



A Welcoming Reform Jewish Congregation serving
Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties

www.bethtorah.net

September 2017
Elul 5777—Tishrei 5778



Upcoming Temple Events

Teacher Orientation	Saturday, September 09, 2017	10:00 am
Religious School	Sunday, September 10, 2017	09:00 am
TBT Block Party (Annual Picnic)	Sunday, September 10, 2017	12:30 pm
Religious School Dinner	Friday, September 15, 2017	06:30 pm
Cantor and Cocktails	Friday, September 15, 2017	06:30 pm
Chagigat Siddurim/New Member Shabbat	Friday, September 15, 2017	07:30 pm
Tot Shabbat	Saturday, September 16, 2017	09:00 am
Nosh-n-Drosh	Saturday, September 16, 2017	10:30 am
Religious School	Sunday, September 17, 2017	09:00 am
Torah Tots Trial Class (Free)	Sunday, September 17, 2017	10:30 am
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Wednesday, September 20, 2017	07:30 pm
Rosh Hashanah Family Service/Tashlich	Thursday, September 21, 2017	09:00 am
Rosh Hashanah Morning Service/Tashlich	Thursday, September 21, 2017	10:00 am
Religious School	Sunday, September 24, 2017	09:00 am
Torah Tots	Sunday, September 17, 2017	10:30 am
Kol Nidre	Friday, September 29, 2017	07:30 pm
Yom Kippur Family Service	Saturday, September 30, 2017	09:00am
Yom Kippur Morning Service/Yizkor	Saturday, September 30, 2017	10:00 am
Yom Kippur Afternoon Service	Saturday, September 30, 2017	04:00 pm
Break-the-Fast	Saturday, September 30, 2017	06:00 pm

Proper attire is encouraged at all services. Please see the weekly Blast for Chaverim listings.

The Cork Board Crew

Have you longed for an opportunity to help out at TBT, but could not find the time or resources? Well, fret no longer! The *Cork Board Crew* is a simple way to help us spread the word about Temple Beth Torah to the local community. You can participate by posting online or posting paper flyers. Email marketing@bethtorah.net to get on our mailing list and receive content to post on your community FB or ListServ. The next time you are at Temple, take some flyers to post on bulletin boards. On a quick trip to your favorite coffee shop, grocery, school, day care or community center? Pin a flyer to the community wall. Between all of us, we can let our community know that we're here, and what we're doing.

Volunteer Opportunity!

TBT is seeking a volunteer to represent the synagogue on the Jewish Community Relations Council's Northern Virginia Commission. A detailed description of this opportunity is available. Please contact Jayne at president@bethtorah.net if you are interested.

Temple Beth Torah Contact List

Main Number & Mailing Address

Temple Beth Torah
PO Box 2020
Centreville, VA 20122
Phone: (703) 263-2252

President

Jayne Ayers (703) 803-3581 president@bethtorah.net

Vice President

Marci Jerome (703) 961-9009 vicepresident@bethtorah.net
(Calendar, Religious School)

Treasurer

Mike Erstling (571) 224-8535 treasurer@bethtorah.net

Recording Secretary

Debra Kabalkin (703) 722-6055 secretary@bethtorah.net
(Sisterhood VP)

Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Sutliff (703) 968-6852 correspond@bethtorah.net
(Newsletter)

Members at Large

Jennifer Stawasz (703) 352-0153 events@bethtorah.net
(Internal Events, B'nai Mitzvah Committee Vice Chair)

Cheri Kaplan (703) 449-8843 mematlge1@bethtorah.net
(Fundraising, Miscellaneous projects)

Mike Thomas (571) 287-7796 mematlge2@bethtorah.net
(Building Logistics)

Joe Sutliff (703) 968-6852 marketing@bethtorah.net
(Web Presence, Marketing)

Mary Horner (703) 266-4921 mematlge3@bethtorah.net
(Ritual, Pillars Fulfillment, B'nai Mitzvah Committee Chair)

Rabbi

Kenneth Block (410) 459-6161 rabbiblock2@yahoo.com

High Holiday Chair

Jeff Horner (703) 266-4921 highholidays@bethtorah.net

Membership

Jennifer Harding (703) 938-4034 membership@bethtorah.net

Ritual Committee Chair

Linda Sue Wever (703) 802-1713 ritual@bethtorah.net

Care Committee Chair

Lori Kravchick (703) 830-4678 caringcommittee@bethtorah.net

Sisterhood

Stacey Huse (703) 266-3037 sisterhood@bethtorah.net

Brotherhood

Open position brotherhood@bethtorah.net

Past President

Linda Sue Wever (703) 802-1713

Directions to Building

4212-C Technology Court, Chantilly, VA 20151

From Route 66: Get off at Route 28 North. Go North to Route 50 West. Travel west on Route 50. Turn left on Pleasant Valley Rd. Turn left on Lafayette Center Dr. Turn left on Technology Court.

