



HAKOL

“THE VOICE”

The Newsletter

TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM

41 STORRS AVENUE, BRAINTREE, MA

www.tbsbraintree.com

December, 2015 January & February 2016

Kislev, Tevet, Shevat, Adar I, 5776

Shabbat Services, Saturday at 9:15 AM

*Rabbi Van Lanckton, Cantor Seth Grossman, President Dr. Peter Kurzberg,
Bulletin Editor Judy Karll*



**During these eight days of Chanukah, may the light of the candles fill
your home with joy.**

Blessing for Chanukah

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe










שָׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנֵן הַזֶּה: (אָמֵן)

she'asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamon haheim baz'man hazeh. (Amein)

Who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days at this time

DECEMBER, 2015 –KISLEV, TEVET 5776

*Candle lighting

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		19 Kislev 1	2	3	4 *3:45 PM	5 Parshat Vayeshev SELICHOT Rabbi Lanckton
6 Sisterhood Chanukah Party FIRST LIGHT 	7 	8 	9 	10 	11  *3:54 PM	12 Parashat Mikeitz TBS CHANUKAH KIDDISH 
1 Tevet 13 8 th candle 	14 8 th Day of Chanukah	15	16 TBS BOARD MEETING	17	18 *3:55 PM	19 Parashat Vayigash Rabbi Lanckton
20	21	22  First Day Of Winter FAST-10 th OF Teves	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS *3:59 PM	26 Parashat Vayechi Owen Fainer's Bar Mitzvah
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE		

JANUARY, 2016 – TEVET, SHEVAT, 5776

*Shabbat candle lighting

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 *4:04 PM	2 Parashat Shemot
3	4	5	6	7	8 *4:11 PM	9 Parashat Vaera Rabbi Lanckton
10	1 SHEVAT 11 ROSH CHODESH	12	13 TBS BOARD MEETING	14	15 *4:18 PM	16 Parashat Bo
17	18 Martin Luther King Day	19	20	21	22 *4:27 PM	23 Parashat Beshalach Shabbat Shirah Rabbi Lanckton
24	25  TU B'SHEVAT	26	27	28	29 *4:36 PM	30 Parashat Yisro
31						

FEBRUARY, 2016 - SHEVAT, ADAR I 5776

*Shabbat candle lighting

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Parashat Mishpatim Rabbi Lanckton
					*4:45 PM	
7	8	9	ADAR 1 10 ROSH CHODESH	11	12	13 Parashat Terumah
					*4:54 PM	
14 VALENTINES DAY 	15 PRESIDENTS DAY	16	17 TBS BOARD MEETING	18	19	20 Parashat Tetzaveh
					*5:03 PM	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Parashat Ki Tisa
					*5:12 PM	
28	29 LEAP YEAR					

DONATION PAGE

DONOR NAME _____ Card to: _____
Street _____ Street _____
City _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ State _____ Zip _____

INSCRIBED BOOK PLATES: () High Holiday Mahzor \$ 20.00

ENGRAVED PLAQUES: () Tree of Life \$ 72.00
() Yahrzeit \$175.00
() Memorial Plaque \$175.00

Wording for High Holiday Mahzor Book Plate:

In Memory of _____ By _____
In Honor of _____ By _____
Other _____

Wording for Tree of Life Leaf:

In Honor of _____ By _____
Other _____

Wording for Yahrzeit Plaques:

Name of Deceased _____
Hebrew Name _____ Ben (son of) _____
Bat (daughter of) _____
Date of Death _____ Time of day _____

Memorial Plaque (non-Jewish)

Name of Deceased _____
Date of Birth _____ Date of Death _____

Rabbi Greenberg Scholarship: Donation amount \$ _____

Hebrew School: Donation amount \$ _____

Kiddush: Donation \$75 – basic Kiddush

Table Cloth: \$12 per name _____

Check payable to: Temple B'nai Shalom

Mail to: Marylou Fishman, 11 Woodward Ave, Quincy, MA 02169 617-773-3567

() Used back of page for additional information

TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM – BUDGET

	2014-15 Budget	2014-15 Actual	2015-2016 Approved Budget
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Building			
Custodial	\$ 6,550	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,550
Insurance	\$10,042	\$ 9,708	\$10,042
Gas	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,518	\$ 3,000
Electric	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,488	\$ 2,200
Telephone	\$ 465	\$ 523	\$ 550
Water	\$ 220	\$ 198	\$ 220
Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 5,000	\$19,780	\$ 5,000
Religious			
Rabbis, Cantor	\$50,899	\$50,899	\$52,899
School	\$ 500	\$ 160	\$ 500
Educational Programs	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 500
Holidays/Celebrations	\$ 1,300	\$ 954	\$ 1,000
Administration			
Web Page	\$ 150	\$ 0	\$ 150
All other administration	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,278	\$ 5,000
	<u>\$85,826</u>	<u>\$97,806</u>	<u>\$87,611</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Dues	\$47,222	\$45,322	\$49,933
Fund Raising	\$18,500	\$16,136	\$16,000
High Holy Day	\$12,000	\$11,785	\$12,000
Bank Interest	\$ 40	\$ 13	\$ 15
Bank Loan		\$10,000	
Sisterhood Pledge	\$ 2,500	\$12,500	\$ 2,500
Other	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,499	\$ 1,200
	<u>\$81,262</u>	<u>\$97,255</u>	<u>\$81,648</u>
NET	(4,564)	(551)	(5,963)
Adjusted for Loan Payment		(10,551)	

