

Temple Beth Sholom Presents:

# Our Voices – A Monthly Newsletter

March 2022 – Adar I/Adar II 5782 | Issue 25 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

## Important Contacts

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Cantor David Reinwald – [dreinwald@tbsoc.com](mailto: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** | Saturdays at 9:15 a.m. (virtually unless otherwise noted)

## Join Us for Our Upcoming Events!

**3/4 @ 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.

**3/6 @ 10:00 a.m.** | Adult Ed Author Talk – In addition to her professional role as an Outreach Manager for the innovative Mind and Memory outreach program at Mission Hospital in Mission Viejo, Linda Abbit has over 25 years of experience in the role of a caregiver. Linda has compiled her dedicated experience in a book titled *The Conscious Caregiver: A Mindful Approach to Caring for Your Loved One Without Losing Yourself*. Register online or call the office.

**3/11 @ 4:00 p.m.** | Purim Shabbat Parade | The Membership and Purim committees will host a special Shabbat Parade to distribute Mishloach Manot Baskets and give a friendly wave. Register for your basket and pickup method on the website.

**3/13 @ 10:00 a.m.** | Shushan Purim Carnival – TBS is so excited to bring back our annual Purim Carnival! The event has had a fresh reboot and we are looking forward to an exciting day of food, games, and performances. Bring the whole family (and some friends too!) and celebrate this fun holiday. Pre-sale tickets are available at [tbsoc.com](http://tbsoc.com).

**3/16 @ 7:00 p.m.** | Adult Purim with “Aunt Shirley” – Aunt Shirley, that is, Cantor Reinwald’s loving and slightly overbearing Aunt Shirley, is coming to Purim and she is going to tell us the story of Purim like you have never heard it before. Grab a bottle of something, a friend, and enjoy this raucous, cabaret-style event! Tickets are \$10. Register online or call TBS.

**3/20 @ 10:00 a.m.** | Brotherhood Speaker Series – TBS Brotherhood continues our annual speaker series with Dr. Jeffrey Siegler, an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. Jeff is the son of Lew Siegler and Karen Siegler, of blessed memory, and his lecture is called “Emergency Medicine in Challenging Times.” Register at [tbsoc.com](http://tbsoc.com) for the Zoom link.

**3/20 @ 3:00 p.m.** | A Musical Afternoon with Cantor Reinwald – After you listen to Dr. Siegler, head over to TBS for a lovely afternoon of music with Cantor and the JAC String Trio. Ticket info is available at [tbsoc.com](http://tbsoc.com).

**3/27 @ 10:30 a.m.** | Adult Ed Film Series Discussion – Join us for a stimulating movie and discussion group! Our second selection is *Bye Bye Germany*, which is available to stream on Amazon Prime.

# Worship at TBS

## From the Rabbi's Study

Rabbi David Lipper

Purim, which occurs on the fourteenth of the Hebrew month of Adar (or in Jerusalem, on the fifteenth), is a celebration of the events described in the Scroll of Esther (*M'gilat Esther*). The holiday, with its joyous carnival-like atmosphere, focuses on one of the main themes in Jewish history—the survival of the Jewish people despite the attempts of their enemies to destroy them. According to the Scroll of Esther, the name Purim is derived from the lot (*pur*) cast by Haman to determine the day on which the Jews would be exterminated (Esther 3:7).

The story of Purim is about hunger for power and about hatred born of the Jews' refusal to assimilate and their unwillingness to compromise religious principles by bowing before the secular authority. It is an old story. However, it has been repeated many times, making it both an ancient and modern tale.

In the story, it is related that Mordecai, Esther's cousin, refuses to prostrate himself before Haman, the vizier of King Ahasuerus. So infuriated is Haman that he seeks the annihilation of the Jewish people. Haman's accusation against the Jewish people has become the paradigm for all anti-Semites: "There is a certain people, scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples . . . their laws are different from those of other people, they do not obey the king's law, and the king should not tolerate them" (Esther 3:8). The prudent actions of Mordecai and the courage of Esther avert tragedy.

Purim recalls the dangers of minority status. Hatred of the foreigner and the stranger is still prevalent throughout the world. Antisemitism has not disappeared, but despite everything, the Jewish people have survived. Purim, however, is most of all a happy story—a story of survival and triumph over evil.

