

### Early Childhood Center

*Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education*

At Camp Sholom Katan, an extension of the Temple Beth Sholom Early Childhood Center and a prelude to Camp Sholom, your preschooler will enjoy an on-site summer camp experience in our beautiful and enriched early childhood setting. Our professional preschool staff put on their counselor hats to welcome your child to the fun filled days of summer. Contact the preschool office or Tamara Levin [tlevin@tbsoc.com](mailto:tlevin@tbsoc.com) for registration or more information.

### Camp Sholom

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

Camp Sholom will be offered from July 6th-August 6th, 9am-4pm with extended care options available. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required at the time you sign-up. Campers will be able to sign up for a week at a time, or for the entire summer. Additional health measures will be in place during camp, including increased cleaning, temperature checks, etc. Information regarding the new policies will be shared prior to camp. Email Johannah Sohn, [jsohn@tbsoc.com](mailto:jsohn@tbsoc.com) for more information.

### Something to Kvell About – Recognizing our Teens and Young Adults

*Monica Engel, Social Action Member*

When Alex Rothman was 8 years old, she coveted her sister’s fashion sketchbook and considered fashion design as a career. However, after drawing bodies and then dressing them, she decided to concentrate on the variety of beautiful and unique female bodies. (cont. on page 5)



Alex, now 18, has a following of 116,000 fans across her social media platform who regularly purchase her artwork. She is known as “Faerebabie” and paints her unique style on canvas, posters, T shirts and tote bags which are sold online. Alex has strong thoughts on what she calls “funky feminism”. She believes the female body is beautiful and shouldn’t be censored. She doesn’t consider her art from a sexual standpoint but an “in your face” protest against censorship. Prior to moving from Kentucky to California, Alex and her family spent summers at the home of Grandma Ingrid Rothman. She continued her Hebrew study and achieved her Bat Mitzvah at TBS. She attended summer camp and was a Madrichim member for Sunday School. Alex currently attends the University of California Irvine.

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

This newsletter is made possible entirely from donations and sponsorships. If you would like to contribute toward its continued development and distribution, please contact Ruth Aptaker ([ruth.aptaker@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.aptaker@gmail.com)) or the TBS office.

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We are also grateful for the generous donations of Patti Widdicombe, the Weissberg Family, the Cohen Family, the Engel Family, Sandy Fainbarg, and our TBS Brotherhood.

## Committee Updates

### Membership Committee

*Mary Gonzalez, Membership Committee Chair*

We hope you will swing by TBS to join us for a friendly wave, a free challah, and some lively Shabbat music. Parades are held from 4:00-5:30 p.m. and thanks to falling case counts and vaccine availability, we are now able to gather inside the gates! A registration link for challot will be emailed the week before. “Beep, Honk, Wave!” and mark your calendars for **July 9<sup>th</sup>** as we celebrate Shabbat. This month’s parade is sponsored by Lew Siegler in memory of his wife, Karen, and his son, Craig.



### Echoes of Elul

*Risë Kirbo, Echoes Chair*

Shalom and welcome to the upcoming month of Elul, beginning August 9, 2021. Prior to the High Holy days, Elul gives us the opportunity to review our lives and move forward with reflection, repentance, forgiveness, and renewal. (cont. on page 6)

This year we are bringing back the popular blog, *Echoes of Elul*, where we share a selection of memories, stories, and insights in the form of writing, poetry, art, or music. All are welcome to contribute in any medium you choose. Postings of the Echoes will be arriving in your email and on the TBS website to review and contemplate during Elul. Shared stories can bring inspiration and connection, helping open our hearts and minds, uniting our temple community.

Please join us by submitting an Echo to this important program as we embark on our journey through the Echoes of Elul. More information and prompts will be posted on the TBS website, and you can contact me at [risekirbo@yahoo.com](mailto:risekirbo@yahoo.com) or 714-366-1598.

## Social Action

### Education - Direct Service – Advocacy - Collections

*Paula Pitluk, Social Action Chair*

The TBS Social Action Committee has continued its work in our four focus areas: Education, Direct Service, Advocacy, and Collections.

Our involvement with Orangewood continues to grow as we address a variety of needs for children and teens of all ages who are experiencing difficult lives. We continue to collect various donations each month through the Mitzvah of the Month program to be delivered to the residents. In lieu of the traditional Mitzvah Meals which for years has been a mainstay of Social Action work at TBS, we are cooking and delivering Sunday dinners once a month for the residents of Casa Teresa.

Thank you for being a generous and giving community. If you are interested in joining us in our work, please contact Paula Pitluk at [pkpteach@gmail.com](mailto:pkpteach@gmail.com) or feel free to join us at our first Monday of the month meetings 7:00 p.m.