Fund Raising for 2015 includes:	INCOME	EXPENSE	NET
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	\$ 1,592	\$ 72	\$ 1,520
Amazon	\$ 71	\$ 0	\$ 71
Sukkot/Hannukka/Passover	\$ 43	\$ 72	(29)
MassPass Books	\$ 1,120	\$ 500	\$ 620
Memorial Plaques/Leaves	\$ 404	\$ 300	\$ 104
Prayer Books	\$ 105	\$ 0	\$ 105
Religious School	\$ 290	\$ 160	\$ 130
Scrip	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,000
Special Events/Peace Garden	\$ 250	\$ 200	\$ 50
Yahrzeit donations	\$ 2,161	\$ 0	\$ 2,161
Year End Appeal	\$ 7,281	\$ 37	\$ 7,244
Yizkor Book	\$ 1,675	\$ 165	\$ 1,510
Other	\$ 144	\$ 0	\$ 144
	<u>\$16,136</u>	<u>\$ 1,506</u>	<u>\$ 14,630</u>



Rabbi Van Lanckton

Maintaining Our Values and Defeating Terrorism

My dear friends,

In recent weeks we have been appalled and saddened by the multiple murders carried out by Islamic jihadists in Israel, in Paris and elsewhere in Europe, in the Middle East and in Africa. We mourn those losses. We must urge our leaders to join with leaders of the civilized world to defeat these enemies of the basic human values we share, while at the same time we preserve and maintain those values ourselves.

I have been studying the views of the candidates for President of the United States on how to achieve these goals. I have posted on our website a paper discussing those views and my conclusions from this study. The paper is titled *We Will Defeat Radical Jihadist Terrorism*. You will find it at <http://tbsbraintree.com/sermons.html>.

In summary, our strategy should have three main elements:

1. Defeat ISIS in Syria, Iraq and across the Middle East;
2. Disrupt and dismantle the growing terrorist infrastructure that facilitates the flow of fighters, financing arms and propaganda around the world; and
3. Harden our defenses and those of our allies against external and homegrown threats.

I welcome your views.

Meanwhile, we are also celebrating in this season the many reasons we have to give thanks. The Thanksgiving holiday provides an opportunity for us to pause and recall our causes for gratitude. We can usually find more than a few such causes even as we may also have difficulties and challenges in our lives.

As the daylight hours grow shorter, counting down to the winter solstice, we look forward to lighting the lights of Chanukah that will inevitably be followed by the return of longer and brighter days.

I wish all my dear friends a Happy Chanukah and that 2016 may be a year of blessings for all of us and for all those we hold dear.

Rabbi Van Lanckton

vlanckton@verizon.net

617-694-2438



MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Peter Kurzberg

Shalom,

We have had a busy and exciting fall with a number of terrific events, beginning with our High Holy Day services. We had a great turn out and it was so nice to see everyone. The High Holy Day services always provide a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends and come together as a temple family. We received very positive feedback on the services. Next came the opportunity to celebrate the holiday of Sukkot in our Sukkah decorated by our students in the religious school. The religious school remains vibrant and our students are learning a great deal. Our annual congregational meeting drew a nice crowd and was held in conjunction with the Men's Club breakfast. As always, the food was delicious. Thank you to crew that helped in the kitchen. The budget for the 2015-2016 year was unanimously approved. A copy of the budget is included in this bulletin. Beginning in November, Jo Salloway organized a genealogy program which drew almost 50 people. Arline Goodman arranged for a dine out day with the temple receiving almost \$200 for the event, and Sisterhood held a very successful rummage sale under the direction of Florence Koffman with many helpers. Sisterhood will be holding its annual Chanukah Brunch on December 6 at the Granite Grill. We are all looking forward to our family Chanukah Kiddush to be held on Saturday, December 12 at the Temple. Of course, delicious potato latkes will be served!

