

Temple Beth Sholom Presents:

Our Voices - A Monthly Newsletter

January 2022 – Tevet/Sh’vat 5782 | Issue 23 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

Important Contacts

Mike Winston, President – winston.mike@gmail.com

Ruth Irving, Executive Director – riving@tbsoc.com

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Cantor David Reinwald – dreinwald@tbsoc.com

Services | Shabbat Evening Services will be streamed and offered in-person at TBS at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Torah Study | Back in person at TBS and held Saturdays at 9:15 a.m. unless otherwise noted. (Virtual options available)

Join Us for Our Upcoming Events!

1/7 @ 6:00 p.m. | [Family Shabbat Service](#) – Join us at an earlier time for our monthly, family-friendly service. Family services are held the first Shabbat of the month at 6:00 p.m.

1/10 & 1/24 @ 7:00 p.m. | [Sacred Texts of Jewish Time with Rabbi Lipper](#) – Each Holy moment in the Jewish year is marked with a special text. We will explore excerpts in seeking to discover the deeper meaning of these sacred moments.

1/14 @ 6:00 p.m. | [Shabbat Service and Mitzvah Opportunity](#) – Join us at an earlier time as we focus on helping others.

1/16 @ 10:00 a.m. | [Can You Dig It?](#) – The membership committee is hosting a Tu BiShvat celebration with a succulent planting workshop, arts and crafts for all ages, story corner for the kiddos, and a holiday themed seder. All are welcome and registration is available on ShulCloud or you can call the office.

1/23 @ 10:00 a.m. | [Adult Education Author Talks](#) – Stop by our Chapel and meet Linda Frank, a dynamic Jewish author and advocate.

1/28 @ 7:00 p.m. | [Sisterhood Shabbat Service](#) – Join us as Sisterhood members host this special service.

1/29 @ 6:00 p.m. | [ECC’s “Mask” erade Vegas Night](#) – Join us for our preschool’s annual gala and fundraiser! Proceeds go to the ECC for programming and upgrades. All adults aged 21+ are welcome and registration is available on ShulCloud or you can call the ECC office.

Worship at TBS

From the Rabbi’s Study

Rabbi David Lipper

Who could have anticipated the massive changes in our lives over the past few years? From all sides, our lives seem to have been in a constant cycle of changes. I live with change all the time. For me, that is nothing new. And I have become more “Zen” about change each year. But I know that not everyone is as embracing of change as I am. And trust me, I was not always this way. It has taken me time, practice, and patience. So, as I wrote in one of my weekly messages a few weeks ago ... breathe! (cont. on page 2)

From the Rabbi's Study, cont.

This will be a year of change for all of us. Change is inevitable. Of course, we can fight change and become Sisyphus trying to push the boulder up the hill, or we can simply release the change and embrace what it brings. We always have a choice. Amid these great changes, what can we do to find grounding? Where is our foundation in a world in flux? I am of the mind that the greatest stability will come from our ancient and enduring faith in God and in the eastern concept of karma.

Developing and preserving spiritual faith may be a difficult journey for many of us. In acknowledging our belief, we are often called upon to challenge modern values for a deeper, more abstract reality. The philosopher Kierkegaard, of whom I speak often at the Holy Days, described the immeasurable "leap of faith" made by those of us who embark upon such journeys.

Faith is particularly important in Judaism with its emphasis upon God's eventual judgment of each human soul. Even within a single religion, faith is not a fixed concept, but may change in emphasis over time. In Judaism, for example, the Torah interprets faith to mean an immense trust in God, rather than—as now—a belief in God's very existence. The Divine Presence is manifested through Torah, which records the history and nature of God's covenant with us.

The power of faith is indisputable: individuals throughout history have been prepared to sacrifice their most valued possessions, including their lives, because of their trust in God.

Faith and doubt are inextricably linked in spiritual experience. In his teachings, the Buddha acknowledged the limitations of blind faith, requiring that his students should always test his words. The Zen Buddhist tradition believes that three elements are needed to make spiritual progress: great faith, great doubt, and great perseverance. Faith is required to discover and trust the inherent truth of Buddhist teaching; doubt to challenge and overcome superficial understanding; and perseverance to continue despite distracting hopes and fears. In recognizing the complexities and hardships of a spiritual path, our religions and beliefs also celebrate the enduring human determination to overcome them.

In this coming year, may our own work on our faith provide the foundation to get us through challenging moments and may the changes we sense and experience in our lives all be for the good. Dora and I hope that 2022 will bring you all much fulfillment and peace.

