

Temple B’Nai Israel



Rabbi’s Corner:

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Purim is here, so get out your masks and costumes and get ready to celebrate! Masks, it is said, hide our faces, but at the same time they uncover something about us. When our identity is concealed, the truth about our inner character is revealed. In addition to dressing up and celebrating the holiday – and triumph of justice over the evil Haman that Purim represents – there is also a tradition of assuring justice in our own time. The Hebrew for “justice” – *tzedek* – shares the same root as *tzedakah*, which we usually associate with charity. Giving money and food to other people is an acknowledgement of their basic right to dignity, and so it is not considered a voluntary act in Judaism. It is an obligation of justice as much as catching a thief or stopping a murderer. However, it is different from other kinds of justice in an important way. Most justice is very public; there are hearings, testimony, and public records. However, charity is often private and anonymous. We have no way of knowing whether or not our neighbors have done their fair share in enforcing these laws of human dignity, and there is no one checking in on us to make sure that we give enough. A Purim tradition is to send gifts of food or money to family, friends, acquaintances, and the needy alike, which may or may not be done anonymously. There is a grand equality in this tradition, which encourages us to do justice even from behind a mask.



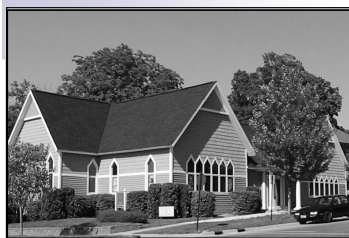
שלום

Student Rabbi, Nathan Farb



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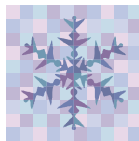
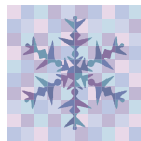
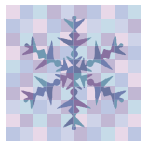
A Note from Carol...

In keeping with the playful spirit of Purim, a joke was pulled on me! In the February newsletter, I mistakenly announced that TBI’s Purim Carnival would be on February 9th. I have since learned that in Hebrew leap years, Purim occurs in the “leap month” of Adar II, rather than in its customary month of Adar. Put on your best Esther, Mordechai and Haman costumes and join our students at the school’s Purim Carnival on Sunday March 9, at 11:30 a.m. This month’s newsletter also includes information about, a Shabbat service in the Canadian Soo on Friday March 7, a one-time musical extravaganza by Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi on March 16, and a Six Congregation Getaway Weekend on March 26-28. I hope to see you at all the activities! Shalom,
Carol Ellstein, 231-525-9250 or cgeellstein@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

Sun., Feb. 23, 10:00 a.m. – **Sunday School**
 Sun., March 2, 10:00 a.m. – **Library Work Bee**
 Fri., March 7, 7:30 p.m. – **Soo Shabbat**
 Sun., March 9, 10:00 a.m. – **Sunday School**
 Sun., March 9, 11:30 a.m. – **Purim Carnival**
 Mon., March 10, 7:00 p.m. – **Board Meeting**
 Sun., March 16, noon – **Hot Pstromi**
 Fri., March 21, 5:30 p.m. – **Tot Shabbat**
 Fri., March 21, 7:30 p.m. – **Shabbat Services**
 Sun., March 22, 10:00 a.m. – **Sunday School**



Soo Shabbat!

One of our sister synagogues, Congregation Beth Jacob in Sault Ste. Marie Ontario, has invited TBI to join them at their monthly Shabbat service on March 7, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., weather permitting. Carpools can be arranged. For more information and to RSVP contact Carol Ellstein at 517-881-0668 or cgeinstein@gmail.com.

Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi

Join us in the temple B’nai Israel sanctuary for a dazzling musical experience on March 16, 2014, at 12 noon, featuring klezmer sensation Yale Strom & Hot pPtromi.

The Klezmer supergroup will present their unique brand of Klezmer, Balkan and Yiddish music in a program called "ROMANIA RUMEY-NE!"

The trio melds their ethnographic experience and high octane energy into a unique show that combines stories, songs and improvisation to create a klezmer whirlwind extravaganza.

In addition to being an award-winning musician, Yale Strom is recognized for his work as a music composer, author, filmmaker and scholar. He is the author of 13 books, including the children's book "The Wedding That Saved a Town," and eight award-winning documentaries, notably "The Last Klezmer," which was short-listed for an Academy Award.

See *Pstromi* on page 3...



Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi

Frozen Chosen Shabbat Weekend

The L’Dor v’ Dor Consortium invites TBI members of all ages to join our upcoming Six Congregation Frozen Chosen Shabbat Weekend, March 28-30, 2014, at the Comfort Inn Suites in Mackinaw City.