Mark it on your calendar, .Judy Karll is organizing a "Chanukah Mitzvah" program in conjunction with the religious school, collecting unwrapped new toys to give to children less fortunate during the holidays. What continues to be so heartening is to see the number of people who work so hard to make these events happen. At the same time we held our weekly Shabbat services with good participation and had individuals helping out in the kitchen so that all could enjoy a Kiddush following the service. Come and join us for a Shabbat service. You will be pleasantly surprised. Shabbat Services start "around" 9:15ish, but you can come anytime you feel comfortable up to and including the Kiddush. I hope you had, and will have, an opportunity to participate in some or all of the events that have been, and will be, held. We are fortunate to have members who continuously volunteer their time to help out. Thank you to all who give of their time to make our temple a better place for all. We could use more of you, however! Consider volunteering a few hours in the kitchen for a Shabbat or help with some shopping. Contact Paula Goldman at paulag@beld.net if you can help out or for more information.

Finally, you will be receiving information about our END OF YEAR APPEAL. We had a wonderful response last year and hope to do so again this year. Thank you to those who may have sent in your donation already this year. If you have not had an opportunity to send in your donation, please do so today. We believe that with this year's appeal program, EVERYONE is able to participate. Please consider donating at a level that is affordable for you. NO AMOUNT IS TOO SMALL. WE NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO REMAIN VIBRANT AND ALIVE.

I wish you and your family good health throughout the holiday season, and hope to see you at an upcoming Shabbat in shul.

Peter Kurzberg

TBS COMMUNITY **PROJECTS**

THE CHANUKA MITZVAH

Giving back

At this holiday time of the year, we at Temple B'nai Shalom are hoping to share with children less fortunate in the surrounding community.

Our project "THE CHANUKA MITZVAH" will be designating "The Kid's Clothes Closet" and the "Marge Crispin Center" in Braintree.

We are asking for only NEW small toys, puzzles, books, cards, board games, art supplies. The Kids' Clothes Closet has requested children's socks and gloves.

Hebrew School Classes can bring their donations to Class, Members can bring their donations to the CHANUKA SHABBAT KIDDUSH, (or any other) and Board members to the next meeting - our deadline is DEC 16th.

*If you have no time to shop, you can mail your donation to the Temple Attn: The CHANUKA Mitzvah and a Mensch on the Bench will happily shop for you.

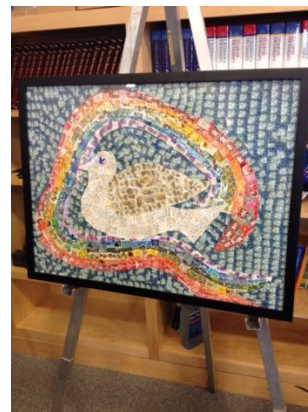


Community Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable, food items to Temple each time you come to: Services; Religious School; Board Meetings; Yoga; Membership Dinner; Movie Nights, etc.

The collection box is at the left as you enter the front door of the Temple.

POSTAGE STAMP PROJECT



We are collecting cancelled stamps for the Foxboro Regional Charter School Holocaust Stamp Project. Each stamp collected symbolizes one wasted life "thrown away".

The students are creating a stamp collage. Please leave your cancelled stamps in the donation box in the Temple lobby. The hope for the students is to collection 11,000,000 stamps. As of November our Temple has collected 14,700 stamps for the project.

**FOUNDING MEMBER,
IRVING ADLER,
RECALLS HOW IT ALL
BEGAIN. . .**

Our Temple started around 1958 or 1959. When we **started we held our services** in the local American Legion Hall. Then we moved to a storefront near South Braintree Square. We used that location for **services**, meetings and other activities.

While we were there we were approached by Reverend Francis Anderson who was Pastor of All Souls Church. He said that it was unseemly and not appropriate to hold religious services in a storefront and he offered us the use of All Souls Church. At the time, our main religious service was Friday Night Services, occasionally, Saturday morning, and High Holidays. Needless to say we were grateful beyond words.

However, we did mention that we might have a conflict if our High Holidays fell on a Sunday when it would be normal for the church to have their services. He said that if that occurred we would have the use of All Souls Church and the church would find another venue for their services. I think that we were there four or five years. A member of our congregation, Harry Kaplan, built a portable Ark to hold our Torahs. The portable Ark was built to biblical specifications, no nails or screws were used, only glue and the glue could have no animal substance in it. We proudly displayed it on the pulpit at all our services and after services it went back in the closet. Reverend Anderson was impressed with attendance at our functions and also

impressed with the fact we served food after every service or function. So he thought that he would establish that same procedure at the church and he adopted the slogan, "if you feed 'em, they'll come." We had a little conflict when we served wine for sacramental purposes while the AA was meeting downstairs. I think that we settled that conflict by changing to grape juice.

The kids had a ball telling their friends in school that they went to Hebrew School in church.

Our home was All Souls Church and it was so important for the development of our Temple. Our time at All Souls was during the growth period of our Temple.