### Mitzvah of the Month (M.O.M)

*Monica Engel, Social Action Member*

Several schools are opening prior to Labor Day therefore, the Mitzvah of the Month for July will be “Back to School” necessities such as **backpacks, notebooks, loose-leaf books and paper, pencils, pens, crayons, or lunch boxes**. Items can be dropped off in the TBS living room, during our outdoor Shabbat Services, or at a Shabbat Parade. Questions, advice, need help shopping? Please email Monica at [sovtal1@gmail.com](mailto:sovtal1@gmail.com).

### Calling All Cooks!

*Steffanie Belasco, Social Action Member*

Temple Beth Sholom is proud to offer this mitzvah opportunity the first Sunday of every month through December. We invite you to try your favorite nutritious recipe that you will be cooking for 15 moms in the crisis program at Casa Teresa in Orange. Food items will be available from Mary's Kitchen (517 W. Struck Ave., Orange) for FREE if you need or feel free to use your own ingredients. Call Gloria at (714) 633-0444 to reserve the ingredients. TBS also has pasta, rice, and other canned goods in the Mitzvah Meal pantry. The menu should consist of a minimum of 1/4 pound of protein per person (15), a vegetable, a starch, and a fruit and or dessert. Casa Teresa requests that dinner be dropped off by 5:00 PM. if it is ready to serve and by 4:00 P.M. if it needs to be reheated. Please call Steffanie Belasco at (714) 420-5320 or Monica Engel at (949)458-8732 to sign up and for more information. Consider sharing the cooking with a friend, cook with your chavurah, or engage your family in trying a new recipe to share. If you like, you can include a copy of your recipe for the women. Thank you in advance to all our volunteers.

# Adult Education

## A Focus on Food

*Angela Holmes, Adult Ed Chair*

One of the goals of our program is to offer the community continued insight into the many resources available, on a variety of topics, that you may not be aware of or have time to explore on your own. This month we explore FOOD! There is a definite connection between food and our identity—personal and cultural—as well as familial. Our attitude, practices, and rituals surrounding food are a window into how food influences our lives.

The following is a sample of the wonderful literature that links food to spirituality, world culture, and lessons about historical and contemporary Jewish life. As always, there are children's books adults can share with the grandkids, nephews, nieces, and others.

### Focus on Food: Adult Section

*From Forbidden Fruit to Milk and Honey: A Commentary About Food in the Torah* by Diana Lipton – A series of essays to analyze the biblical text and “advocate for socially conscience consumption.”

*Shaya: An Odyssey of Food, My Journey Back to Israel* by Alon Shaya

*Fruits of Freedom: The Torah Flora Hagadah* by Jon Greenberg – Expands our understanding of the rabbinic world by connecting it to agriculture and cultural history.

*Global Jewish Foodways: A History* by Diner & Cinotto – A study of the role food has played and continues to play in Jewish History.

*Recipes Remembered: A Celebration of Survival* by June Feiss Hersh – Stories of Holocaust survivors and their authentic recipes. Chapters arranged by country.

### Focus on Jewish Cultural Connections

*The Best of Mexican Kosher Cooking* – Witt and Heller

*Maui Kosher: Quick and Easy Recipes* – Danat Schusterman

*Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews* – Edda Servi Machlin

*Stella's Sephardic Table: Jewish Family Recipes from The Mediterranean Island of Rhodes* – Stella Cohen

*Jewish Cuisine in Hungary* – Andros Koerner

*The Flavors of Faith: Holy Breads* – Lynn Marilyn Golodner (from a series of cross-cultural food traditions)

### Focus on Children

*The Challah Girl* – Sharp & Fung (4-8)

*Recipe for Disaster* – Aimee Lucido (Hannah finds out what being Jewish is all about. For middle grades)

*The Knish War on Rivington Street* – Joanne Oppenheim (Ways to solve disputes for ages 4-8.)

*The Bagel King* – Andrew Laresen (Bonding over bagels for ages 3-7.)

*The Peddler and the Baker* – Molchatsky and Grossman (Ethics and values for ages 4-9)

### Chapman University – Scheduled Events for Fall 2021

**September 21** – Dr. Wendy Lower speaking about her book *The Ravine: A Family, A Photograph, A Holocaust Massacre Revealed*

**October 12** – Author Michael Dobbs, *The Unwanted America, Aushwitz and a Village Caught Between*.

**November 9** – Dr. Glenn Kurtz will speak at the annual Interfaith Service of Remembrance for Kristallnacht. His topic will be about his efforts to preserve grave sites and further Holocaust education and remembrance in Poland.

## Enjoy!

Jewish Cuisine  
From [about.com](http://about.com)

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B	A	O	R	E	Z	Y	L	L	G	K	Z	E	H	W	CHALLAH
B	S	A	B	B	A	T	H	A	K	A	F	S	H	M	CHAROSET
G	L	E	L	Z	X	Z	T	A	T	I	C	A	E	A	GEFILTEFISH
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