TBT Caring Committee

Have you ever wondered how to notify the TBT Board of a life-cycle event? TBT is here to support you. Contact: Lori Kravchick at caringcommittee@bethtorah.net

Chaverim Signup Reminder

Please remember to sign up for Chaverim duties at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4aa8ac2aa64-temple>
We need everyone to sign up for two dates. Please help make our wonderful TBT services successful!

Weather closures will be announced via an Email Blast, on our Facebook page and posted on the home page of the website www.bethtorah.net. Please use your judgment, as weather conditions may vary depending on where you live.

The **Temple Beth Torah Yahrzeit Memorial Wall** is a way to honor the memories of our departed loved ones. It is displayed in our sanctuary. A light will burn next to their name on all yahrzeit and yizkor observances. The order form can be found on our website at www.bethtorah.net. Click on Make a Contribution on the top right of the Home page.



Support TBT While Shopping on Amazon!

From now on, before you start shopping on Amazon, start with the link on the bottom of the Temple Beth Torah home page at bethtorah.net. Amazon will contribute to TBT every time you make a purchase after using the link.

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A Message from President Jayne Ayers

Small but Mighty

If I had written this article 2 weeks ago, it would have sounded very different. I would have shared our plans for the year and talked about all the excitement that is building at Temple Beth Torah. Cantor Adam has been working with Rabbi Block as they prepare for upcoming services and the High Holidays. We announced that Lauren Laird will be our Children's Cantor—working with Religious School (Torah Tots through 3rd grade) and representing TBT in the community. Our Marketing team is busy increasing TBT's web presence as well as creating a marketing plan to help drive membership. Although this is all exciting news, it is not necessarily top of mind right now.

What is on my mind, as I am sure on yours, are the overwhelming stories that are defining the world we live in. If the protests and violence in Charlottesville weren't enough, we are now watching the devastation in Houston and other parts of Texas as families try and find shelter and food for their families—having lost everything. Listening to the news about North Korea testing Nuclear Missiles has my stomach in knots. Trying to make sense of it myself, while trying to convince my son that we really are safe, seems like real “fake news” because I don't necessarily believe it.

What I DO believe is that WE CAN HELP. We can make a difference. We can impact a family or two – we can help provide necessary essentials to large groups of people. We can do it. We are an amazing community filled with socially responsible and caring individuals.

So, as we all watch the news about the MANY ways we can give back – let's make the decision to GIVE. We will keep our TBT family updated as we learn about the URJ's

Response to Hurricane Harvey. And ways we can help by donating to the many Jewish organizations in Houston that are working on the relief effort. The URJ will be posting updates on Facebook and Twitter.

We can all do our part. We will continue to have these conversations throughout the year and plan to increase the number of Community Service Projects in conjunction with Religious School. If you have a specific idea about a Community Service Project, please contact me at President@BethTorah.net.

We may be a small congregation in comparison to others, but we are MIGHTY.

“Our ultimate purpose is *Tikkun Olam*—to repair the world”

Welcome Back to TBT Religious School!

We are excited for another wonderful year full of learning and fun. There are several field trips planned and special in-school activities for both students and adults.

Please be on the lookout for emails asking for help and/or donations during the year.

We are also very excited that Children's Cantor Lauren will be joining school as our new music teacher and Cantor Adam will be leading Tefillah. As always, thank you to our new and returning teachers for their time and dedication.

—Jayne

An Introduction

Welcome Cantor Adam Davis

Cantor Adam is a native of Chicago, IL and yes, he is a Cubs fan. He grew up singing at the feet of Chazzan Joe Davis and Rabbi-Chazzan Reuven Frankel at Congregation Bnai Tikvah in Deerfield, IL. That and a family dedicated to Jewish life inspired a lifelong journey of involvement in Jewish life and music. Throughout his life, Cantor Adam has taken an active role in Jewish community. As a teen he served as a Bnai Mitzvah tutor and leader in BBYO, followed by collegiate roles in Hillel, ADL, AEPi, then as an adult in young leadership divisions of Federation, communal, cultural and congregational organizations.

Cantor Davis graduated from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music's prestigious Musical Theatre program, was active in the Chicago theatre for a decade and performed in the world premieres of several musicals.