We moved out of All Souls in 1962 or 1963. As a symbol of our gratitude we planted 2 Linden trees near the entrance to the church. There is nothing that we could do to repay All Souls for their hospitality.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

**THE SISTERHOOD OF TEMPLE B'NAI
SHALOM IS APPRECIATIVE OF RECEIVING
THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD.**

**SISTERHOOD IS AND HAS BEEN THE
RIGHT ARM OF THE TEMPLE. WE HAVE
SUPPORTED THE BUDGET EACH YEAR
SINCE OUR BEGINNING. WE PROVIDE THE
MEMBERS WITH A DELICIOUS KIDDUSH
ON SHABBAT AS WELL AS PROVIDING
ADDITIONAL FUNDS WHEN NECESSARY. IT
IS OUR HOPE TO CONTINUE WITH THE
SUPPORT OF OUR MEMBERSHIP.**

**FLORENCE KOFFMAN, SISTERHOOD REP.
TO THE TBS BOARD**

TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM **LIBRARY**

The Temple has a library of a variety of books available for loan. They can be seen on the first floor and by the honor system, you can write down your information that you have borrowed a book.

THE RABBI EPHRAIM GREENBERG **SCHOLARSHIP**

BACKGROUND OF TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM THE RABBI EPHRAIM GREENBERG SCHOLARSHIP.

The fund was started by a contribution of \$5,000 from Daniel & Nancy Kovnat in the 1980's. The fund has been invested in an appropriate account. The interest is awarded to help defray costs for a Jewish experience such as Camp Ramah or a trip to Israel. The maximum awarded is up to \$1,000. The President of the Temple appoints a committee of three people to review the applications. The recipient must be related to a Temple member. The scholarship awardee is invited to present a report (written or verbal) at a Shabbat or Holiday. This fund is maintained by donations specifically identified for The Rabbi Greenberg Scholarship.

MEMBERSHIP NOTICES

- **YOUR DUES ARE DUE! IF YOU HAVE LOST YOUR COUPONS OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE AMOUNT YOU OWE, PLEASE CONTACT JANICE FINE AT JAN@JANFINE.COM**
- **AS A MEMBER OF THE TEMPLE, YOU CAN BE NOTIFIED OF A FAMILY MEMBER'S YAHRZEIT & THE REMEMBRANCE WILL ALSO BE MENTIONED AT THE SHABBAT SERVICE PRIOR TO THE HEBREW ANNIVERSARY. PLS SEND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: NAME OF DECEASED, DATE OF PASSING AS WELL AS THE TIME IF KNOWN TO: MERYL SMITH meryljoy@aol.com**

TBS CHAIR YOGA CLASS



Chair Yoga Classes Offered

Join the Chair Yoga Class
At the Temple on Thursdays at
10:00 ARE for one hour.

The instructor is Joyce Jordan. Joyce is a certified yoga teacher as well as a certified nutritional & wellness consultant.

Classes are for men and women. The cost is \$10 per week, paid monthly at the beginning of each month. Although the class has been ongoing for a year, there is no problem joining at any time. Come and observe a week to see if it's for you

If you have any questions, contact Marylou at maryloufishman@comcast.net or call 617-921-0368

SPONSOR KIDDUSH



Remember with TBS with a graduation, wedding, anniversary, birthday, Mitzvah, anniversary, Yahrzeit or something special to you.

\$75 for a basic Kiddush or embellished for an additional fee. To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush contact either: Janice @ 508-230-5074 jan@janfine.com OR Marylou @ 617-921-0368 maryloufishman@comcast.net



Save Money! The 2016 book has been reduced to \$20!!!!

The book includes more than \$6,000 in coupons and discounts; it makes a wonderful Holiday, Birthday, Anniversary, house gift, etc.

Call Audrey Mallock 617-893-2176 or Marylou Fishman at 617-921-0368

Proceeds are donated to Temple B'nai Shalom



During Sisterhood Membership – A Celebration of Florence Koffman's Birthday – Florence aka Mrs. Rummage is the Sisterhood Representative to the TBS Board.



**SISTERHOOD TEMPLE
2015 RUMMAGE SALE
WAS A GREAT SUCCESS
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED**



GENEALOGY PROGRAM

On Sunday, November 1, 2015, the Adult Education Committee, under the auspices of Chairman Jo Salloway, presented a program on Genealogical Research. The speaker was James Coyle a Boston University trained Nationally Certified Genealogist and member of The Association of Professional Genealogists. The program was well attended with 48 highly interested participants, taking notes, asking questions and gathering helpful research strategies, all in pursuit of their goals of beginning or continuing to research their genealogical backgrounds.