## How to Celebrate Purim at TBS

### ✓ Send a "Mishloach Manot" Basket from TBS to Brighten Someone's Day

This is an annual fundraiser for the Temple and a "fun"raiser for the community. Traditionally Purim is a time for exchanging gifts. It is customary to send gifts of food or pastries to friends and family. The sending of these gifts is called *mishlo-ach manot*, "the sending of portions" (Esther 9:22).

### ✓ The "ShuShan" Purim Carnival

The "ShuShan" Extravaganza is March 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and will include performances by our Preschool and Religious School students, games, food, arts, storytelling, music, and prizes for the kids.

### ✓ Adult Purim with "Aunt Shirley" and Persian Food (BYOB)



March 16, 2022, at 7:00pm, we will gather in the TBS Social Hall for an evening of laughter, food, and libations. Make your reservations now as seating is limited (reservation deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup>). We'll read parts of the Megillah, meet "Aunt Shirley," and have a fun evening together.



Join us in one or all these wonderful community moments. I look forward to seeing you there. On Purim we say *Marbim B'Simcha* . . . "Increase the joy!"

## Worship Committee Update

*Karen Warren, VP of Worship*

Onegs are back! We are pleased to announce that we will be serving some delightful treats after services once again. To remain conscious of healthy safety, the Oneg table will be placed by the sliders in the living room so that you can easily take your food outside and nosh. Masks must continue to be worn inside the building. If you would like to help with Onegs or be a part of the Worship Committee, please reach out to me at [warrenk123@gmail.com](mailto:warrenk123@gmail.com).

Also, if you haven't heard (and if you read this newsletter to entirety, you certainly will), Cantor's "Aunt Shirley" is coming to celebrate Purim at TBS. Please join us for a delightful night of comedy and fun. BYOB (bring your own booze or drink) and enjoy some delicious appetizers with your TBS friends. This will be set up cabaret-style in our social hall. And if that wasn't enough to make you run to get your tickets, Caron and Jeff Winston will be selling Jell-O shots to get the party started!

## Executive Messages

*Mike Winston, TBS President*



I can feel spring in the air. My lemon tree is flowering, my avocado tree is budding, and I am getting excited for Purim. We have a great Purim Carnival planned for Sunday, **March 13<sup>th</sup>**. And on **March 16<sup>th</sup>**, Cantor Reinwald's loving, and slightly overbearing Aunt Shirley is coming for an adults (21+) only night to tell us the story of Purim like you have never heard it before. This should be a hoot and holler event.

Purim is awesome as it allows us to really loosen up. By dressing up in a costume—and perhaps adding a little bit of liquid courage—we can have fun and just be ourselves. Between handling COVID, being cognizant of political divisiveness, and just dealing with everyday goings-on in our lives, it will be nice to unwind and have a laugh. I am looking forward to this upcoming holiday.

During the High Holy Days, Rabbi Lipper talked about how to continue to rebuild and heal our community. One of the messages from him that stuck with me was how easy it really was: just be present...be there. Purim is your opportunity. Grab your glass of wine, whiskey, vodka, iced tea, whatever...Grab a ticket...and have a great laugh and some fun at our Purim celebrations. I really hope to see you there. L'Shalom.

*Ruth Irving, TBS Executive Director*

Dear TBS. For those who may not have seen me in a while, or heard the news, Ben and I are expecting our first child. We cannot wait to welcome him into this world and experience the joy of parenthood. So that we can fully appreciate this time together as a family, and celebrate this moment, I will be out on maternity leave starting **March 1<sup>st</sup>**.

What does this mean? Do not worry! TBS is here to assist you on your Jewish journey. As always, our clergy provide spiritual guidance and our fabulous office staff (Jill, Pam, and Mara) are here to answer any questions you have and to help you out. Preschool questions should be directed to Tamara or Cindi and Religious School/Youth to Chavva. Our amazing custodial staff (Fabian and Octavio) will make sure all programs are ready and that the building continues to sparkle. (cont. on page 4)

*From the Executive Director, cont.*

We have so many wonderful programs coming up, and I can't wait to see the photos and hear from you about Purim, Passover, Brotherhood and Sisterhood events, and so much more when I return. I will be back from maternity leave on **June 11<sup>th</sup>** to celebrate Cantor Reinwald at the Annual Gala and hope to see you there. I wish you all a healthy and happy next few months! See you soon! [A note from the editor: Mazel Tov to you and Ben, Ruth! We are all sending our love and well wishes. TBS is in good hands; enjoy this special time.]

