



Temple B'Nai Israel

April 2008 Newsletter ✪ Nisan/Iyar 5768
Our One Hundred Eleventh Year of Consecutive Service

■STATE OF THE CONGREGATION—FULL ARTICLE INSIDE■

The Temple Board has begun revising our strategic plan. As we begin this process, the Board felt it was important to share our assessment of the current "State of the Congregation." Please take a moment to read the assessment in its entirety on page three of the newsletter—your feedback is very important to the success of this plan.

■PURIM CELEBRATION■

The Purim Party at TBI could only be called a resounding success!

Over 40 members and friends joined together for a noisy reading of the Megillah (Story of Esther), with singing accompanied by Conrad Gold on the guitar, and a sweet costumed parade wound through the sanctuary accompanied by Suzanne Shumway on clarinet.



A boisterous carnival followed, with many new and exciting games and prizes. Lunch included homemade hamentaschen in abundance, made by Suzanne, Karly, Val, Josh, Max and Gabe Meyerson, and Elisa. All were delicious!

Thanks to all who attended and participated.

■PASSOVER SEDER■

Passover is coming
Isn't that great!
Make your reservations early—
Please don't wait!

The Passover Seder will be held at the new Social Hall on Saturday, April 19th, beginning promptly at



4:30 p.m. The Seder will be a planned potluck dinner with Gus Paz as our Seder leader.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED for the Seder. To cover costs of the Seder supplies, there will be a \$10 charge for adults and children over the age of twelve. Children under the age of twelve may attend free of charge.

For reservations, or to donate to the potluck menu, please contact Rosalyn Goldstick at 231-547-2636 –or– Therese Rasch at 231-526-9301. Reservations made before April 14th would be greatly appreciated

■ THE NEWSLETTER ■

The Temple B'Nai Israel Newsletter is published monthly on or about the first of the month.

We would love to hear from you!

The Newsletter is your forum—all contributions are welcome (including comments and corrections). If you would like to have something published in an upcoming issue, please call, write or e-mail:

Call:

Rosalyn Goldstick (Editor Emeritus) 231.547.2636
Elisa Seltzer (Editor) 231.526.6432
Sue Scally (Composition) 231.622.4739

E-mail:

Elisa Seltzer (eseltzer@co.emmet.mi.us)
Sue Scally (sueblue@charter.net)

Write:

Rosalyn Goldstick
08196 Carson Avenue
Charlevoix, MI 49720

On the Web:

www.templebnaiisraelofpetoskey.org

■ THE "E-NEWSLETTER" ■

In keeping with the spirit of conservation (both paper and postage), we are happy to announce the creation of the Temple B'nai Israel "e-newsletter."

Each recipient who switches from the traditional paper format to the on-line delivery will save the temple approximately 75¢ per month (while making an easy contribution toward our environmental initiative).

If you would like to begin receiving your newsletter in a PDF document, please take a moment and send an email to jpage@retailbackbone.com with the subject "Electronic Temple Newsletter."

■ THE TEMPLE BOARD ■

Tom Johnson (President)	231.487.1661
Gail Willens (Vice-President)	231.347.8033
Jason Page (Treasurer)	231.547.5020
Sally Cannon (Secretary)	231.547.0817
Lori Katzman	231.547.1226
Rhoda Lampert	231.526.5299
Josh Meyerson	231.347.5402
Berta Molasky	231.547.1041
Elisa Seltzer	231.526.6432

■ GOOD SHABBOS! ■

Candle Lighting Times:



4/4	6:44 p.m.
4/11	6:52 p.m.
4/18	7:00 p.m.
4/25	7:08 p.m.

REMINDER: Candles are also lit at sundown on Saturday April 19th and Sunday, April 20th for the first evening and first day of Passover and on Saturday, April 26th for the 7th day of Passover.



Don't forget we're waiting to hear from you for our "Getting to Know You" column. So . . . help us out by sending us a short summary about you—your family, your work, hobbies, your reason for moving to northern Michigan, etc. You could also share what you're currently reading, the music you're crazy about, websites you visit, etc. We will try to feature at least one or two Temple members each month.

