

Our Voices - A Monthly Newsletter

August 2020 – Av/Elul 5780 | Issue 6 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections



Assistance and Events

General Assistance | Mitch Cohen – mitchell@familycohen.com; Cantor Reinwald – dreinwald@tbsoc.com; Ruth Irving – rirving@tbsoc.com. If you need confidential pandemic assistance, please contact Ruth Irving.

Torah Study | Held each Saturday online through Zoom.

Services | Shabbat Evening Services will be offered online through livestream and Facebook Live.

August 7 & 21 | 4:00-5:30 p.m. – "Beep, Honk, and Wave! It's a Shabbat Parade!" Join us as we continue to welcome Shabbat with our drive-thru parades. Register for your challah and Shabbat dinner and enjoy some music from Cantor as you pick it all up. Dinners are being hosted by Denise Stephens from Cooking it Personally and \$3/meal goes to the TBS COVID Relief Fund. Thank you to Jeff and Caron Winston for sponsoring our August 7th Shabbat Parade and be sure to join us on August 21st as we are looking forward to passing out challot with Congresswoman Katie Porter!

August 12 | 7:00 p.m. – Sisters by Heart Dinner via Zoom.

August 29 | 7:00 p.m. – Virtual Wine Tasting and Havdalah.

For a Complete List of Event Links Please Visit <https://www.tbsoc.com/>

Worship at TBS

High Holy Days Announcement

We have adopted *Hinenu*, "We are here," as our theme and guide as we plan for the approaching High Holy Days and the year ahead. *Hinenu* is the plural form of *Hineni*, "I am here," words that are spoken when God commands

Abraham to sacrifice his only son, and words that we read throughout our Jewish text. "We are here" is an opportunity for us to call upon ourselves to look deep within, reflect on what is truly important and meaningful to us, our families, our friends and our community; to take stock and commit ourselves to repair what is flawed, enhance what is righteous, and create new opportunities for goodness.

As we plan for the High Holy Day season, and the challenging times that we continue to experience, we have much to consider about how we have lived our lives and how we will approach the new year of 5781 – this is a time of repentance, forgiveness, atonement, renewal, and a wonderful opportunity for growth through enrichment.

Temple Beth Sholom has been vigilant about upholding Judaism's highest priorities for life and health. You have warmly embraced online technology for worship, education, and community and you have encouraged us not to rush to open our Temple before we can all enter safely and responsibly.



Therefore, the Worship Committee and Board of Directors, in direct consultation with the Cantor and Executive Director, have reached the decision to lead our congregants for High Holy Day services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur via streaming video, as we've been utilizing throughout the health crisis.

We are using the summer months to prepare a meaningful and memorable High Holy Days experience for all our congregants. We warmly invite you to join us in the fall, by streaming video, when we delve deeply into the meaning of these sacred days. We will provide easy-to-use information and guides so that your sanctuary at home will be your sacred space for you and your family, including young children and teens. *-Karen Warren, Interim VP of Worship*

Rabbi Emeritus Shelton Donnell to Join High Holy Day Streaming Services



We are pleased to announce that TBS's Rabbi Shelton Donnell will partner with Cantor David Reinwald for this year's High Holy Days services. Rabbi Donnell is already busy collaborating with Cantor Reinwald and is at work writing a series of sermons, which he will deliver via streaming video, from the bimah of Portland, Oregon's historic Congregation Beth Israel.

For those of you who may not have had the pleasure to know or meet Rabbi Donnell, here is a brief background. A native of Southern California, Rabbi Donnell grew up in the San Fernando Valley and graduated from Chadwick School in Palos Verdes. He completed his undergraduate studies at Pomona College in Claremont, where he studied Religion and Bible. It was there that he decided to become a rabbi, though he planned to become an academic. He was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in

New York in 1977 and was a congregational rabbi in California for over 30 years. He served the congregations of the Sephardic Hebrew Center and Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles. He served as TBS's senior rabbi from 1991 to 2005. TBS granted him the title of Rabbi Emeritus in 2005, when he and his wife, Wendy Bocarsky, fulfilled a life-long dream to make Aliyah to Israel. They lived in Jerusalem from 2005 until 2015, where he was on the staff of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. There he taught Liturgy and served as the rabbi of the "Year-in-Israel Program" for entering rabbinic, cantorial, and education students of HUC-JIR's North American programs. Since 2015, Rabbi Donnell and Wendy have lived with their three dogs, Louie, Barney and Angel, in Beaverton, Oregon, where Rabbi Donnell teaches Torah Study and Adult Education classes for Congregation Beth Israel.