## Brotherhood

### Community – Fellowship – Action – Service

*Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership*

Once again, we started the month with a bang (or a gasp or a wheeze depending upon how one did on the February 6<sup>th</sup> hike). The turnout was outstanding and the Litmans, who led the hike, assured me that everyone returned. In fact, things went so well for these stalwart people, that the next hike will be **April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Be sure to save the date. The hike will take place at Weir Canyon and more details will follow, after the February hikers catch their breath.

On February 13<sup>th</sup> we had the first of our 2022 Speaker Series which we have entitled, "The Sons and Daughters of TBS: Celebrating our Blessings." To start the series, we saw (on Zoom) Miryam Lipper, daughter of Rabbi David and Dora Lipper. The talk was outstanding. The next speaker will be Jeff Siegler, M.D. the son of Karen and Lew Siegler. Jeff is an Emergency Room physician with a remarkable story to tell. Make sure to sign up for the event and see details below.

The Brotherhood reading program is now in full swing. We are enlisting members to read to the younger kids in the religious school on various Sundays. It takes a total of 1 hour and it is a lot of fun. Please call or email Arnold Shugarman if you would like the opportunity to enjoy yourself and give the kids a fun time. Men of all ages are welcome to read. Even one Sunday out of the year.

The Brotherhood had purchased a full table for the preschool's Vegas Night fundraiser which could not happen due to the Omicron surge. However, we are leaving our money with the preschool whether there is another Vegas Night or not. Funds are being put toward upgrading the shade structures on the preschool playground so if you have a few shekels, donate them to Brotherhood or the preschool to help keep our youngest kids stay cool and out of the sun.

The Purim Carnival is **March 13<sup>th</sup>** and instead of just sponsoring a ride or two, we are purchasing all the food for the carnival—we'll be BBQing it too! This is another example of how your donation and/or membership dollars are put to work. As always, we can use men to "man" the BBQ, to donate towards food purchase, and to help during the endeavor.

Brotherhood is also helping to sponsor this newsletter that Ruth Aptaker is doing such an amazing job with. We are making our second donation to this worthy cause so we can all keep in touch. [A(nother) note from the editor: Thank you, Brotherhood! I am so proud to be a part of TBS and this supportive community. This newsletter is the brainchild of Monica Engel and all the past editors, but it is not possible without contributions—both in words and monetarily. Thank you, thank you, TBS Brotherhood and Sylvan!!]

Once again Poker Nights will start up at the end of March. It will be the first time we can get together in person at the Temple, so watch for the date or contact Lew Siegler. And until next time remember, if you are a man, if you have a man, or if you know a man, sign them up for Brotherhood. I guarantee you it won't hurt. Regards to all and a Happy Purim from Brotherhood.

## Brotherhood Speaker Series - The Sons and Daughters of TBS: Celebrating Our Blessings!



### **“Emergency Medicine in Challenging Times”**

**Jeffrey Siegler, MD**

*Sunday, March 20, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Dr. Jeffrey Siegler is an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. Jeff is the son of Lew Siegler and Karen Siegler, of blessed memory. His job is split between treating patients in the Emergency Department, teaching medical students and resident physicians, and working as an EMS physician. As an EMS physician Jeff wears many hats. He is the Medical Director/Chief Medical Officer of the Mehlville Fire Protection District, Rock Township Ambulance District, and Jefferson County 911 Dispatch Center. He helps oversee the STARS program at Saint Louis Children's Hospital where they create individual care plans for EMS to use when taking care of children with special healthcare needs. He is also the assistant team physician for both a regional SWAT team and Urban Search and Rescue/HAZMAT team and the liaison from the National Association of EMS Physicians to the National Fire Protection Association and the Special Operations Medical Association. In his spare time—one or twice per month—he sleeps.



### **“A Music Man for The Digital Age”**

**Jeremy Sirota**

*Sunday, April 10, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Jeremy Sirota is the Chief Executive Officer at Merlin, the independent's digital music licensing partner, based in New York and London. Jeremy is the son of Ed and Ilene Sirota.



### **“A Legal Approach to Dealing with Prejudice”**

**Michael Swartz, Esq.**

*Sunday, May 15, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Michael Swartz is the co-chair of the Litigation Group and head of the shareholder activism litigation practice and a member of the executive committee at the legal firm of Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, in New York. Michael is the son of Sylvan and Barbara Swartz.

