



January 2010

Temple B'Nai Israel

Temple Board

Sally Cannon, President
231-547-0817

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231-548-1412

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231-487-1661

Gus Paz, Treasurer
231-347-5131

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231-525-9250

Bev Holden
231-535-2455

Josh Meyerson
231-347-5402

Lori Schulman
231-547-1226

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231-526-6432

Rabbi's Corner:

Most years it only snows once in Jerusalem and it doesn't stick, just melts on impact. Last year while my wife, Rebbitzin Jill, and I lived in Jerusalem, we went without even one snow fall.

When I landed in Traverse City on December 11th, I saw another world. Snow blanketed everything. As I drove US-31, winds blew and made the land indistinguishable from the sky. Only Thomas the Fawn appearing in the midst of the frozen Narnia-like landscape would have made my experience more complete. I have now been initiated into the true art of car handling.

While Eskimos (more politely known as Inuit people) have hundreds of words for snow we have one, "SHE-leg". How appropriate given the average one snow per-year in Jerusalem! The root of SHE-leg has other meanings as well, for example, the word L'hit-SHA-leg: to crystallize.

This year, our community has crystallized marvelously. This fall and winter have drawn our largest off-summer crowds in years. We had fantastic Sukkot & Simchat Torah celebrations, and a fabulous Chanukah party. I am indebted to all of you, for crystallizing as a community this season: for making these successes possible, and for making it an absolute joy to serve you.

You have come together in ways unimaginable, and blown away every expectation. We have a thriving Tot-Shabbat group. We have a Sunday School overflowing with children eager to learn, and our women's Rosh Chodesh group is coalescing rapidly. You have made all of this possible. It is an absolute blast to watch every corner of our community flourishing.

Still, we need to keep up our momentum and need your help to keep moving. Contact a member of our Board to get involved. Judaism is not only about commandments, prayer and God. The lessons of Judaism refer us to the centrality of our community. Judaism's principals compel us to look out for each other. To work with each other to find new ways to improve each others' lives and those of the community in which we live. We will help you find your place.

Let us admire the snow. Let us utilize it to form beautiful crystals in our hearts. Let us continue to build, with the warmth and splendor of Jerusalem, a community that warms our hearts.

Kul Tuv, Student Rabbi Brent Gutmann



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Herbal Indulgences

Sunday, January 10th, 12:30: During this month of Shevat, when we're celebrating our connection to the environment with Tu B'Shevat, join Temple women as we indulge our senses using the wonders of the earth to heal our bodies and souls, with our own Temple herbalist Gail Willens, at her lovely lake home in Alanson. Please bring a brunch/ lunch dish to pass. Beverages will be provided and carpooling available. Please RSVP to Pam before January 8, 2010: 231-622-8611 or povsh@yahoo.com. This program brought to you through the Rosh Chodesh thread of Growing Jewish Families.

Learn Conversational Hebrew!

Mango Languages is an online learning site and offers Hebrew. We are set up for a trial. Check it out through the Temple website or directly through:

<http://libraries.mangolanguages.com/temple-b-nai-israel-of-petoskey/try/c17c21fe0>

If you like the Hebrew lessons and would like us to subscribe, let Val know: 231-487-1661 or meyerson_954@charter.net.

Sisterhood Moving Forward

I'm delighted to report that Sisterhood had a very productive meeting on Sunday November 22nd. I was thrilled by the turnout and enthusiastic response. Thanks to all who came, spoke, and volunteered to help. Here is what we discussed:

Tasks

A few months ago, Sisterhood Treasurer Val Meyerson prepared a list of tasks that Sisterhood typically fulfills, and suggested that I might use it to solicit chairpersons for each item. I followed her advice. The "?" designation below indicates that the person was "suggested/hoped for/did it in the past and might want to continue" but has not yet been confirmed.

1. Overall coordinator - Carol Ellstein
2. Bimah flowers - Bev Holden
3. Goodwill - Carol Ellstein, Pam Ovshinsky
4. High Holiday temple preparations - Sunday school class, coordinated by Tom and Val; MJ to help?
5. Yom Kippur Break Fast - Gail Willens?
6. Passover Seder - Therese Rasch, Berta Molasky
7. Paper Supplies - Amy McMullen
8. Phone tree - Sandy LaLonde, Lee Katlein?
9. Social gatherings - Pam Ovshinsky, Jean Gross, Sandy LaLonde
10. Summer Oneg Chair - Therese Rasch

If you didn't attend the meeting and would like to help with any of the tasks, please contact either the appropriate chair or me.