Come for Shabbat, Stay for the Oneg

Karen Warren, VP of Worship

I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Hanukkah. While my calendar was packed so tightly for the first couple of weeks, it was wonderful to be able to share some of the TBS events with my family, while they were in town.



The Menorah lighting in the Orange Circle allowed us a festive opportunity to share the light of the Menorah with our TBS family as well as members of the community at large. It was wonderful to have some Orange dignitaries join us on the first night and welcome us to the Circle. That included (from left to right in image) Cantor Reinwald, Orange County Supervisor Don Wagner, City of Orange Mayor Mark Murphy, Rabbi Lipper, and City of Orange Manager Tom Hatch. I loved greeting some preschool families and other community families and sharing holiday jelly donuts. (cont. on page 3)

Come for Shabbat, Stay for the Oneg, cont.

Our Oneg committee continues to provide delicious Onegs following all our Shabbat services. The menu offers both sweet and savory items that are single serve and easy to access in a safe way. The Onegs have been moved indoors due to the colder weather, but we will continue with distancing. All of this is being hosted by volunteers and made possible through donations. If you would like to volunteer or help, or have some suggestions, please feel free to reach out to me.

We are thrilled to be able to review the fantastic input from our congregation that was garnered through our widely attended focus groups. There was a great deal of valuable information about worship, accessibility of worship, and inclusiveness. We look forward to diving deeper into the data at our next Worship Committee meeting on January 25th. We'd love to have your participation. Reach out to me anytime at warrenk123@gmail.com if you'd like to help or just to provide your point of view.

President's Message

Mike Winston, TBS President



Happy New Year! I can't believe it is already 2022. This is a great time to reflect on how we are doing for ourselves, for our families, and for our community. For most of us, we are making promises to ourselves by creating our New Year's resolution about how we are going to be better in this coming year than we were in the past year or changes we want to make (my Peloton is already collecting dust).

At TBS, I don't feel we need to make these types of changes, rather we are doubling down on the things we are already doing. Just in the last month, for those that attended one of Hannukah candle lighting ceremonies at the Orange Circle or our Let's Gelt Together program at TBS, you would have seen the excitement, the laughter, the fun, that is our community. The support and the positivity everyone had at these events is invigorating. Thank you to everyone who participated and for our volunteers that helped.

Our yearly Brotherhood Pancake Breakfast was back on this year, supporting our Temple Youth. One of the common themes that came through our Temple focus groups in October was the need to grow and support our youth programs.

This month, we continue this theme of youth by supporting our Early Childhood Center (ECC) and having one of its biggest fundraisers: "Mask"erade Vegas Night. This fundraiser is to improve the safety of the playground for our very little ones. The ECC is vital to the future and success of TBS as it is one of the funnels of new and young families into TBS. The ECC has grown considerably over the last several years, but more importantly, the Jewish population of enrollees has increased immensely. I strongly encourage you to join us for this event regardless of if you are an ECC family or not.

I hope you have a happy, healthy, safe New Year of 2022.

L'Shalom.

Brotherhood

Community – Fellowship – Action – Service

Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership

December was another great month for your TBS Brotherhood. We started off with lots of latkes, jelly donuts and candles. Some of those candles were lit at the Orange Circle with lots of singing, eating, and camaraderie followed by several of us going to Bylbos for dinner to wash down the donut holes.



On December 5th, we were out in force at the “Let’s Gelt Together” Hanukkah festival, reading stories to 1 kid. Hopefully the kid wasn't traumatized because there were several of us there to do the reading. Everyone seemed to come out unscathed—the men and the kid. The entire day was a wild success with well over 200 people in attendance. The Brotherhood story corner at the Hanukkah event didn't have as many listeners as we had hoped for but, undaunted, the brave men of the Brotherhood will be reading to children in Sunday school once or twice a month for the remainder of the year. We don't know if the kids like it, but we sure have a good time doing it.

On December 12th our second group hike with the Sisterhood occurred and as far as we know the Litman's got everyone back in the same shape as they started out in. Anyone who wanted a bagel and coffee could go buy one with the group.

On December 16th we had a Thursday Night Football event at Benjie's bar on Tustin Ave. Chargers vs Chiefs. All in attendance really enjoyed it. And to end the year on a high note, the annual December 25th Pancake Breakfast returned once again. We had to skip 2020 due to the pandemic but with masking, outdoor seating, distancing, etc. we decided the virus would be no match for us.