He and Wendy have returned to TBS numerous times over the past 15 years to teach and inspire new generations of congregants. We are thrilled to have Rabbi Donnell enrich our High Holy Day season with his thoughtful sermons and writings on repentance, forgiveness, atonement, and renewal. *-TBS Worship Committee*

"In challenging times, our faith guides us and gives us the strength to weather life's turbulent storms. I am proud to join with Cantor Reinwald and our TBS family for what are probably the most significant High Holy Days of our lives."

-Rabbi Shelton Donnell

President's Message

Our VP of Membership, Mary Gonzalez, recently found and shared a scrapbook of TBS from 1971-1973. It's fascinating to read press releases and news articles from Mrs. J.P.Kane and Audry Chaban, Publicity Chairs. I don't know if they served together or at different times. Does anyone remember them? We'd love to know more.



As I carefully read faded, hand-typed notes next to articles published in local newspapers that don't exist anymore, I think about how our methods for communicating have changed so dramatically.

Mrs. Kane and Ms. Chaban worked with fellow congregants, carefully crafting their—probably handwritten—message before being typed. Carbon copies would be mailed to all the local newspapers and fingers crossed, would get published as soon as possible.

Today, Ruth Aptaker, our Director of Communications, along with Cantor, our webmaster Yanir, Ruth Irving, Mike Winston, myself, and others work together to provide messaging on multiple platforms to keep our congregation and the community informed. Ruth Aptaker works closely with our Executive Director, Ruth Irving, to post information on our Facebook feed, update our website, provide “robo-call” updates, wrestle entries from Board members for this monthly newsletter, and send out congregational emails. Religious School, ECC, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and Chai Times also have their own communication methods. The Board communicates via Slack and of course utilizes email, text, and phone.

But no matter the communication methods, the enthusiasm for community at TBS remains the same. Our very own *Starlight* newsletter from December 1971 highlighted the Hanukkah Fair by saying: “There will be booths and booths of everything imaginable... Boutiques, Decorations, Gifts Galore (from paintings to playthings to ponchos to perfumes) ... and Food!! Something for every member of the family from Tots to Tantas and all under one roof.”

So maybe ponchos are out of style now, but I can just imagine the smell of the latkes and the taste of the jelly donuts, thanks to our Publicity Chairs from nearly 50 years ago.

What do you remember about the past at TBS? We'd love for you to share your memories, photos, and articles with us so we can highlight them! (See the “Voices of TBS” section for more info.)

- Mitch Cohen, TBS President



Brotherhood | Community - Fellowship - Action - Service

Summer is upon us and things are slowing down again after starting to go back to normalcy. Instead of everyone getting out of town we are back in our homes. The Brotherhood Board opted to have a Sunday afternoon Schmoozefest rather than another Zoom meeting. Everyone is zoomed out so even though we schmoozed on Zoom, it seemed somehow different.

Plans are being made to continue in the Fall with events even if we must do them digitally. For instance, we are figuring out the best way to continue with Monday Night Football although, if there is no football, then that becomes problematic. We may have a Men's Night Out (in this case Men's Night In) now and again. The Brotherhood, just like the rest of the world, will modify how we interact and wait to see how things progress.

In the meantime, new membership applications went out with the Temple membership forms and we hope all the men of TBS will join and support the many activities we do for our youth and the TBS.

-Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Installation

TBS Sisterhood started off its 2020-2021 year with a Zoom installation of the Executive Committee on June 30th. We were joined by Cantor Reinwald who led us in song and prayer and many of our Sisterhood members were on the Zoom call to recognize and congratulate the incoming officers. TBS Sisterhood is fortunate to have many experienced past leaders among its members to call upon and serve and many of them have accepted positions on the 2020-2021 Board. This enthusiastic group of women is ready to continue the TBS Sisterhood tradition of providing our members with dynamic educational programs, cultural opportunities, and social activities. I look forward to an exciting year for our Sisterhood.

Sisters by Heart Dinner Goes to Zoom!

We have another one of our extremely popular Sisters by Heart dinners scheduled for **Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00 p.m.** Our Sisters by Heart dinners are a chance for us to come together in a social setting, “no business, just socializing” and connect. Please watch your e-mail for the invitation and Zoom link to this fun event.

-Brenda Beck, TBS Sisterhood President

TBS Word Puzzle #3

Congratulations to our Word Puzzle Winners from Issue 2: First Prize goes to Cindy Grossberg. Runner-up awards go to the Shih Family. Great job!

How many words can you make out of the letters in:

Hinenu We Are Here

Submit your list of words to rirving@tbsoc.com by August 15th. Participants from ages 0-10 can submit words of 2 letters or more. Participants from ages 10+ can submit words of 3 letters or more.

Thank You to Our Sponsors!



COASTAL
REAL ESTATE GROUP
DRE License#: 01378475
DAVID FELDBERG
(949) 439-6288
BROKER + REALTOR
coastalgroupoc.com



KarateOC.com
Bonnie Wenneberg
Black Belt Instructor
AMP & Camp Director
(714) 871-3898
KarateOC.com
info@KarateOC.com
1027 N. Harbor Blvd.,
Fullerton, CA 92832
FAX (714) 871-6793

This newsletter is also made possible by the generous contributions of Patti Widdicomb, Barbara Ulmer, the Escoe Family, the Borchard Family, and Leonard & Susan Silberman

Camp, ECC, and Our Youth

Early Childhood

Today, I heard laughter as our campers twirled to songs. Yesterday, I heard shrieks of delight as they chased balls. The day before that giggles abounded as they splashed in sprinklers, delighting in the challenge of dodging the hose spray that their teachers intermittently unleashed. Our children are happy and enjoying a magical camp experience.



There is plenty of evidence that we are experiencing unusual times. The teachers are wearing masks and the children have learned that washing hands and dollops of sanitizer are the new norm. They say goodbye to their parents outside the classroom and exchange their outdoor shoes for indoor shoes. Their lunch is served on individual trays and they no longer share playdough and slime. The most telling sign is evident in our infant center when 6-month-olds, seeing me approach with thermometer in hand, lean forward presenting their tiny foreheads to be scanned.

While COVID-19 has brought tremendous stress to so many of our families, our children have learned to take it in their stride.

The consistency and routine of their day provide a sense of normalcy and stability. As COVID spikes bring about another round of closures and uncertainty, our center will continue to provide a loving, safe, and secure environment for our children. *-Tamara Levin, Preschool Director*



Religious School



Shalom TBS! I am so excited to join this incredible community. In the few weeks I have been officially on board, I have been working hard to learn about the goals and objectives of education for our youth. I am so inspired by the thoughtfulness of this community and am looking forward to sharing all my findings with you. Be on the lookout for more information coming very soon about the curriculum, model, and structure of youth education moving forward!

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

Committee Updates

Interim Rabbi Search Committee (IRSC)

Hello! I'm Rachel Benson, the chair of the Interim Rabbi Search Committee (IRSC), serving with:

Soni Sanberg, Michele Shugarman, Michelle Singleton, Jeff Winston, Alan Shebroe, Jason Wenneberg,

Arielle Drls, Norm Rosen, Aimee Gromfin, Rachel Shih, and Cantor Reinwald.

Our committee met for the first time on June 29th. We spent time reviewing the search process and coming to an agreement on what characteristics the best candidate should possess and what the Interim Rabbi's priorities should be. On July 8, 2020, we submitted our application to the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), which oversees the recruitment and placement of Rabbis in Reform congregations. Now...we wait! We hope to begin receiving resumes in the next few weeks.