He subsequently transferred his creative impulses and organizational skills to use in the marketing industry, working in account and project management at promotional agencies and in corporate mar-



keting on well-known consumer packaged goods brands.

In 2002, following 9/11, Cantor Davis decided to share his passion for Jewish arts and culture, founding KFAR Jewish Arts Center. Under his leadership, this groundbreaking organization became the leading advocate and presenter of contemporary Jewish music and arts events in the midwest. Concurrently, he helped found Limmud Chicago, the Windy City Minyan, Lakeview Minyan and regularly led Shabbat services for the Young Adult Division of Anshe Emet Synagogue.

In 2009, he decided to focus on spiritual leadership, continuing his education at Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies while serving in a cantorial capacity for Chicago's Council for Jewish Elderly (CJE-Seniorlife) and several other assisted and independent living residences. He has since also served in cantorial and educational roles for Congregation Sukkat Shalom in Wilmette, IL and Temple Beth Shalom of Annapolis Maryland. He is completing his Cantorial Certification at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music.

Reclaiming the *Holy Land* for the Jewish People

Presented by Rabbi Block—meets once a month on Wednesday nights.

Once again the Temple Mount is at the center of an Israeli Palestinian crisis. Our Wednesday night study group will explore how we arrived at the continuing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian State. Even though we are studying a history each class will be self contained so that you do not need to obligate yourself for every class.

The September 6th class will explain the one event that created the entire mess that has resulted in the Arab Spring; the Sunni Shia conflict; Israel vs Palestine; the movement for Kurdish independence; the Iranian incursions; and more. Plan on attending to understand why the Sykes-Picot Agreement, also called Asia Minor Agreement, (May 1916), a secret convention made during World War I between Great Britain and France, with the assent of imperial Russia, resulted in the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire thus creating this mess.

Never heard of the *Sykes-Picot Agreement*? All the more reason to attend. When you leave class on the 6th what is happening in the Middle East will be crystal clear and why solving the conflicts is so thorny.

The tentative dates are: **September 6, October 18, November 1, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, & June 6.** The blast will keep you current.

High Holiday Registration

High Holiday tickets are available as part of your TBT membership. All members are asked to complete the registration form so that we can assign honors and make sure we have appropriate seating for everyone attending. Reservations are needed for Break the Fast.

Non-members are welcome.

Tickets are free for Members. There are two methods of payment for guest tickets. Online at <http://bit.ly/TBTHH5778> or by check. Make checks payable to Temple Beth Torah and mail to High Holiday Chair along with the Registration form. Forms can also be emailed to highholidays@bethtorah.net.



A Message from Rabbi Kenneth Block

L'Shanah Tovah 5778

The two treatises on government were published in October 1689 with a 1690 date on the title page.... "Reason...teaches all Mankind...that being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his Life, Health, Liberty, or Possessions," British philosopher John Locke once wrote.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness," the US constitution expounds.

France modeled their Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (*Déclaration des droits de l'homme et du citoyen*) (August 1789) after both our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

The drafters of our Declaration of Independence were British subjects, educated in the ideas of British and French philosophers. So, it is not a surprise that their philosophical values appear in our documents and then are reflected back in French documents.

What is odd is that British and French philosophers never considered "the pursuit of happiness" to be a right conferred by natural law. The "Rights of Man" never mention happiness! A right to be happy is uniquely an American contribution to the rights of man.

My dear reader, I know that you have asked yourself why the Jewish greeting for the new year asks for a good year and to be inscribed in the "Book of Life," while for the secular new year we ask for happiness. Now you know why. As Americans we believe that happiness is an unalienable right bestowed upon us by God and "The Natural Law."

Judaism, on the other hand, teaches that happiness is the result of the choices we make.

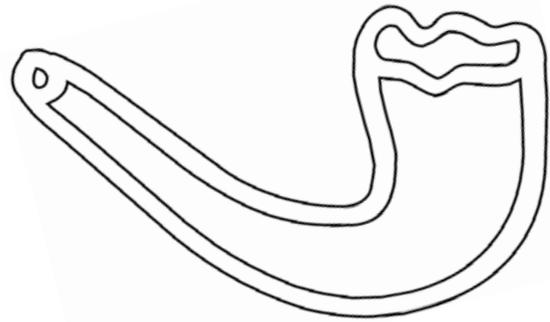
And, so, as an American Rabbi, I wish you a heartfelt, Happy New Year." May the choices you make in the coming new year lead to the happiness that you are seeking. That being said, I offer a modest proposal for making choices that will lead to happiness.