Watch for the Brotherhood Speaker Series starting in February. The entire series this year will be devoted to learning about what the adult children of the temple, temple members, or past clergy have done with their lives. As always, if you are a man or have one hanging around the house, join the Brotherhood. You will be helping support youth programs at TBS, get to meet other men at TBS, and you will probably have a pretty good time (at least sometimes). Just contact me at sylvan@swartzcre.com.

From your TBS Brotherhood, we wish you a very happy and healthy New Year.

Sisterhood

Plans are currently underway for the annual Sisterhood Shabbat Service on **Friday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.** We are excited to announce our theme for the year: “On a Narrow Bridge: The Courage to be Different.” This is always an inspiring service, with readings especially prepared and selected, and we are happy to bring it to our congregation. The Sisterhood Shabbat is so special due to the participation of our Sisterhood members. Not only will we be reading during the service, but there will be savory and sweet, delectable treats before and after provided by Sisterhood members.

Please watch your e-mail and the Shavuot Weekly News for more information about this special service and we wish you a happy and healthy 2022.

Our Youth

Early Childhood Center

Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education

We have so much to be grateful for: a new year full of promise that includes rebuilding our community, creating new connections, and a deeper understanding that life must go on. We can choose to participate or to hibernate. At TBS, the signs of renewed energy and community building are clear as evidenced by some of the wonderful programming that took place towards the end of last year.

To continue this momentum, TBS's ECC will be hosting our first major fundraiser in two years. Our "Mask"erade Vegas Night will be held on **January 29, 2022**. We look forward to a magical evening of Vegas tables, dinner, dancing, raffles, and a silent auction. This is an opportunity to celebrate not only the joys of today, but the promise of tomorrow. We are celebrating hope.

The ECC is often a point of entry into our Jewish community. When we tour with our new families, we discuss not only the social, emotional, and educational advantages of joining our ECC, but also the community that will become part of their lives. As such, our young Jewish families enter our preschool with the hope that they and their children will find their place. They hope to enter an environment that will lead to a lifetime of spiritual connection, friendship, giving and receiving support, inclusion, and acceptance. When I speak with young families searching for their community, I tap my chest and say, "You need to feel it here." Being part of a community is not a passive thing. It is active and to feel it, we must participate. The ECC staff and I wish you a healthy and happy New Year.

Religious School

Chavva Olander, Director of Youth Education



Shalom! Religious School has been a flurry of activity with holiday festivities and engaging learning programs. Students learned about the Tribes of Israel and identified the themes and messages in this month's Parshiyot. We officially reinstated our Brotherhood Reading Program for K-2 students who heard two captivating tales read by Brotherhood President, Arnold Shugarman.

I had a great time discussing Jewish values and schmoozing with parents at our first Parent Nosh & Learn session. The day culminated in a school-wide project with students and their families writing and illustrating holiday messages of hope and gratitude to service members overseas.

Several Religious School families and families with teens joined me for Hanukkah songs and donuts at one of our Orange Circle Menorah Lighting ceremonies. Afterwards, TBS teens met for their second event of the school year, a boba tea outing. The following day, several teens volunteered at our Let's Gelt Together Hanukkah festival which was well-attended by Religious School students and parents. A terrific time was had by all, and I can personally attest to the fact that the inflatable obstacle course was a big win. (Cont. on page 6)



Religious School, cont.

Next month will bring exciting new developments with the first session of our Teen Learning Program, an educational opportunity for 8th-12th graders that will meet monthly through the end of the school year. Teens will learn the history of the Israel-Palestine conflict and discuss responses to anti-Jewish sentiment on high school and college campuses. Our second Parent Nosh & Learn will take place on January 9th. The theme will be “praying with your feet” and will focus on Judaism’s commitment to social justice. The Brotherhood Reading Program will continue for K-2 students, and 3rd-7th graders will begin exploring ethical dilemmas from a Jewish perspective. I hope to see you there!

Something to Kvell About – Recognizing our Teens and Young Adults

Monica Engel, Social Action Member

It’s my turn; I’m now a “Kveller”. At a Shabbat dinner attended by members from Temple Beth Sholom and Ha’Nefesh I decided to ask for donations for the Mitzvah of the Month. The group was very generous. Three days later, I received a check in the mail from someone I didn’t know who had been at the dinner. He mentioned he heard my request for donations at the dinner and was sending me all he had in his Tzedakah box. This created more than tears of joy. As it was, this young man is Hispanic but said he’s always “felt Jewish.” He is currently studying to convert to Judaism. His Tzedakah box contained \$164. I’m kvelling.