The full weekend agenda will include social and recreational activities for children, teens and adults; Shabbat and Havdalah services; Torah study; Rabbi-led programs; swimming; outdoor activities; round-table discussions for religious school educators and congregational presidents; and time for eating, sleeping and relaxing.

Our featured guest is Rabbi Daniel Bogard of Temple Anshai Emeth in Peoria, Illinois. A dynamic personality, he served as a student rabbi for Temple Beth Sholom in Ishpeming before becoming ordained. In addition to his current pulpit, Rabbi Bogard teaches Religious Studies at Bradley University and serves as Director of the campus

Hillel. He also hosts the Peoria Public Radio program "Peoria on Faith."

You may register directly at Comfort Suites, (231) 436-5929. Be sure to mention "Synagogue Retreat" when registering.

Cost for the entire weekend is a \$138 to \$276 depending on the size of the room. The weekend is supported by a grant from the Ravitz Foundation and the collaboration of the L'Dor v'Dor Women's Leadership Consortium. Whole or half subsidies for the weekend are available, roommates can be arranged.

For more information, contact event Chairperson Shannon Ruiz of Temple Beth Sholom at shmceach@gmail.com or (906) 362-3388 or TBI President Carol Ellstein at cgeinstein@gmail.com or 517-881-0668.





Donations Received

through February 20, 2014

General Fund: Patron Level

Irving Friedman

General Fund

Rosalyn Goldstick – *Mazel Tov to Carol Ellstein on becoming the new Board President, and Thank you to Sally Cannon for her years of service.*

Rosalyn Goldstick – *Mazel Tov to our Temple Youth for their wonderful accomplishments in High School Debate and Robotics-Gabe Meyerson, Max Meyerson, Anne Johnson, Jeremiah Johnson, and Eli Ellison.*

Carol Ellstein – *In memory of Andy Ellison's mother*

Funds/Named Donations Available

- Temple General Fund Newsletter Fund
- Prayer Book Fund Building Fund
- Irene Gordon Memorial Fund
- Lee and Miles Jaffe Memorial Fund
- Religious Education Fund
- Stacy McCracken Memorial Youth Enrichment Fund
- Alvin's "Helping Hand" Rosenhaus Memorial Fund
- Tree of Life Fund (Leaves \$100 Each)
- Aubrey & Gerald Meyerson Perpetual Kaddish Fund
- Donor Wall Tile Fund (Tiles \$48 each plus freight)
- Tribute Fund (packets of 5 tributes for \$90/pack)

Temple B'Nai Israel Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My contribution is in honor or memory of:

Circle which fund you are designating (above) and then mail your check and this completed form to:

Tom Johnson, Treasurer
Temple B'Nai Israel
PO Box 2416
Petoskey MI 49770

...*Pstromi*, continued from page 2

Before appearing in Petoskey, Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi will perform in Calumet on March 14 (sponsored by Temple Jacob) and Marquette on March 15 (sponsored by Temple Beth Sholom). The three performances are supported by a grant from the Ravitz Foundation Michigan Small Jewish Communities Initiative of the Michigan Jewish Conference, a program of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit.

Light refreshments will be served following the concert performance. For more information contact Carol Ellstein at 517-881-0668 or cgellstein@gmail.com.

Mazel Tov!



Congratulations to Rabbi Matt Zerwyk and Mayim Meyers on their recently announced engagement!

Temple B’Nai Israel
 PO Box 2416
 Petoskey, MI 49770

Located at the corner of Waukazoo &
 Michigan or on the web at:
www.templebnaiisraelofpetoskey.org

Upcoming
Rabbinic Visits

April 18 – 20
 May 16 – 18

Temple B’Nai Israel **5774** March 2014
Adar I **5774** **Adar II**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 23 10:00 Sunday School	24	25	26	27	28 6:07 	March 1 Parshat Pekudei
2 Rosh Chodesh 10:00 Library Work Bee	3	4	5	6	7 Shabbat in Canadian Soo 6:16 	8 Parshat Vayikra
9 10:00 Sunday School 11:30 Purim Carnival	10 7:00 Board Mtg.	11	12	13 Fast of Esther	14 7:25 	15 Parshat Tzav
16 Purim 12:00 – Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi Concert	17 Shushan Purim	18	19	20	21 5:30 Tot Shabbat 7:30 Shabbat Services 7:35 	22 Parshat Shemini
23 10:00 Sunday School	24	25	26	27	28 Frozen Chosen 7:44 	29 Parshat Tazria