■ STATE OF THE CONGREGATION ■

The status of Temple B'nai Israel is generally very good. Membership has been steady to slightly growing, attendance at Shabbat services is strong, the Religious School program is vibrant and dynamic, our facilities are in good condition and our finances are slowly improving.

Membership is at 110 member families and has stayed steady for the last several years. In this day and age of declining membership at synagogues around the nation, the fact that the Congregation membership is steady serves as an endorsement of the wonderful efforts of our volunteers and student rabbis.

While the board does not specifically track attendance, anecdotal evidence indicates that attendance at Shabbat services is good, even considering the tough winter conditions and long distances that many of our congregants must endure to attend. Every congregation President wishes that more people would attend services. However, the board has made a concerted effort to find ways to encourage people to attend and it would appear that these results are successful.

The religious education program is one of the most dynamic aspects of our congregation. We currently have 17 students and expect to conduct 4 B'nai Mitzvah over the coming year. The services are vibrant and exciting. The curriculum has been revised and expanded.

With the Social Hall construction, Temple B'nai Israel has one of the newest and most modern facilities in Michigan. Operations costs

are well within budget and we continue to beautify our grounds and facilities through the construction and installation of the Marianne Kaplan Memorial Temple Garden and Stained Glass windows donated by many of our members. Our rabbi house can be a huge attraction to visiting/ resident rabbis. Our facility is clean, neat and well ordered.

Our finances are generally in good shape. We operate within budget every year. We have reduced our long-term debt from a high of \$ 150,000 to approximately \$70,000. We continue to receive periodic donations that we target for debt reduction.

Despite the overall positive outlook for our congregation, we do have considerable challenges that we must face. They are listed below:

1. While we have paid down our mortgage to its current level, the mortgage imposes an annual building assessment some members do not wish to pay. Continuing to seek out and receive donations for projects such as the Temple Stained Glass windows, will help pay down our debt while we beautify the sanctuary and social/education hall. In addition, we have a limited fund balance to help protect the congregation in tough economic times.

2. While we have had success recruiting student rabbis, we may expect difficulty recruiting rabbis in the future. In addition, we have no formally trained lay leader to turn to.

3. While it would appear that we serve some segments of

our population well, other segments are not as well served, if at all. In order to make the congregation more meaningful to all our members, we need to find ways to improve our programs and services for everyone. We need to better identify our member demographics, determine their needs (if any) and find ways to provide these in meaningful ways.

4. While we have done a good job improving our facilities, the fact is that our rabbi house is old and requires repairs. The board needs to assess our options and financial needs with regard to refurbishment, remodeling, etc to either keep the rabbi house as an asset or determine other possibilities.

5. We have limited interaction with outside Jewish agencies, even though these agencies can be a source of resources and information to us. We need to improve our outreach out to these organizations.

6. We need to strengthen our ties to the local community. Our congregation has a lot to offer to the community and we should be a model of Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam.

As we endeavor to resolve these issues, we need to remember that overall we have been very successful. Temple B'nai Israel is the center for Judaism in Northern Michigan and we are continually told by outside agencies that we have a dynamic congregation. Identifying the solutions to the above problems will allow us continue to serve our congregation and serve it well.

■ NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ■

■ QUIZ BOWL TEAM FORMING ■



The Temple is forming a quiz bowl team.



All those interested should call Suzanne Shumway at 231-348-2656. Act quickly, as spots are filling fast!

■ PASSOVER WINE TASTING ■

It's Not Just Manischewitz anymore!

April 13, 2008—5-7 p.m.
Lou and Sally Cannon's home
07575 Indian Trails Drive, Charlevoix



Please join us for a Passover Wine Tasting Party!

Pram Acharya, a well known expert and purveyor of fine wines from Esperance in Charlevoix, will

lead us in sampling kosher-for-Passover wines at a variety of price points. He assures us that it's not just Manischewitz anymore!

Wines can be ordered that night, ready for your Passover Seder the following week!