The following week, I was in line at Home Goods at the same time as another lady; she insisted I wait in front of her. Coincidentally, we left the store at the same time. I was wearing a bright red hat baring a “CHAI Maintenance” design; a Hanukkah gift from my friend, Cindy Grossberg. The lady asked if the design on my hat was a chai. She said she wasn’t Jewish, but her boyfriend was and she’s learning a little Hebrew. That led to a friendly chat. She asked about my temple experience, and I mentioned Mitzvah of the Month. She was so impressed she said she would send me a check and jotted down my contact information. Two weeks later, when I checked the mail, I was in tears; she sent me a check for \$50.00. When I called to thank her, we really connected (no pun intended) and we will meet for lunch in the new year. I’m kvelling. I hope you and yours have a fulfilling and healthy New Year.

Committee Updates

Membership/FWYC

Mary Gonzalez, VP of Membership



We want to send a huge thank you to all the volunteers who made TBS’s Let’s Gelt Together possible. It was a huge success, and we can’t wait to see you at our next event! We invite you to join us on **Sunday, January 16th at 10:00 a.m.** for Can You Dig It? We will have a succulent planting workshop, arts and crafts for all ages, a story corner for the kiddos, and community representatives offering eco-friendly information and trainings.

Then, together as a community, we will share a holiday seder led by Rabbi Lipper and Cantor Reinwald.

Please join me in welcoming the newest members of our TBS family. If you see them around campus, please say hello and introduce yourselves!

Orren & Darcee Golden and their daughter, Shira | Milena Tintcheva & Orr Karney and their son, Noam

If you would like to get involved in our “fun-raisers” please reach out Arielle Ohls at 562-316-7030 or Mary Gonzalez at 714-292-4957. We meet once per month and are looking for fresh ideas!

Settled Rabbi Search Committee

Lori Griffin, SRSC Chair

The Settled Rabbi Search Committee has been very busy conducting first-round interviews. We are very pleased with both the number of applications we have received as well as the caliber of applicants who are applying. We have met as a committee and decided which applicants to move forward to a second interview. Those second interviews will be taking place throughout the month of December. Once the second interviews have concluded, the committee will decide which applicants to bring to campus for an onsite interview. This will likely take place sometime in January. In the meantime, we are continuing to receive additional applications. These new applications will go through the same process that all previous applications have gone through.

The committee will continue to keep the congregation updated on our progress. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at lori@globaltrim.com.

Chavurot Update

Shani Boone, Chavurot Chair, Membership Committee Member, and TBS Secretary

TBS wants to help create new and reinvigorate existing chavurot in our community. Traditionally, a chavurah is a small group of like-minded Jews who assemble for the purposes of facilitating Shabbat and sharing communal experiences such as lifecycle events or Jewish learning. Chavurot are a great way to meet new families or couples, to find others who enjoy similar social events, and to have the comfort of a familiar face when you are at TBS. Being involved in a chavurah will help you to connect and engage with others in our community and can lead to lifelong friendships.

Thank you to all those who stopped by our table at “Let’s Gelt Together” in December! You will be contacted by a member of the Chavurot Committee this month. If you didn’t have a chance to stop by in December or if you are ready to connect with an existing chavurah, form a new chavurah, or simply would like more information, please contact Shani at 714-343-1135 / shaniboone2@sbcglobal.net or Sydell at 714-202-5836 / sydandy@aol.com.

Education

Steffanie Belasco, VP of Education

It was wonderful to see over 200 people attend our “Let’s Gelt Together” Hanukkah festival last month. We enjoyed a full day of playing, competing, learning, and of course eating together in an intergenerational event to top off our year of celebrations. As 2022 begins, I encourage you to take advantage of one of our many learning opportunities we have for all ages and interests. Plan to attend Rabbi Lipper’s Class on Monday, January 10 and 24 at 7:00 p.m., titled *Sacred Texts of Jewish Time*. Author, Linda Frank will discuss her process in developing her novels on January 23 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Come a little early for a little bagel nosh and coffee and stay for this dynamic program.

Please register for the Preschool’s “Mask”erade Vegas Night Fundraiser on January 29 at 6:00 p.m. There is a discounted rate available until January 15 for the early bird special. The littlest members of our community need our support to improve their play area. Won’t you consider attending? If you can’t, your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Chava Orlander, our Religious School Director has planned monthly interactive learning opportunities for our parents. The Teen Group has had several activities with more planned for the New Year. Encourage your post b’nai mitzvah kids or grandkids to give it a try.