Identity and Role within the Temple

While contemplating taking on the Sisterhood presidency, I remembered some not-so-positive memories that I had about other Sisterhoods. This prompted me to wonder whether the "Sisterhood" name is even still appropriate for our temple, because it assumes that Sisterhood engages in functions that are primarily relevant to, or have typically been performed by, women. This sells our temple community short, because we need everyone's time and sweat to survive. I wondered whether we might be better off changing the name to something like "Chaverim" or "Mitzvah Group" in order to better capture Sisterhood's essence. So, I asked the group for input. We talked briefly about Sisterhood's role, but stopped short of actually proposing a name change; among other things, it's not about what we call ourselves, but what we do as a group to keep the temple running. I'd like to continue the discussion during my tenure as President and will welcome all input.

Sincerely,
Carol Ellstein

Sisterhood Remembered

Our rich Sisterhood legacy goes back to the first Sisterhood President Minnie Rosenthal (wife of Temple President Alick Rosenthal, who was the son of Temple founder Sam Rosenthal, and aunt to Irene Gordon), along with those who followed, including Julia Fryman, Berta Heller and Irene Levine. Of course in recent years we owe a debt of gratitude to Rosalyn Goldstick, Bev Holden and immediate Past President, Berta Myerson-Molasky. Not to mention, with the recent passing of Betty Rosenhaus, we are grateful to the donation made a few years ago of her antique collection, which has kept Sisterhood in the black! Please send Carol your Sisterhood story so we can recognize our rich history and contributions.



Upcoming Events

- Jan. 8, 5:15 PM – Tot Shabbat
- Jan. 8, 7 PM – Shabbat Services
- Jan. 10, 12:30PM – Herbal Indulgences w/ GJF
- Jan. 17, 10 AM – Religious School
- Jan. 29, 5:15 PM – Tot Shabbat
- Jan. 29, 7 PM – Shabbat Services
- Jan. 31, 10 AM – Religious School
- Jan. 31, 11:30 AM – Tu B'Shvat Seder
- Feb. 7, 10 AM – Religious School
- Feb. 26, 5:15 PM – Tot Shabbat
- Feb. 26, 7 PM – Shabbat Services
- Feb. 28 AM – Religious School
- Feb. 28, 11:30AM – Purim Carnival

Donations Received



General Fund

In memory of Joan Chodak
 Temple Sisterhood
 Marni Stone
 Diane & Mitch Mondry
 Richard J. & Sharon Maddin
 Gary & Mindy Sircus
 Tom & Barbara Kovan
 J. N. & Lisa Dizik
 Jack & Jane Solomon
 Emanuel & Lois Mark

In memory of Shirley Willens
 Lawrence Sherman & Faith Allen
 Louis & Sally Cannon
 Gustavo & Rosanne Paz
 Temple Sisterhood

Alvin's Helping Hand Fund

In memory of Betty Rosenhaus
 Sidney & Sharon Moss
 Mel Rosenhaus
 Irving & Honey Friedman
 Temple Sisterhood

Perpetual Kaddish Fund

Shelby Tauber, in memory of Joan Chodak

Tree of Life

Harold and Gail Willens, in honor of Noah
 Stark-Lowenstein's Bar Mitzvah

Professional Rabbinic Fund

Max Engelman

Stacy McCracken Fund

Beverly Holden, in memory of Shirley Willens

Capital Campaign Fund

Gustavo & Rosanne Paz

Funds/Named Donations Available

- Temple General Fund Newsletter Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Capital Campaign/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, Stones \$1000 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:

Gus Paz, Treasurer
 Temple B'Nai Israel
 PO Box 2416
 Petoskey MI 49770

"The old shall be made new;
 and the new shall be made holy."

Avraham Isaac Kook



Are you mailing something to the Temple? The Temple does not have a mail receptacle on location, so please send all mail to PO Box 2416, Petoskey, MI 49770. The physical location of the Temple is 505 Michigan, at the corner of Waukazoo. Thank you.

January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8 5:15 Tot Shabbat 7:00 Shabbat Services	9
10 12:30 Herbal Indulgences	11 7:00 Temple Board Meeting	12	13	14	15	16
17 10:00 Religious School	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 5:15 Tot Shabbat 7:00 Shabbat Services	30
31 10:00 Religious School 11:30 Tu B'Shvat Seder						

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