## Sisterhood



As we begin the month of March TBS Sisterhood continues its collection drive for period products for unhoused women and girls. The response so far has been fantastic thanks to the generosity of our Sisterhood members and our congregational family. Every day in the U.S., countless women and girls must choose between food and tampons. Some low-income and homeless women resort to selling their food stamps to pay for feminine hygiene products as food stamps, SNAP, and most other government programs don't cover them. Many shelters don't have them in their budgets, and some are hesitant to ask for donations of these products because of embarrassment.

March is National Women's Month, so it is the perfect time to show our support for the unhoused girls and women in our community. We are collecting feminine hygiene products and packs of personal wipes. All products will be donated to the Southwest Community Center in Santa Ana. There is a box in the temple living room for donations. (cont. on page 6)



*Sisterhood, cont.*

Donated items will be packaged into individual kits at the Sisterhood meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. All Sisterhood members are encouraged to attend and help. Our guest speaker that evening will be Sandy Rosen, LCSW, MFT and her topic is “Homeless: A Day in the Life.” Watch your email for more details about the meeting and we hope to see you there.

## Our Youth

### Early Childhood Center

*Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education*

The Families with Young Children and Membership Committees recently hosted a Tu’ BiShvat fundraiser to support our preschool garden. One of the ideas we discussed is to plant a grape vine. Our hope is that the vine will cover the bare fence and will, with the right amount of nurturing and care, bear fruit.

There are many analogies between nature and children. Plants, like children, can be unpredictable. Some will flourish in harsh climates, while others may wither under the best of circumstances. It is the gardener’s job to determine what each plant needs to flourish. If our grape vine fails to thrive, we will call our gardening experts to help us determine the best course of action.

We, as teachers, view each child as an individual. We provide the fertile soil and monitor each child to ensure that he or she thrives. Some children may need more water and others more sun. Either way, our goal is the same: to develop each child’s unique potential to become confident successful, and competent learners.

### Religious School

*Chavva Olander, Director of Youth Education*



Shalom! A highlight of last month’s TBS Religious School was our day of Parshah Presentations. Students in both classes shared creative depictions of Parashat Ki Tisa. Our K-2 class painted the story frame by frame and rolled their paintings into a giant scroll and our 3rd-7th graders wrote and performed a skit that demonstrated the themes and messages in the story.

Our Parent Nosh & Learn for February took place on Super Bowl Sunday. Parents considered Jewish perspectives on physical health from a variety of text sources and discussed ways to incorporate Jewish values into family conversations about healthy practices. The day wrapped up with every family inventing their own game and joining up with another family to participate in each other’s activities.



At February’s Teen Learning Program, teens reviewed biblical roots of the Israel-Palestine conflict and began discussing the early historical events that have been identified as contributing factors. They also enjoyed some social time with pizza and games.

We’re looking forward to the Purim Carnival and more learning opportunities for our entire Religious School community in the coming month.

## Asher's Bar Mitzvah Project

Asher McDonnell



Hi, I'm Asher. For my Bar Mitzvah project, I am going to assemble First Aid kits to donate to the Pathways of Hope "Hub of Hope". Pathways of Hope is a charity that donates to people who need emergency food, hygiene, sanitation items, and helps people who are low income or homeless. The kits I will make will be distributed to up to 150-200 households visiting the Hub per week.

I chose this because my family is serious about COVID safety and my dad is a health care provider, so I feel a strong connection to medical health and safety. Some people do not have access to things that can keep them healthy like we do. If you could donate any of these supplies for my project, that would be much appreciated. Items needed include:

- |                        |                     |                |                 |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ○ Gauze Pads           | ○ Triple Antibiotic | ○ Saline Wash  | ○ Solar Blanket |
| ○ Bandages (all sizes) | ○ Ointment          | ○ Alcohol Pads | ○ Ear Plugs     |
| ○ Gauze Roller         | ○ Tweezers          | ○ Eye Wash     | ○ Sunscreen     |
| ○ Bandage              | ○ Adhesive Tape     | ○ Eye Pads     |                 |
|                        | ○ Latex Gloves      | ○ Q-Tips       |                 |