I am currently reforming our education committee. If you are interested, please contact me at stefanietalk@aol.com.

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) or the TBS office.



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

Social Action

Education - Direct Service – Advocacy - Collections

Paula Pitluk, Social Action Chair

Social Action had a great November and December. Thanks to our involved congregants, we were able to donate Thanksgiving bags and gift cards to Families Forward. A special shout out to Chavva and her Religious School students for contributing. This past year we also had the pleasure of cooking healthy and delicious dinners once a month for the expecting mothers at Casa Teresa. The women were very grateful.

We are blessed to live in such a caring community. Albertsons on E. Chapman and Jamboree recently selected TBS to be the recipient of several generous gift card donations. Their generosity is helping us reach out to those individuals experiencing food insecurity. If you know someone who could use a "helping hand," contact Ruth Irving or Rabbi Lipper at the temple. And please help us show our appreciation to Albertsons by praising and/or patronizing the E. Chapman store whenever possible.

Mitzvah of the Month was a huge success thanks to Monica Engel and Marci Endless Bruffy. This "dynamic duo" helped us partner with Orangewood as we continue helping their children and young adults with our collection drives. Please contact Monica or Marci if you would like to get involved. Each month's collection drive is listed in the Shavu'on.

The Social Action Committee meets the first Monday of the month. Our **January 3, 2022**, meeting will be in person at TBS at 11:00 am. in the Board Room. Please join us or let me know if you have questions or suggestions for our committee. Our January meeting will give us time to reflect on our work as well as set goals. As always, we appreciate your support and welcome your ideas. 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.

Mitzvah of the Month

Monica Engel, Social Action Member

The Mitzvah of the Month for January will be diapers, underwear, pajamas, nightgowns and socks for infants and adults at both Orangewood facilities. Donations can be left in the TBS living room and we will distribute them appropriately. Thanks for your generosity and please call Monica at 949-458-8732 or Marci at 949 275-0698 with questions.

Mitzvah Meals is Back!

Mitzvah Meals Team

Mitzvah Meals is back in the TBS kitchen! This will be MM 2.0, as we will be starting over with a new format. Mitzvah Meals consists of a group of volunteers who come together every Sunday to prepare meals for those in need. There are various spots to fill each week. At this time, we ask that all volunteers are vaccinated and are willing to wear a mask. If you have time and would like to volunteer, please contact Cheryl Escoc at caescoe43@gmail.com.

Adult Education

Angela Holmes, Adult Ed Chair

Rabbi Lipper Adult Education Presentations 2021-2022 (visit the TBS website or call the office to register)

Sacred Texts of Jewish Time

Dates: Mondays on January 10, 24

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: TBS Chapel

Each Holy moment in the Jewish year is marked with a special text that expands the meaning of the Holy Day. The three festivals (Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot), Purim, Tisha B'av and Hanukkah all have unique texts that speak to the essence of each day. We will explore excerpts of each text in seeking to discover the deeper meaning of each sacred moment.

Searching the Prophets for Values

Dates: Mondays on March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 11

Time: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: TBS Chapel

From the essence of Torah, the prophets sought to elevate the Divine covenant beyond the virtual praxis of the Priestly class. The Prophets were those who sought to speak truth to power and to help the Jewish community elevate their lives in connection to the Holy and Blessed One. From Joshua to Ezekiel, each Prophet carved out their message of hope for the future.

Adult Education Author Talks

Join us on **January 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** in the Chapel to attend a lecture and Q & A with author Linda Frank. Linda will be giving a presentation on her novels and her process in developing them. She has had a life-long interest in Jewish history. In *After the Auction* and *The Lost Torah of Shanghai*, the fictional plots are well researched and her protagonist, Lily Kovner, a retired journalist, scoffs at the nickname given to her: "Jewish Miss Marple." (cont. on page 10)

Adult Education Author Talks, cont.



As a Board member of the American Jewish Committee San Francisco Regional Office, Linda chaired "Jews in Modern China," a 2010 exhibit at the Presidio. Linda founded Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPI) in Milwaukee and served as Board Chair of HIPPI, USA.

Linda and her husband, Eli, live in Milwaukee, have two adult sons and two granddaughters, and are trying to resume their pre-pandemic traveling life. TBS is fortunate to engage this author during their "snowbird" travels to Palm Springs! If you have one of her books, bring it along for her autograph. She will also have copies of her book for sale.