Come nosh, kibitz, and celebrate the season! Please R.S.V.P. to Sally at 547-0817 before April 9th.

■ PASSOVER SUPPLIES ■

The Grain Train Natural Foods Market has Passover foods available. Please support their efforts by making your Passover purchases locally!

Many thanks to Temple member (and Grain Train employee) Steve Stuchell for helping to make these specialty products available to our community.



The Grain Train is located at 220 East Mitchell Street, Petoskey (phone: 347.2381).

■ OBITUARY ■

Temple B'nai Israel offers our sincere condolences to Marilyn and Robert Silver, Huntington Woods and Charlevoix, following the death of their son, Randall Keith Silver on January 31, 2008.



Randy passed away after courageously battling cancer for the last twelve years. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, contagious laughter and big heart. He was a connoisseur of boats, cooking, metal and wood craftsmanship.

He is survived by his parents, his children, Sara Silver and Weston Silver, brother Michael (Beth) Silver and niece and nephew Rachel Silver and Jack Silver.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Institute for the Benefit of the Multiple Myeloma Program, 4100 John R., Detroit, MI 48201 or on-line at www.karmanos.org.



LANGUAGE LESSON PART THREE

You said you liked the Yiddish lessons---
I'm as happy as can be!
So, here to learn some more words,
Is our Language Lesson No. Three!
We'll only give you a few words each time,
So that you can study at ease
And someday you'll be able to converse
In Yiddish as much as you please!

By Rosalyn

Gay gesundt	Go and be healthy
Gefilte Fish	A loaf or ball of ground whitefish, carp or both, usually served cold with horseradish.
Gelt	Money
Gesundheit	Health. What you say when someone sneezes.
Gevalt!	Help! Purpose word of exasperation, often combined with "oy"—as in "Oy, gevalt!"
Glitch	A slip or mess-up.
Go figure, Go know:	(used with Yiddish) to gey vays like "how can I or anyone be expected to know such a thing? Similar to "who knew?"
Gonif	A thief, crook, swindler.
Gonster	Big
Gornisht	Nothing; less than bubkes
Hamish, haimishe	Warm and cozy. Feels like home. Unpretentious.
Halvah	A sweet confection of ground sesame seeds, vanilla or chocolate marble flavoring.
Hamantash en	A tri-cornered cookie dough filled with poppy seed, prune butter, or jam. Made to resemble Hamen's hat (the villain in the story of Purim)

HOW TO GET THE MATZO BALLS RIGHT!

When this reporter was married, she received a Jewish cookbook which related the tale of the young bride who tried desperately to make matzo balls for her new husband "just the way his mother made them!"



She tried various recipes and umpteen ways and he always remarked, "Well . . . yes, they are good, BUT not the way my mother made them!"

After years of hearing this, the woman threw an entire box of matzo meal into the bowl, making the balls hard as rocks.

When she served them to her husband, he smiled and exclaimed "Ahh, these are JUST LIKE MY MOTHER USED TO MAKE!"

Well, we don't know what kind your mother used to make, but we are happy that ours are fluffy and delicious. Each person makes them differently, but you can trust our Matzo Ball Queens that they will be great! Come see who the Queens will be at the Passover Seder Saturday, April 19 at the TBI Social Hall.

By Rosalyn

■ APRIL YAHRZEITS ■

Elizabeth Averbuch
Mother of Howard Averbuch

Bertha Feldman
Grandmother of Dr. Alfred Frank
April 21, 1944

David J. Lieberman
Father of Rosalyn Goldstick
April 29, 1930

Alvin Ziv
Brother of Bette Rosenhaus

Naomi Kline
Mother of Matthew Kline

MAZEL TOV!



... to AIMON DWAN,
daughter of NANCY
DWAN AND CONRAD

GOLD for her work on behalf of TBI in coordinating the Temple's donations to the Women's Resource Center. The WRC recently sent a letter to TBI:

Thank you so much for your recent donation to our Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault program. Your kind gifts will be put to good use by the many families we serve. As a private non-profit agency we rely on the generosity of our community to continue providing quality services for families in crisis. We greatly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,
Jamie Winters,
Safe Home Coordinator

TBI joins the WRC in congratulating AIMON on a job well done.