Ways you can send donations: Drop off at our house, have it sent to our house (through online shopping or my Amazon Wishlist which is linked in the weekly Shavu'on), drop off at TBS in the living room, or I can pick up if you are local. Please message my mom, Elyse, for our home address at [eroth76@gmail.com](mailto:eroth76@gmail.com). Thank you so much for your support! (◡‿◡)

## 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 Fainburg, and our TBS Brotherhood.

# Committee Updates

## Membership/FWYC

*Mary Gonzalez, VP of Membership*

During the month of March, the Membership and Families with Young Children Committees are supporting all the amazing Purim activities TBS is offering. Be sure to head to [tbsoc.com](http://tbsoc.com) and register for the Purim Carnival—our biggest fundraiser of the year for our preschool and religious school—and for “Adult” Purim with Aunt Shirley which is guaranteed to be a rowdy and entertaining evening. We are also assisting in assembling and delivering the Mishloach Manot Baskets to all our members.

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!

## Mishloach Manot (Purim Baskets)

*Purim Committee*



Purim is a day for celebrating how much kindness we can give to others. There is a Jewish tradition of giving Purim baskets, *Mishloach Manot*, to family and friends and this year we are again offering the opportunity to share in this mitzvah of giving! Everyone at TBS—members, staff, and clergy—will receive a basket with a card listing who sent them Purim wishes! Spread the love to your TBS friends by adding your name to the card in their basket, which will be filled with goodies and holiday treats.

Options to receive your basket:

- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-6:30 p.m. | TBS Membership and Purim committees will host a special Shabbat Parade.
- Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | At the Purim Carnival.
- Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm | At Adult Purim.
- If you are unable to pick up your basket, we will deliver it to you between March 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. We cannot schedule delivery for specific times, but please note if you will not be home during the weekend. Sign-ups for pick-up or delivery can be found on the TBS website.

When you sign up, you can include your name on the cards of specific members (\$18 each) or the entire congregation (\$360). You also have the option to be listed on the cards of anyone who sponsors one for you! If you wish to reciprocate for someone who purchases for you, you have the option to choose reciprocity. All reciprocity charges will be processed after sign ups close. You can also purchase baskets for friends or family who are not TBS members on the order page.

## Settled Rabbi Search Committee

*Lori Griffin, SRSC Chair*

The Settled Rabbi Search Committee is delighted to let you know that we selected two very promising candidates to visit TBS in person at the end of January and in early February. The candidates met with the Search Committee, The Board of Directors, Rabbi Lipper, the Executive Director, Brotherhood President, and a representative from Sisterhood. The Search Committee, while very encouraged by both candidates, chose to not move forward with one after meeting with the candidate in person. The committee is continuing discussions with the remaining candidate and is very excited about their candidacy. 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](mailto:lori@globaltrim.com).



## Chavurot

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

TBS is reinvigorating our chavurah program and we are happy to have already formed 7 new chavurot! Being involved in a chavurah will help you to connect and engage with others in our community and can lead to lifelong friendships. 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](mailto:shaniboone2@sbcglobal.net) or Sydell at 714-202-5836 / [sydandy@aol.com](mailto:sydandy@aol.com).

## Education

*Steffanie Belasco, VP of Education*

Our March calendar is full of activities and exciting classes for all ages. Please plan on joining us for one or all the Education events listed below and if you have ideas for programs or classes, please contact me at [steffanietalk@aol.com](mailto:steffanietalk@aol.com) as our education and long-range planning committees are forming.

Our second Adult Education speaker this year is Linda Abbit, a local author who will discuss her book, *The Conscious Caregiver, A Mindful Approach to Caring for Your Loved One Without Losing Yourself* on **March 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** in the Board Room. We encourage members of all ages to attend as there may be a time in all our lives when our friends, parents, or family may need us to be their caregiver. Linda asks the questions, “How should you manage the changing dynamic between you and your loved one? What is the best way to balance caring for Mom and Dad while still being Mom and Dad to your children?” Linda authored this book using her years of experience. She is the founder of Tender Loving Eldercare and in 2009 she received the Caregiver of the Year Award by CareGiving.com.