In case you haven't noticed, there has been a lot of kvetching going on in America these days. To be fair, there is a lot to kvetch about. We are troubled by the events unfolding in our government; by the un-presidential behavior of our president; by the lack of real leadership both from the Democrats and the Republicans; by the troubling lack of candor on the part of our leaders.

We shake our heads at the rising tide of prejudice. Advertising continues to lie, deceive, and mislead us. Come on Subaru. It's a car. It has four wheels. You drive it. It's not love! If you think 1.75 tons of plastic, fiberglass, and steel equates to love, please send me an email and we'll set up a session.

To kvetch or not to kvetch that certainly is our choice. If kvetching makes you happy then read no further. You will have a happy new year!

Since you are still reading, that means you would like some



other behavioral choices.

I am not going to sit around waiting for the next thing that will make me feel happy. Today I am choosing to be happy, to be happy unless there is some very dramatic reason not to be.

You may already have noticed that life is not perfect. I can accept what is, let go, and focus on what makes me happy or I can wallow in how unfair the universe is to me.

Choice is ubiquitous. Every form of refuge has a price. When we make a decision, we should think about what it will cost us in time, energy, and satisfaction.

We all kvetch. So why not kvetch and move on to what is good and positive in our lives?

Expectations are the great spoiler of happiness. Enjoy the moment for what it is.

People will tell you how good they feel when they participate in tikkun olam activities, giving back to the community. Giving is a universal source of happiness.

Make time to be with the people you love. It is important to our happiness that we make time, that we don't just wait for it to happen.

It feels good when we learn something new and when we give ourselves the gift of time off to think about who we are and who we want to be—like you are doing right now!

Spend time at Temple Beth Torah with others who share your values.

Believe it or not, there are actual scientific studies that show that people who participate in religious communities are healthier and happier.

It's great to be with others who want to be the best people that they can be and who are there to support us when great things happen in our lives and to comfort us when bad things happen. We love you at Temple Beth Torah and it sure makes us happy to see you.

Of course, you might say, "I can't change what the universe has done to me." That's true. But we can change ourselves. And we can make choices that support happiness. So maybe it's time for someone to say: "Stop kvetching already! Choose to have a happy new year."

We may never agree in the inalienability of happiness. But there is one thing on what we cannot help but to agree—the choice to be happy, the choice to act in the path of happiness, the choice to stop kvetching, belongs to each and everyone of us.

Choose wisely.