You may be wondering, “Why an *interim* Rabbi?” Here are some reasons:

Interim Rabbis are specially trained and have had experience doing healing and repair work and are well acquainted with the issues and emotions typical in our situation.

- Many congregants understandably feel a strong attachment to Rabbi Cohen. It would be difficult for the next permanent Rabbi to directly follow her. An Interim Rabbi allows us time to adapt to the idea of Rabbi Cohen no longer being our Rabbi.
- As much as we will be searching for the “right Rabbi”, the incoming Rabbi is also searching for the “right congregation”. Permanent Rabbi applicants will be comforted to know they are stepping into a positive, stable situation when the Interim Rabbi’s work is complete.
- Having a year to search for our next Permanent Rabbi increases our Rabbi candidate pool and allows us to be part of the next natural hiring cycle.

Next up on our IRSC agenda is to develop interview questions and begin reviewing resumes as they come in. As the search process continues, I will continue to provide updates to our congregation. *-Rachel Benson, IRSC Chair*

Families with Young Children (FWYC)

The Families with Young Children (FWYC) Committee finally had the opportunity to hide from our young children long enough to conduct our first meeting. I will be working with ECC parents Ruth Aptaker, Sara Naudin, Blaire Wayland, and Religious School parents Denise Holt, Heidi King, Rachel Shih, and Mimi Winston to engage and reengage families with young children by fostering a sense of community and Jewish life at TBS. We were joined by our ECC Director, Tamara Levin, and our new Religious School Director, Dr. Johannah Sohn and the group’s overall enthusiasm was incredibly encouraging; we are all looking forward to bringing this vision to life!

We began the planning stages of our upcoming High Holy Days event, discussed the integration of our ECC and Religious School groups, and a decided we would like a broader unification of our families with the other ancillary groups at TBS. Unfortunately, as with other groups, we are having to navigate the current health crisis to make our community outreach COVID friendly, but we are confident that this can be achieved and in the end we are hopeful this will all bring us closer together. *-Arielle Diks, FWYC Chair*

Voices of TBS

Traditions at TBS

As you read in the President’s Message, Our VP of Membership, Mary Gonzalez, recently found and shared a scrapbook of TBS from 1971-1973. This inspired us to create a Traditions Committee to highlight and preserve our past at Temple Beth Sholom. We would love to start by featuring your memories in this section of the newsletter each month. Please send us your family recipes, old photos, stories of years past, a recounting of a favorite Temple event—anything that you feel will help preserve TBS’s history or will add to a collection of Jewish life at TBS which will be celebrated by our congregation for years to come. Please send submissions to Ruth Aptaker (ruth.aptaker@gmail.com) by the 18th of each month.



13031 Tustin Ave. TBS with sign for future RS building c. 1965

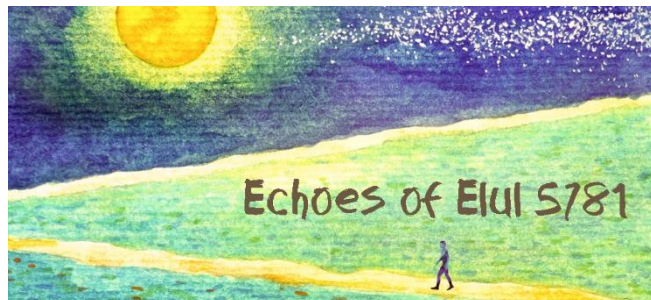
TBS Inspires

We are excited to continue *TBS Inspires*! Share a video of your musical talents. Do a dance. Read something you have written or a poem or short story that you love. Show us a short film you have created. Inspire TBS! See the TBS website for more information on how to record and send us a video that will be shared with the congregation. Open to anyone of any age. We can't wait to hear your voices and see how you inspire us all! (Contact Cantor Reinwald for assistance or with questions.)

Echoes of Elul Returns

Shalom and welcome to the upcoming month of Elul this September! During Elul we have the opportunity to review our lives over the past year, examining our choices as we move forward with reflection, repentance, forgiveness, and renewal.