Keren Marmareli is planning an amazing Purim celebration for our community on **March 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Come have a day of fun, booing Haman, eating Hamantaschen, visiting the animals of Shushan in our petting zoo, playing carnival games, bidding at the silent auction, and of course enjoying a BBQ provided by Brotherhood. To kick off the day, our kids from preschool and religious school will perform and are sure to bring a smile to us all. Rabbi Lipper will tell the story of Purim with his Rap, a sure thing not to miss. Tickets for wristbands and food are available on our website, in the weekly Shavu'on, and on Shulcloud. This is a fundraiser for both the preschool and religious school, so your presence is needed!

If you missed the stimulating conversations from last month's “Reels and Repartee,” you have an opportunity to join us this month as we discuss the movie, *Bye Bye Germany* on **March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-12:00 via Zoom**. Registration is available in the Shavu'on, and a DVD is available for those not able to access Amazon Prime. Please contact me if you'd like to borrow it.

Rabbi Lipper's Adult Education Presentations continue with *Searching the Prophets for Values*. Over the next several weeks, Rabbi Lipper will teach us about our prophets who sought to elevate the Divine speaking 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. Rabbi Lipper's classes are informative to those new to study as well as those with more experience. Try them; times and dates are listed in the Adult Ed section on page 11.

Our teachers in our religious school and preschool have demonstrated commendable resiliency despite the ever-changing health guidelines they face. Thank you to all who are under the direction of Tamara Levin and Chavva Olander for creating an amazing environment of learning and community for our children. Education is a pillar of our mission statement and an integral part of our programming, and I am so proud of all the staff and volunteers who are a part of it!

## Fundraising

*Melanie Pollak, Director of Fundraising*

Want to help lead TBS into the future while helping to create fun and exciting events? Join the TBS Fundraising Committee! The Fundraising Committee meets once a month to plan fundraising campaigns, explore participatory revenue streams, and develop events to help the temple meet its financial goals. If you have a fundraising, sales, marketing, or development background and/or happen to be a creative person with great ideas, we need you! Please contact Melanie Pollak at (714) 204-6183 / [melaniepollak@gmail.com](mailto:melaniepollak@gmail.com).

# Social Action

## Education - Direct Service – Advocacy - Collections

*Paula Pitluk, Social Action Chair*

The Social Action Committee has been hard at work supporting our community as well as offering ways for our families to participate in Social Action. We hope many of you were able to hear guest Atty McClellan of United to End Homelessness in February. To recall, Atty works on monitoring housing opportunities for the many Orange County residents who find it challenging if not impossible to locate affordable housing for themselves and their families.

TBS has long supported students and families at Santiago Canyon College in keeping their food pantry filled. Prior to the covid shutdown, an SCC staff member came to TBS every Sunday at the end of Mitzvah to Meals to collect food items to restock the college food pantry. On our recent visit to the college, the members of the Social Action Team, including Marci, Cheryl, and Paula were able to present Giovanni, the Food Bank Director, with a generous amount of Albertson's gift cards. Please continue to support Mitzvah of the Month every month. Thanks for your perseverance and generosity, Monica, as well as thanks to generous donors.

We are excited to have two booths at this year's **March 13<sup>th</sup>** Purim Carnival. Eco Now is a zero-waste pop up shop that provides recycling information and eco-friendly products for sale. Bring your containers to their booth and take advantage of their low prices. Our second booth, Waste Management, will be providing current information on the new composting programs being implemented throughout Orange County. Stop by both booths and learn how to help us protect our environment.

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) / 714-225-2058. We meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

## Mitzvah of the Month

*Monica Engel, Social Action Member*

The generosity of our members created happy, grateful people at both Orangewood facilities. The cozy pajamas, new t-shirts and other necessities lifted the spirits of the recipients. It's amazing how a pair of new undies can make you feel. Most of us take that feeling for granted.

On another note, did you know March is Women's History Month? Social Action is pleased to support Sisterhood in their collection of women's personal items such as pads, tampons, and hygienic wipes. There is a marked box in the temple living room for donations. After assembled, the kits will be donated to the Southwest Community Center in Santa Ana. We hope our members will, once again, show their passion for *tikkun olam*. Thank you 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! 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 Escoe at [caescoe43@gmail.com](mailto:caescoe43@gmail.com).

# Adult Education

## Rabbi Lipper's Adult Education Presentations

*Searching the Prophets for Values*

Dates: Sundays on March 13, 20 + April 3, 10, 24 + May 1

Time: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBS Board Room

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. Please visit the TBS website or call the office to register.