In Remembrance

Congregant(s)	Remember	Relationship	Date of Death	Hebrew Date	When Hebrew Date Occurs
Melissa & Jay Margolis	George Ritsick	Cousin of Melissa	8/X/2003		
Gail & Howard Sulkin	Albert Bisk	Brother and Uncle	8/1/1969	17 Av 5729	8/9/17
Nancy Watson	Steven Rosen	Uncle of Nancy	8/1/00	29 Tamuz 5760	7/23/17
Melissa & Jay Margolis	Richard Oppenheim	Father of Melissa	8/4/90	13 Av 5750	8/5/17
Susan & Ken Fried	Leonara Ogletree Lunsford	Grandmother of Susan	8/9/09	19 Av 5769	8/11/17
Mary & Jeff Horner	Sarah Horner	Grandmother of Jeff	8/10/71	19 Av 5731	8/11/17
Jayne Ayers & Tye Jurgensen	Mickey Katz	Uncle of Jayne	8/11/15	26 Av 5775	8/18/17
Gerry Chelnik	Max Chelnik	Father of David	8/11/87	16 Av 5747	8/8/17
Melissa & Jay Margolis	Claire Oppenheim	Grandmother of Melissa	8/11/05	6 Av 5765	7/29/17
Linda Mitchell	Manuel Nachman	Father of Linda	8/13/84	15 Av 5744	8/7/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Sydney Mostov	Uncle of Barbara	8/13/01	24 Av 5761	8/16/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Merle Polen	Cousin of Barbara	8/15/02	7 Elul 5762	8/29/17
Josie & David Barondess	Earl D Spiegel	Uncle of David	8/18/1943	17 Av 5703	8/9/17
Daria & Jeffrey Parnes	Stanley Makowski	Father of Daria	8/20/02	12 Elul 5762	9/3/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Joseph Iancu	Grandfather of Barbara	8/21/1967	15 Av 5727	8/7/17
Dorothy & Donald Lewy	Miriam Lewy	Mother of Don	8/22/96	7 Elul 5756	8/29/17
Jill Price	Marc Applebaum	Brother of Jill	8/22/15	7 Elul 5775	8/29/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Eve Hartman	Aunt of Barbara	8/23/97	20 Av 5757	8/12/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Henry Hartman	Uncle of Barbara	8/23/80	11 Elul 5740	9/2/17
Nancy Watson	David Rosen	Grandfather of Nancy	8/24/01	5 Elul 5761	8/27/17
Marcia Gottesman	Joseph Gottesman	Father of Marcia	8/25/97	22 Av 5757	8/14/17
Deborah Mayer & Todd Hillman	Adrienne Mayer	Grandmother of Deborah	8/27/82	8 Elul 5742	8/30/17
Craig & Tracy Cheifetz	Carl B. Cheifetz, MD	Father of Craig	8/29/00	28 Av 5760	8/20/17
Tamara Yaunches	Monroe Brooks	Grandfather of Tamara	8/30/77	16 Elul 5737	9/7/17
Tamara Yaunches	Eileen Simon Brooks	Grandmother of Tamara	8/31/11	1 Elul 5771	8/23/17
Mark Lichter	Fredric Lichter	Brother of Mark	9/1/03	4 Elul 5763	8/26/17
Tamara & Frank Simone	Edward Simone	Brother	9/1/14	6 Elul 5774	8/28/17
Julie & Adam Lenfestey	June Davy Klein	Grandmother of Julie	9/5/13	1 Tishrei 5774	10/3/16
Mary & Jeff Horner	Connie Dembicer	Aunt of Jeff	9/6/12	19 Elul 5772	9/10/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Joanne Mostov	Aunt of Barbara	9/6/71	16 Elul 5731	9/7/17
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Donald Eckber	Uncle of Barbara	9/7/12	20 Elul 5772	9/11/17
Maria & Marcello Rotjman	Genevieve Cavey	Mother of Maria	9/12/91	4 Tishrei 5752	10/6/16
Mary & Jeff Horner	Martin Horner	Father of Jeff	9/13/10	5 Tishrei 5771	10/7/16
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Ida Iancu	Grandmother of Barbara	9/15/79	23 Elul 5739	9/14/17
Jayne Ayers & Tye Jurgensen	Edna Ayers	Grandmother of Charlie	9/16/16	13 Elul 5776	9/4/17
Dorothy & Donald Lewy	Lawrence Lewy	Father of Don	9/20/01	3 Tishrei 5762	10/5/16
Barbara & Joseph Sutliff	Albert Iancu M.D.	Father of Barbara	9/20/15	7 Tishrei 5776	10/9/16
Bonnie & Earl Schendell	Morton Brownstein	Father of Bonnie	9/29/2014*	6 Tishrei 5775	10/8/16
Tamara Yaunches	Martin Andrew Uze	Father of Tamara	9/29/70	28 Elul 5730	9/19/17
Gail & Howard Sulkin	Sylvia Sulkin	Mother of Howard	9/30/16	27 Elul 5776	9/18/17

*After sunset

Additions and corrections to the yearzeit list may be sent to yearzeit@bethtorah.net



BLOCK PARTY

**FUN
FOOD
FRIENDS**

**EATS
TREATS
GAMES**

TEMPLE BETH TORAH

Come for School...Stay for Fun!
Main Dish and Drinks Provided
Enjoy Lawn Games
and
Discounted Raffle Tickets Available

NEW THIS YEAR... GAMING TRUCK

Bring a Side to Share

Sunday, September 10, 2017
12:30-3:30 pm
4212-C Technology Ct, Chantilly, VA

RSVP BY 9/4 EVENTS@BETHTORAH.NET

New Date!



Sock Hop Shabbat—Nov. 11

Come on, everybody, let's do the twist!
TBT will be hosting our very first Sock Hop-dalah. Havdalah Services followed by dinner and dancing. Get those poodle skirts ready. More details coming soon.

Samsung Tablets Needed for Religious School

If you have one that you aren't using, please consider donating it for new 4th/5th online Hebrew curriculum. The Sisterhood is graciously donating a few but we need a few more. Contact Marci Jerome: VicePresident@bethtorah.net Many Thanks!

TBT Ladies Book Club

Please join us for this "pot-luck" style book club that meets every *other* month on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM. This club is open to all TBT women. Plan to bring a drink or appetizer to share! Our book for the September 12th meeting is *Hotel Moscow* by Talia Carner. You don't have to read the book to enjoy book club!



Contact Beth Thomas at mbtjthomas@gmail.com.

Temple Beth Torah
PO Box 2020
Centreville, VA 20122

For AGES 2 to PRE K

**A Great Way to Meet
Other Families with Small Children**

Classes on Sunday 10:30 – Noon

Singing	Story Time
Crafts	Snack Time
Holiday Prep	Friendship



For more info. contact torahtots@bethtorah.net