Participants were given handouts with extensive websites and information as to "where to look", "how to verify information", "how to ask the right questions", etc. James shared his own research with us and discussed how he had found his long lost paternal grandfather, Matthew Coyle, after his disappearance soon after his arrival in NYC from Scotland in early 1900. He was found, after much searching, buried in the Quincy Cemetery. It was a mystery solved and brought closure to the family.

Genealogy is a study of history and more specifically, our own personal history. It answers many questions and helps provide a narrative of who we are, from where we come, to whom we are connected and what we are all about. Many people have lost loved ones to war and holocaust and this helps to remember them as part of our lives and helps to maintain a sense of connection and continuity. We also had the opportunity to meet John Coletta who created a Torah styled scroll and wooden holder to house and display his family tree of 2,000 relatives.

Thank you to Marylou Fishman, Dick Salloway, Arline Goodman and Enid Lubarsky for your help with setting up refreshments. Also, a hearty thank you to Dick Salloway, Michael Kaplan and Dave Flaherty for your help setting up tables and preparing the room and thank you to all who made a donation.

Jo Salloway, Adult Education Chair

Scenes from building the Temple Sukkah



The Builders



The work of generations



The Decorators



DONATIONS TO TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM

Yahrzeit/Memorial Donations

Helen Warshauer in Memory of Bernie Warshauer
James Warshauer in Memory of Bernie Warshauer
Dr. Phil & Charity Nedelman in Memory of

Arthur Nedelman

Marilyn Reisberg in Memory of: Ida Goldstein,
Arthur Present, Murray Doctor, Enrique Reizburg

Irving & Wayne Adler
Sheldon & Sandie Baler Segal
Lynne Baron
Ned & Cheryl Berman
Steve & Judy Karll
Ruth Lubot
Irving Spector
Rabbi Van & Alice Lanckton
Estelle Weinberger
Milton & Arlene Wolk

High Holiday Donations

Barry & Kathy Belt
Bob & Liz Bloom
Alyse Baker Boncaldo
Michael & Alba Caplan
Bob Cohen
Allen & Marilyn Cramer
Michael & Faye Goldman
Ben & Jean Goodman
David Flaherty & Paula Goldman
Karen Grossman
Stewart & Marvin Joran
Steve & Judy Karll
Florence Koffman
Richard Kream
Richard & Josephine Salloway
Debbie Sepinwall
Robin Torpey
David & Nancy Wluka

Kiddush Sponsors

Paula Goldman & David Flaherty
Anita Young

General Donations

Ned & Cheryl Berman
Alan Burack
Marilyn Cramer
Benjamin & Jean Goodman
Steve & Judy Karll
Marge Killian
Ruth Lobot
Estelle Weinberg
Anita Young

Prayer Book

Irving & Wayne Adler in honor of
Arline Goodman's birthday.

Donations in Honor of Arline Goodman's Birthday

Ned & Cheryl Berman
Bob & Liz Bloom
Suzanne Bloom
Roy & Sylvia Bonaccorso
Sara Cogliano
Stanley & Maureen Divorkin
Thelma Freedman
David Flaherty & Paula Goldman
Lawrence & Alice Gillis
Kathleen Johnstone
Steve & Judy Karll
Rosann Karp
Peter & Karen Kurzberg
Enid Lubarsky
Audrey Mallock
Edith Prague
Marilyn Reisberg & Donna Teed
Mickey Rosen
Patti Rosenfield
Sheldon & Sandy Baler Segal
Rhoda Silverstein
Benay P. Smith
Helen Warshauer

Temple Bond Donations

Lynne Baron
Lucy Fainer
Marvin & Stewart Joran
Florence Koffman
Enid Lubarsky
George Strom

**ARLINE GOODMAN CELEBRATED HER
BIRTHDAY AT
TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM**



Arline and The Goodman Woman



**MEMBERS OF SISTERHOOD ENJOYING
MEMBERSHIP DINNER**



The Story of Chanukah

The story of Chanukah begins in the reign of Alexander the Great. Alexander conquered Syria, Egypt and Palestine, but allowed the lands under his control to continue observing their own religions and retain a certain degree of autonomy. Under this relatively benevolent rule, many Jews assimilated much of Hellenistic culture, adopting the language, the customs and the dress of the Greeks, in much the same way that Jews in America today blend into the secular American society.

More than a century later, a successor of Alexander, Antiochus IV was in control of the region. He began to oppress the Jews severely, placing a Hellenistic priest in the Temple, massacring Jews, prohibiting the practice of the Jewish religion, and desecrating the Temple by requiring the sacrifice of pigs (a non-kosher animal) on the altar. Two groups opposed Antiochus: a basically nationalistic group led by Mattathias the Hasmonean and his son Judah Maccabee, and a religious traditionalist group known as the Chasidim, the forerunners of the Pharisees (no direct connection to the modern movement known as Chasidism). They joined forces in a revolt against both the assimilation of the Hellenistic Jews and oppression by the Seleucid Greek government. The revolution succeeded and the Temple was rededicated.