... to NANCY DWAN, CONRAD GOLD, and family on the birth of their daughter on March 24. Mom and babe are healthy and all are happy!



... to CASEY BATTERBEE, son of JANE HARRIS, and RACHEL WITTENBERG, daughter of LIZ AND JAMIE WITTENBERG, for their participation in the Concord

Academy's Middle School Dance Concert. The concert, directed by the Academy's dance and drama teacher GARY SCHILS, featured music from Hasidic rap and reggae artist Matisyahu. Temple members JANE HARRIS and ELISA SELTZER were asked to instruct students in Israeli folk dance to incorporate authenticity into their choreography.

M'SHEBAYRACH

Wishing a speedy recovery to TBI member Marvin Winkleman, St. Ignace.



TEMPLE MEMBER NEWS



On Friday, March 7, 2008 PAM OVSHINSKY, MSW, was invited to serve on a panel titled, "Spirituality, World Religions and Cultural Diversity," sponsored by

the Otsego County Commission on Aging (OCCOA), held at the University Center in Gaylord, part of their 2008 Breakfast Series.

Others on the panel included guest speaker, Neelam Puri, Ph.d, LMSW, Michigan Offices of Services to the Aging and Ray Kiogima, Elder with the Odawa Tribe, Eide A. Alawan, Office of Interfaith Outreach-Islamic Center of America and Rev. Jim Mathis, Evangelical Free Church of Gaylord.

Pam spoke about her work on public policy affecting Older Americans, including a stint with the National Senior Citizen's Law Center in Washington, D.C., as well as the history of our Temple and some of the Jewish traditions and concerns relating to the role of the elderly in the Jewish community, large and small.

ADULT STUDY

Adult Study will be led by Rabbi Sandra Bellush at 6 p.m. on April 11. The topic for study will be "Slavery: Passover's lessons in Today's World." Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Tom Johnson at 487-1661



Happy Birthday!

I was always taught to respect my elders and now I've reached the age where I don't have to respect anyone.

George Burns, Comedian

Your birthday is a reminder that God put you here for a purpose. Remember how much your presence enriches the lives of others.

4/02	Dr. Larry Rubens
4/03	James Mathews
4/05	Lynn Margolis
4/10	Alan Ackerman
4/12	Jon Goldstick
4/14	Emily Meyerson
4/14	David Goldstick
4/16	Jill Fine
4/17	Beverly Holden
4/24	Leonard Shulman
4/28	Audrey Shapero-Caldwell
4/28	Sharon Moss
4/30	Kathryn Lenter

HOPE THEY ARE ALL HAPPY ONES!

If we missed your name—

If we missed your date,

Please be sure to let us know—

So the correct one we will state.

--Rosalyn

Children's Birthdays!

When I was born, I was so surprised that I didn't talk for a year and a half.

Gracie Allen, Comedienne

4/05/96	Olive Dwan
4/07/99	Anne Johnson
4/26/93	Michelle Friedman

FYI: Upon reaching age 21, children are taken off our "Children's Birthdays" list. They are considered "adults," but are not listed with the adult birthdays until they can be considered heads of households.



Happy Anniversary!

There are no April wedding anniversaries on record—if we have missed your anniversary, let us know.

Any changes, additions, corrections or omissions should be reported to our "Keeper of the Lists," Editor Emeritus, Rosalyn Goldstick:

By Phone: 231.547.2636

By Mail: Rosalyn Goldstick
08196 Carson Avenue
Charlevoix, MI 49720

APRIL 2008

REMINDER: CANDLES ARE ALSO LIT AT SUNDOWN ON SATURDAY APRIL 19TH AND SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH FOR THE FIRST EVENING AND FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER AND ON SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH FOR THE 7TH DAY OF PASSOVER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p> <u>6:52 p.m.</u></p> <p>6 p.m. Adult Study: Passover's Lessons in Today's World. Refreshments provided.</p> <p>7 p.m. Shabbat Services with Rabbi Sandra Bellush</p> </div>	12 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>10 a.m. Religious School</p> </div>
13	14 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>7 p.m. Temple Board Meeting</p> </div>	15	16	17	18 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p> <u>7:00 p.m.</u></p> </div>	19 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>Passover begins this evening</p> <div style="background-color: gray; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-top: 10px;"></div> </div>
20 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>10 a.m. Religious school</p> </div>	21	22	23	24	25 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p> <u>7:08 p.m.</u></p> </div>	26 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>4 p.m. Social Hall Seder. Gus Paz will be the leader. See newsletter p. 1 for details.</p> </div>
—————PASSOVER—————						
28 <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>Passover Ends</p> <div style="background-color: gray; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-top: 10px;"></div> </div>	29	30				

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your donations to Temple B'nai Israel!



Aubrey and Gerald Meyerson Perpetual Kasddish Fund

From B'nai Israel Sisterhood

In memory of Randall Keith Silver, son of Marilyn and Robert Silver

Irene Gordon Memorial Fund

Ms. Mildred Terr

In memory of Irene's many years of contributions to the Temple

Newsletter Fund

Elizabeth Frey

Education Fund

Mark Rothman and Amy McMullen

General Fund

Peter and Roberta Gluck

Sheldon and Jessie Stern

Sanford Izenson

Leroy and Brenda Neuman

Elizabeth Frey

Meyer Seltzer

In honor of the Yartzeits of Dr. Sam and Bella Seltzer

David K. Page

Your contributions are accepted year-round. You can use the contribution form (below) or for additional information contact Jason Page, Temple treasurer.

Temple General Fund	Capital Campaign/Building Fund	Stacy McCracken Memorial Youth Enrichment Fund
Newsletter Fund	Irene Gordon Memorial Fund	Alvin's "Helping Hand" Rosenhaus Family Fund
Prayer Books	Lee and Miles Jaffe Memorial Fund	Tree of Life Fund (Leaves \$100 each, Stones \$1,000)
Rabbinic Fund	Religious Education Fund	Aubrey and Gerald Meyerson Perpetual Kaddish Fund

In addition, contributions to the Sisterhood may be made by sending them to:

Val Meyerson
3942 Lorraine
Petoskey, MI 49770



Temple B'Nai Israel Contribution Form

Your Name(s) and Address: _____

Designated Fund: _____ Amount of donation: _____

Person or Event Honored or Remembered (If any): _____

Name and address of person to receive contribution notice card: _____

Message: _____

If you prefer not to have your name listed in an upcoming newsletter, please check here: _____

If you would like to divide your contribution among multiple funds or honorees, please provide the information for each portion of your donation on additional page.

Please send your donations to:

Temple B'nai Israel
c/o Jason Page, Treasurer
07852 Mulberry Lane
Charlevoix, MI 49720

Thank you for your donation!

MUSIC MENTIONABLES

Matisyahu

www.matismusic.com



Hasidic Jew rap and reggae artist Matisyahu simply seeks to serve as a conduit for the messages of peace and unity that flow through him, to

improve the world the world by sharing his music, and without letting ego or worldly desires interfere in that communication.

(From the artist's website)

Ezra Furman and the Harpoons

www.ezrafurman.com



A thoughtful lyricist taking his poetic inspiration, songcraft ideas, and even a few fashion cues from Bob Dylan, Ezra Furman's unpretentious indie folk/pop is real and

achingly sentimental. Furman and his Chicago-based band create music that is by turns beautiful, funny, angry, and often poignant and inspirational

(From www.amazon.com)

Congregation B'Nai Israel

Established 1896

Corner of Michigan and Waukazoo
Post Office Box 2416
Petoskey, MI 49770

**Important Dated Material—
Please Open Immediately!**

President: Tom Johnson ■ Rabbinic Intern: Sandra Bellush ■ Newsletter Editor: Elisa Seltzer

AFFILIATED WITH UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS AND WOMEN OF