## Focus on Food

*Angela Holmes, Adult Ed Chair*

Many times, in Torah, important events are referenced over shared meals. For example, on the night before liberation from slavery, G-d instructs the Jewish people to commemorate the move from slavery to freedom by conducting what became the Passover Seder. In modern times, as we celebrate Purim and Passover, we include with our traditions, the sharing of food and beverage. In general, the act of eating together is a social act; a shared experience we can have with anyone. In Jewish life this is an act of fellowship. During the meal, this time together becomes a time of noteworthy conversation. Those at the table, talk together about what matters in their lives and hearts. Eating together creates opportunities for encounters of intellectual discourse and *neshamah* (soul).

The suggested readings this month are an opportunity to delve more deeply into the significance of this shared time with food. These readings reference the evolution of culinary traditions that accompany religious observation, enhancing the meaning of a shared experience and solidifying Jewish traditions.

*The Study of Food: (Resource: Jewish Book Council)*

- o *From the Forbidden Fruit to Milk and Honey: A Commentary of Food in the Torah* by Diana Lipton
- o *Seder Stories: Passover Thoughts on Food, Family and Freedom* by Nancy Rips
- o *Global Jewish Foodways: A History* by Hasia R. Diner, et al.
- o *The Sacred Table: Creating a Jewish Food Ethic* by Mary C. Zamore
- o *The Inquisitors Apprentice* by Chris Moriarity

### Reading with Our Children:

- *The Angel and the Cholent: Food Representation from the Israeli Folktale Archives* by Idit Pintel-Ginsberg
- *Pasta, Fried Rice and Matzoh Balls: Immigrant Cooking in America* by Loretta Frances Ichord
- *Challah: A Chewish Guide to Torah* by Susan Abramson
- *The Peddler and the Baker* by Yael Molchansky

### Reels and Repartee: Adult Education Film Series



Thanks to all who joined us for our stimulating movie and discussion group! Since there are so many provocative and "energizing" movies to stream from our homes, let's get together again via Zoom for discussion and dissection. Our second selection is *Bye Bye Germany*, available on Amazon Prime. You can stream any time before the March 27th, 10:30 a.m. discussion. A Zoom link will be sent prior to the program once registration is submitted. A brief synopsis is provided below for your convenience.

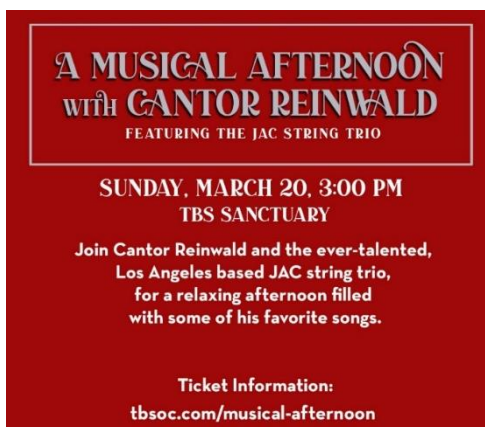
"Hitler is dead, but we're still alive," Holocaust survivor, and revered jokester, David Bermann emphasizes to his newly assembled rag tag group of businessmen in the wonderful war dramedy, *Bye Bye Germany*. Inspired by screenwriter Michel Bergmann's own family history, the end of WWII finds mustachioed entrepreneur Bermann enlisting fellow survivors to shrewdly sell overpriced "luxury" linens to guilt-ridden Germans.

### Upcoming Adult Education Events

- Author Linda Abbit addresses the needs of caregivers on March 6<sup>th</sup>
- Film Series: *Bye, Bye Germany* on March 27<sup>th</sup>
- "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 On These Upcoming Events!

We are looking forward to these upcoming events and hope you will mark your calendars. Please see the weekly Shavu'on and the website for more information and registration. You can also call the office. The first is our annual Purim Carnival on **March 13<sup>th</sup>**, presented by the ECC and Religious School. The second is an afternoon of music on **March 20<sup>th</sup>**, with Cantor Reinwald and the JAC String Trio. And don't forget to save **Saturday, June 11, 2022**, for a wonderful evening of live entertainment, delicious food, elegant cocktails, exciting live and silent auctions, and a wine pull in celebration of Cantor David Reinwald's 12 years of song and spiritual leadership. A variety of underwriting opportunities are on sale now at [www.tbsoc.com](http://www.tbsoc.com)! Tables and tickets will be available soon.



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