According to tradition as recorded in the Talmud, at the time of the rededication, there was very little oil left that had not been defiled by the Greeks. Oil was needed for the menorah (candelabrum) in the Temple, which was supposed to burn throughout the night every night. There was only enough oil to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days, the time needed to prepare a fresh supply of oil for the menorah. An eight day festival was declared to commemorate this miracle. Note that the holiday commemorates the miracle of the oil, not the military victory: Jews do not glorify war.

Traditions

Our rabbis taught the rule of Chanukah: ... on the first day one [candle] is lit and thereafter they are progressively increased ... [because] we increase in sanctity but do not reduce. - Shabbat 21b, Babylonian Talmud

Chanukah is not a very important religious holiday. The holiday's religious significance is far less than that of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Passover, and Shavu'ot. It is roughly equivalent to Purim in significance, and you won't find many non-Jews who have even heard of Purim! Chanukah is not mentioned in Jewish scripture; the story is related in the book of Maccabees, which Jews do not accept as scripture.



The only religious observance related to the holiday is the lighting of candles. The candles are arranged in a candelabrum called a menorah (or sometimes called a chanukki) that holds nine candles: one for each night, plus a shammas (servant) at a different height. On the first night, one candle is placed at the far right. The shammas candle is lit and three berakhot (blessings) are recited: l'hadlik neir (a general prayer over candles), she-asah nisim (a prayer thanking G-d for performing miracles for our ancestors at this time), and she-hekhanu (a general prayer thanking G-d for allowing us to reach this time of year). See Chanukah Candle Lighting Blessings for the full text of these blessings. After reciting the blessings, the first candle is then lit using the shammas candle, and the shammas candle is placed in its holder. Candles can be lit any time after dark but before midnight. The candles are normally allowed to burn out on their own after a minimum of 1/2 hour, but if necessary they can be blown out at any time after that 1/2 hour. On Shabbat, Chanukah candles are normally lit before the Shabbat candles, but may be lit any time before candlelighting time (18 minutes before sunset). Candles cannot be blown out on Shabbat (it's a violation of the Sabbath rule against igniting or extinguishing a flame). Because the Chanukah candles must remain burning until a minimum of 1/2 hour after dark (about 90 minutes total burning time on Shabbat), some Chanukah candles won't get the job done. On one of the earlier nights, you might want to make sure your candles last long enough. If they don't, you might want to use something else for Chanukah on Shabbat, such as tea lights or even Shabbat candles. (continued)

Each night, another candle is added from right to left (like the Hebrew language). Candles are lit from left to right (because you pay honor to the newer thing first). On the eighth night, all nine candles (the 8 Chanukah candles and the shammas) are lit. See animation at right for the candle lighting procedure. On nights after the first, only the first two blessings are recited; the third blessing, she-hekhanu is only recited on the first night of holidays.

Why the shammas candle? The Chanukah candles are for pleasure only; we are not allowed to use them for any productive purpose. We keep an extra one around (the shammas), so that if we need to do something useful with a candle, we don't accidentally use the Chanukah candles. The shammas candle is at a different height so that it is easily identified as the shammas.

ORIGINAL MENORAH

HAD SEVEN (7) LAMPS



The **menorah** (/məˈnɔːrə/; Hebrew: מְנוֹרָה [mənoˈraː]) is described in the Bible as the seven-lamp (six branches) ancient Hebrew lampstand made of pure gold and used in the portable sanctuary set up by Moses in the wilderness and 300 years later in the Temple in Jerusalem. Fresh olive oil of the purest quality was burned daily to light its lamps. The menorah has been a symbol of Judaism since ancient times and is the emblem on the coat of arms of the modern state of Israel.

The original menorah was made for the Tabernacle, and the Bible records it as being present until the Israelites crossed the Jordan river. When the Tabernacle is pitched in Shiloh (Joshua 18:1), it assumed that the menorah was also present. However, no mention is made of it during the years that the Ark of the Covenant was moved in the times of Samuel and Saul. There is no further mention of the menorah in Solomon's temple, except in (2 Chronicles 4:7) as he creates ten lampstands. These are recorded as being taken away to Babylon by the invading armies under the general Nebuzar-Adan (Jeremiah 52:19) some centuries later.

During the restoration of the Temple worship after the 70-year captivity in Babylon, no mention is made of the return of the menorah but only of "vessels" (Ezra 1:9-10). Since the Temple was an enclosed place with no natural light, some means of illumination must have existed.

The Book of Maccabees records that Antiochus Epiphanes took away the lampstands (plural) when he invaded and robbed the Temple (1 Maccabees 1:21). The later record of the making of "new holy vessels" may refer to the manufacture of new lampstands (1 Maccabees 4:49). There is no biblical mention of the fate of the menorah.