This year we are bringing back our popular blog called “Echoes of Elul” where we share a selection of stories, insights, and memories contributed by members of our congregational family. All are welcome to contribute—no writing experience necessary. A daily posting of the Echoes will be arriving in your email and on the TBS website to read and contemplate. Shared stories can bring inspiration and connection, helping to open our hearts and minds during this challenging time. Please join us as writers and readers as we embark on our journey through the Echoes of Elul. More information and details will be posted on the TBS website. -Rise Kirbo, Echoes of Elul Chair | risekirbo@yahoo.com | 714-366-1598



Shabbat Parades



We have had so much fun waving and seeing all those who have joined our parades so far! They are certainly growing in attendance and offerings. Denise Stephens from Cooking it Personally has agreed to offer her dinners at every parade with \$3/meal going back to the TBS COVID Relief Fund. In July, we had nearly 130 people register for a free challah and enjoy some music from Cantor David as they drove thru and picked it up. On July 24th, Cantor David donated his CD to accompany the challot and candles. We want to extend a huge thank you to those who have donated toward the events. Thanks to your generosity, we can continue our bi-weekly parades through September!

We hope you will join our August 7th and 21st Shabbat Parades between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. The August 7th parade is sponsored by Jeff and Caron Winston; thank you Winston Family! On August 21st, we will have a special guest—Congresswoman Katie Porter—helping us pass out challot and goodies. If you would like to sponsor a parade, please email Ruth Aptaker (ruth.aptaker@gmail.com), or call the temple office at 714-628-4600. “Beep, Honk, and Wave!” -TBS Membership Committee



Social Justice

This month we can support two of our teens in their worthy endeavors.



Our first Bar Mitzvah in 2020 is AJ Weber whose major event will take place on August 8th. AJ has chosen Childspree as his community service. This program is an annual event of Temple Beth El and supports foster children by providing Back to School supplies. It “spoke” to AJ because he was a foster child until he was adopted by Keith and Andrea Weber. AJ and Childspree are still need of multicolored Expo markers, scissors, and printer Paper (500 pkg). If you are able to donate, we will provide a container for you to deposit your items at the Shabbat Parade on August 7th. I hope it is filled to the brim!

Our other amazing teen is Natalie Salvatierra. Natalie has created Solely Sunshine, and it certainly is a title that describes her and the program. Natalie sends uplifting letters and colorful drawings to patients in mental health facilities around the United States. This is a mitzvah that is so thoughtful and unique, I hope you are heading to your keyboard right now composing something that would engage and uplift a mentally ill person. Fun and colorful drawings, paintings, and poetry are welcome from people of all ages. Natalie and her team read the letters and send them to an appropriate facility. Upload your submissions and learn more at <https://www.solelysunshine.com/>. Natalie is also working on a grant to help with postage so she can expand her program overseas.

-Monica Engel Social Justice Member

Enjoy!

T	T	C	C	D	H	H	T	V	H	A	O	A	T
D	H	K	H	A	T	Z	H	I	A	U	M	A	A
A	A	M	I	A	V	H	A	E	V	B	L	T	B
L	L	E	A	D	L	H	O	L	Z	A	A	O	B
R	A	Z	I	A	D	L	R	U	T	L	B	R	A
I	D	Z	A	B	D	U	A	L	I	L	S	A	H
I	V	U	A	K	B	L	S	H	M	I	T	H	S
A	A	Z	H	A	A	A	A	H	M	T	I	A	M
C	H	A	Z	Z	Z	I	R	T	C	A	L	H	U
A	H	H	O	H	R	H	L	D	L	N	L	R	S
N	M	H	E	L	S	O	I	L	Z	A	A	K	A
T	E	A	N	E	H	H	I	A	L	K	T	A	A
O	I	S	R	A	E	L	L	A	N	H	S	K	U
R	L	B	R	H	R	L	D	U	M	L	A	T	T

- Cantor
- Challah
- Elul
- Havdalah
- Israel
- Kiddush
- Mezzuzah
- Mitzvah
- Rabbi
- Shabbat
- Synagogue
- Tallit
- Talmud
- Tanakh
- Torah