Upcoming Events

- Film Series: *In Between* on February 6th, *Bye, Bye Germany* on March 27th
- Author Linda Abbit addresses the needs of caregivers on March 6th
- "A Marriage of Two Cultures" a culinary demonstration class and Havdallah with Rabbi David and Dora Lipper on April 2, 2022

Don't Miss Out!

A promotional graphic for a Tu B'Shvat event. On the left, the text "Can You Dig It?" is written in a large, green, bubbly font. Below it, in a smaller yellow font, is "Planting Roots and Branching Out for Tu B'Shvat". On the right, a close-up photograph shows a person's hands holding a small, green succulent plant in a biodegradable peat pot filled with dark soil.

Mark your calendars for another exciting holiday event and join the membership committee at TBS on **January 16th at 10:00 a.m.** as we celebrate a New Year of the Trees. We will have a professionally guided succulent workshop, arts and crafts for all ages, story time for the littles, and a Tu B'Shvat seder led by Rabbi Lipper and Cantor Reinwald. Tickets are \$40 per family.

Register at <https://tbsoc.com/tubishvat/>

Don't Miss Out!

TBS's ECC will be hosting our first major fundraiser in two years. Our "Mask"erade Vegas Night will be held on **January 29, 2022**. We look forward to a magical evening of Vegas tables, dinner, dancing, raffles, and a silent auction. This is an opportunity to celebrate not only the joys of today, but the promise of tomorrow. We are celebrating hope.

Register at <https://tbsoc.com/ecc-vegas-night-maskerade/>



EARLY BIRD (Through January 15) - \$125 for 2 tickets + 2 raffle tickets | \$75 for 1 ticket + 2 raffle tickets

AFTER JANUARY 15: \$175 for 2 tickets + 2 raffle tickets | \$125 for 1 ticket + 2 raffle tickets

DAY OF EVENT: \$200 per 2 tickets + 2 raffle tickets | \$150 for 1 ticket + 2 raffle tickets

RESERVE A TABLE (10 PEOPLE): \$1200

Sponsorship and Underwriting Opportunities Available!

Temple Beth Sholom | 2625 N. Tustin Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705 | www.tbsoc.com | Temple Office: 714-628-4600

Save the Date!

TBS Presents

Cantor's Cabaret

Mark your calendars for Temple Beth Sholom's first gala since 2018! Cantor's Cabaret on **Saturday, June 11, 2022**, will be a wonderful evening of live entertainment, delicious food, elegant cocktails, exciting live and silent auctions, a wine pull, in celebration of Cantor David Reinwald's 12 years of song and spiritual leadership of our congregation. A variety of underwriting opportunities are available to help support our biggest fundraiser of the year. Tables and tickets will be available for reservation through invitations, which will be mailed in mid-January, and on our website at www.tbsoc.com.

Make Your Plans Now to Come to the Cabaret!

From the Editor

Ruth Aptaker, Our Voices Editor and Director of Communications

Years ago, I loved to write short stories and poems. I would always be jotting down notes to myself that I could return to when I had time to write after work and my studies in grad school. I thought I was so busy! A decade later, I realize that back then, there were at least 87 hours in the day—comparatively speaking. But the stars have aligned; I have 20 quiet minutes, and there just so happened to be a few inches of unfilled space at the end of this, our 23rd issue of *Our Voices*.

As I brainstormed about what I wanted to write for a New Year's message, I began to think about all the reflective holidays we have throughout the year—January 1st, Memorial Day, Yom Kippur, Thanksgiving, birthdays—and how we sometimes jump from one big, important day to the next, spending them looking backward or looking forward. In reality, most of our time is spent in the hundreds of “in-between” days: regular days that don't have a holiday or special occasion attached to them. Over the last two years especially, I have grown hopeful and thankful for these days.

As 2022 begins, I am most looking forward to in-between days like Tuesday lunches with friends, quiet Saturday mornings spent watching cartoons in bed with my kids, Wednesday evening Mahjong with the girls, summertime Sunday Fundays, weekend date-nights (when my husband and I can find someone brave enough to watch the boys), and even the days spent making last minute edits to this newsletter.



We don't always need to be planning for a holiday, looking forward to celebrating in a Pinterest-perfect way; making a resolution and announcing big, bold plans for the future; or putting forth a concerted effort to reflect on the past. Each year, we have, say, 340 mornings to appreciate the regular. And the best part is that if you make a mistake or have a bad day, tomorrow can be another chance to get it right. So, this new year, I wish you the happiest of in-between days.

From my family to yours, Happy New Year.