The fate of the menorah used in the Second Temple is recorded by Josephus, who states that it was brought to Rome and carried along during the triumph of Vespasian and Titus. The menorah was deposited afterwards in the Temple of Peace in Rome.

TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH there will be a special CHANUKA KIDDUSH

**BRING YOUR CHANUKA MITZVAH
GIFT FOR A CHILD LESS FORTUNATE –
SOCKS OR MITTENS OR A NEW TOY**

You are always welcome to bring non-perishable food for the Food Pantry.

Tu B'Shevat

TU B'SHEVAT IS A MINOR HOLIDAY that is sometimes called the New Year for Trees. It comes at the very beginning of spring, when the rains are plentiful and the trees blossom in Israel (though in some parts of America there's still snow on the ground at this "springtime" celebration). The words "Tu B'Shevat" literally mean the 15th of the month of Shevat.

Today, many people mark this holiday by planting saplings and participating in a meal that evokes the Passover seder, where fruits, nuts, and wine or grape juice are on the menu. Besides the seder, many families spend Tu B'Shevat planting a tree, working in a garden, eating special fruit, or doing something else to show some love for trees and the earth.

*If you would like to plant a tree in Israel,
Please contact Judy Karll
sjkarll@yahoo.com, 781-635-3656*

TALMUD

Tu B'Shevat appears in the Mishnah in Tractate Rosh Hashanah as one of the four new years in the Jewish calendar. The discussion of when the New Year occurs was a source of debate among the rabbis: "And there are four new year dates: – The first of Nisan – new year for kings and festivals – The first of Elul – new year for animal tithes. Rabbi Elazar and Rabbi Shimon say: – The first of Tishrei – new year for calculation of the calendar, sabbatical years and jubilees, for planting and sowing – The first of Shevat, according to the school of Shammai; The school of Hillel says: the fifteenth of Shevat" (*Rosh Hashana*:2a).^[2]

The rabbis of the Talmud ruled in favor of Hillel on this issue. Thus the 15th of Shevat became the date for calculating the beginning of the agricultural cycle for the purpose of biblical tithes.^[3]

Tu B'Shevat Books for Children

Here is a list of Tu B'Shevat-related books sent out by PJ Library this year or in the past.

- [Review All Tu B'Shevat-Related Children's Books](#)

Tu B'Shevat Resources & Activities

Below are activity ideas aimed at making Tu B'Shevat more meaningful and enjoyable for the entire family:

- ["Tu B'Shevat 101"](#)

A thorough overview of Tu B'Shevat's history and traditions from *MyJewishLearning*.

- [A Seder for Tu B'Shevat](#)

Ideas to get you started on holding a seder with your family.

- [A Seder for Tu B'Shevat - Videos](#)

Fun and educational Tu B'Shevat videos from *Shalom Sesame*

- [Green Thumb Training](#)

A few winter, indoor suggestions for nurturing a green thumb in your children.

- [Nurturing Healthy Roots](#)

Resources pertaining to the nurturing of healthy roots in children.

- ["Seven Species Delicacies"](#)

Kveller.com writers Ariela and Peter Pelaia offer recipes that feature the seven fruits and grains used to celebrate Tu B'Shevat.

- [Singing Happy Birthday to Trees](#)

PJ Goes to School Director, Lisa Litman, has a few things to say - and sing about Tu B'Shevat.

- [Teaching Children to be Green](#)

Green-minded ideas to help parents teach children to care for the Earth.

- ["The Greening of Judaism Booklet"](#)

Activities for children and the roots of Tu B'Shevat are presented in a beautiful booklet by *InterfaithFamily.com*.

- [Tu B'Shevat with the Seven Species](#)

Fruity recipes to honor Tu B'Shevat's agricultural roots.

- [Ways to Celebrate Tu B'Shevat](#)

More than 10 ways for families to celebrate Tu B'Shevat.



**KAHAL KADOSH BETH ELOHIM SYNAGOGUE,
CHARLESTON, SC**

**MEMBERS ARE TRAVELING AND VISITING
SYNAGOGUES**

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON THOSE YOU VISIT

On a trip to Charleston, S.C. for a family wedding, in early October, Dick and I had the opportunity to do some sightseeing in this beautiful Southern city. On Sunday, October 11, 2015, we headed downtown and were fortunate to attend the Anniversary celebration of the Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Synagogue on Hasell Street. Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, Holy Congregation House of G-d, Synagogue was originally founded in 1749 as an Orthodox Congregation, but is now a Reform Congregation with 650 member families. Members in 1749 worshipped in private homes, but in 1794 they dedicated a new building, described as the largest synagogue in the United States. It was sadly destroyed in the great Charleston fire of 1838 and rebuilt in 1840 at the same Hasell Street location. It is known as one of the country's finest examples of Greek revival architecture and is designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Charleston is considered the birthplace of Reform Judaism in the United States. In 1840, with the building of the new Synagogue, an organ was installed. This was the first time in America that a synagogue introduced instrumental music into its religious service.

The current building was constructed in 1840 by member David Lopez from the design of Tappan and

Noble and Cyrus L. Warner. In front of the lavish grounds is a beautiful black wrought iron fence constructed in 1819. The large marble tablet above the massive double entrance doors proclaims the Sh'ma in Hebrew and in the foyer are four of the fourteen original dedication stones of the 1794 sanctuary. The ark is made of Santo Domingo mahogany with glass doors providing a barrier for the Torah Scrolls. The current pews were installed in 1879. The stained glass windows with religious symbols date back to 1886.

The story of Kahel Kadosh Beth Elohim is one of faith, devotion and perseverance all in the tradition of freedom of worship. The first Jew in Charleston was known to be there in 1695, 25 years after the founding of the city in 1670. Other Jews followed, attracted by the religious liberty of South Carolina. By 1749, they were able to organize this Congregation. By 1764 they established the Coming Street Jewish Cemetery, in 1784 they founded the Hebrew Benevolent Society and in 1801 the Hebrew Orphan Society, both still active today and in 1838 the second oldest Jewish Sunday School in the U. S.

Dick and I have had the opportunity to visit the Touro Synagogue, Congregation Jeshuat Israel of Touro Street, Newport, R.I., 1677, Congregation Mikveh Israel of 44 N. Fourth Street, Philadelphia, PA, Spanish-Portuguese Orthodox and Shearith Israel of NYC, the Spanish Portuguese Synagogue at 8 W. 70th Street, founded in 1654. Each visit and service has been beautiful and most meaningful. Stop by to visit when you are in these and other cities.

Shalom!

Jo Salloway
Adult Education Chairman

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CHANUKAH

Holiday Recipes

BRISKET

Prep Time: 9 minutes

Cook Time: 3 hours

Chill Time: none

Yield: 8 servings

- 1 (2 ½ -pound) beef brisket, thick-cut
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon basil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 3 medium onions, sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled, halved
- 1½ cups ketchup
- 1½ cups dry red wine
- 1½ cups water

Preheat oven to 325° F. Rinse brisket. Place in roasting pan. Rub paprika, basil, salt and pepper into meat. Scatter onions and garlic over meat. In a medium bowl, mix ketchup, wine and water. Pour over brisket. Cover pan tightly with aluminum foil, tenting so that the foil does not touch the meat. Bake, covered, at 325° for 3 hours, or until a digital instant-read thermometer inserted into the center of the brisket reads 190° for well done. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes before slicing diagonally, against the grain. Serve warm, and pass pan juices in a sauce boat.

POTATO LATKES

- 10 medium russet or baking potatoes
- 2 medium onions
- 2 large or 3 medium eggs
- ¼ cup unbleached all-purpose flour, bread crumbs or matzah meal
- Salt & white pepper
- Vegetable oil

Peel the potatoes if the skin is course; otherwise, just clean them well. Keep them in cold water until ready to prepare the latkes.

Starting with the onions, alternating grate some of the onions on the large holes of the rater and some of the

potatoes on the smallest holes. This will keep the potato mixture from blackening. Press out as much liquid as possible and reserve the starchy sediment at the bottom of the bowl. Return the sediment to the mixture.*

Blend the potato mixture with the eggs, and flour - salt & pepper to taste

Heat 1 inch of oil in a frying pan. Drop about 1 tablespoon of mixture for each latke into the skillet and fry, turning once. When golden and crispy on both sides, drain on paper towels. Serve with yogurt, sour cream, sugar or applesauce.

RUSSIAN VEGETABLE MEAT SOUP

3 Carrots
2 medium white potatoes
1 sweet potato
4 quarts water
2 pounds top rib cut in 1-inch chunks
One 2-ounce pkg dry mushrooms or 1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
½ cup dried lima beans
½ cup dried green split peas
½ pound fresh string beans, diced
4 rib celery, diced
Salt & pepper to taste

Grate the carrots, white potatoes, and sweet potato on the large holes of a grater or use the rating or steel blade of a food processor.

Bring the water to a boil and add all the ingredients. Cover and simmer about 2 hours, stirring occasionally. If, when finished, you prefer thinner soup, add more water.

TZIMMES

3 large cans sliced carrots, drained
1 large cans sweet potato
2 cans crushed pineapple
1 pound brown sugar
¾ pound melted oleo
1 ½ cups flour

Make roux with oleo and flour.
Add juice from sweet potatoes and pineapple...
Pour over carrots and sweet potatoes.
Bake at 325 degrees for 2 hours.