



## The Reform Congregation of Jersey City

P 201-333-4229

[www.betheljc.org](http://www.betheljc.org)

February 2020 Shevat—Adar 5780

### Rabbi's Message by Rabbi Leana Moritt

A few weeks ago, we marked the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp. For many of us, the stories of the horror and the magnitude of the depravity of the Shoah are deeply woven into our identities, our personal and family histories and the way we view history unfolding. Many of us wonder how much of the violence we see unfolding today mirrors what the Jewish people experienced during WWII. For some of us, the December 10 Greenville massacres triggered our fear and our collective trauma.



Emory University Holocaust Historian Dr. Deborah Lipstadt is one of the foremost scholars on the subject today. She recently wrote a piece comparing the situation for Jews today to that of the 1930s and 40s. She wrote that while there is plenty of concern for the well-documented uptick in anti-Semitic hate crimes today, there is a significant difference that we must remember. In the last century in Europe, the persecution of Jews was official government policy. Laws were passed that led to our rights being restricted, torture, imprisonment and murder. Today, while there is increasing fear and violence, we must remember that the story today is very different. Today we have the unwavering and unequivocal support from our local, county, state and Federal officials. In the last month, we have been the recipients of multiple calls and visits; offers and actions of help, defense, training and security. This includes \$110,000 in grant money from the Federal and NJ State government for guards as well as building upgrades. Unlike in Europe many years ago, our authorities have our back.

And so do our neighbors. In the last month I have been invited to and have spoken at numerous MLK commemorations and churches. Our Interfaith Brotherhood and Sisterhood is stronger than it ever has been. Our 35<sup>th</sup> annual MLK service was a powerful testament to our deep connections in the community.

But that does not mean that all is right with the world. Or in Jersey City. As powerfully as I feel the trauma in our Jewish community was triggered from the events of last month, so, too, was trauma triggered in the African American community, especially in Greenville. The more I speak with people, the more I am convinced this is true.

*continued on page 3*

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**Support the Purim Bag Fundraiser!!**

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*Note: Earlier Winter Service Times (7:30 pm) are in effect*

**Saturday, February 1**

Shabbat morning services celebrating the Bat Mitzvah of Madeleine Moore 10:30 am

**Friday, February 7**



First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm  
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services 7:30 pm  
 featuring our 4th and 5th grades and Junior Choir, followed by oneg

**Saturday, February 8**

Services held at Congregation B'nai Jacob 10:30 am  
 176 West Side Avenue. Rabbi Moritt will be co-leading our Shabbat service there, which will be followed by an oneg and a community-wide rally against gun violence.

**Friday, February 14**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by oneg 7:30 pm

**Saturday, February 15**

Shabbat Morning Services followed by Torah Study 10:30 am

**Friday, February 21**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by oneg 7:30 pm

**Saturday, February 22**

Tot Shabbat 10:30 am  

 Shabbat Morning Services followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

**Friday, February 28**

Kabbalat Shabbat Services. Oneg following service sponsored by Rami Haim and Wendy Schor-Haim in honor of Franny's Bat Mitzvah

**Saturday, February 29**

Shabbat Morning Services celebrating the bat mitzvah of Franny Haim

**Friday, March 6**

*New Member Shabbat* Greet our newest members!



First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm  
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services 7:30 pm  
 honoring new members and featuring our Junior Choir, followed by oneg.  
 See page 7 for details

**Saturday, March 7**

Shabbat morning services followed by Torah Study 10:30am

**Monday, March 9**

Megillah on the Roof! 6:30 pm



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**UNION for REFORM JUDAISM**  
 האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית

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To see the full roster of trustees & committees [click here](#), or visit [www.betheljc.org](http://www.betheljc.org)



**Shabbat Candle Lighting**

Friday, February 7 5:03 pm

Friday, February 14 5:11 pm

Friday, February 21 5:20 pm

Friday, February 28 5:28 pm

Friday, March 6 5:36 pm

## Rabbi's Message (continued from page 1)

I will never minimize the very real trauma, fear and history of what the Jewish people have experienced and are experiencing now. At the same time, we must recognize that others are powerfully hurting as well. This is not the time for debating who has been or is more traumatized. We all were. Rather, it is a time for compassion, healing, understanding and education -- for ourselves as well as for our neighbors. We are all hurting.

I've referred to this teaching from Pirkei Avot, but it bears repeating: "*If I am not for myself, who will be? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?*" When we are triggered, we must first take the time for self-care, nurturing and reflection before we can turn to the other. If we do not do so, we run the risk of reacting poorly out of our trauma. Only after that pause will we be capable of listening to the stories of others and their pain, remembering that acknowledging someone else's story does not diminish our own. And only when we can recognize we have all been hurt, can we engage in post-traumatic growth and post-traumatic healing.

I've been gratified to see that so many people in our community have turned and returned to Beth-El for nurturing and support. It has also been wonderful to see how our members have been there to offer it. But the kind of healing that will make a difference requires more than speeches and proclamations; guards and locks; or even healthy food and sleep. It has also been wonderful to be on the receiving end of so many expressions of compassion as well as outrage from friends and colleagues of all religions. The work certainly continues, but be assured we have good partners.

Our NJ Attorney General Gurbir Grewall (with whom I've met at least four times in the last month) wrote an op-ed piece in which he outlines five ways we must all push back against the rising tide of hate. (See it [here](#))

Of the five, two of them particularly resonate with me and stand out as the place for individual action:

- All of us — especially those with public platforms — must be responsible with the words we use. As constituents, we must hold our officials to the highest standards.
- We must reexamine our school curricula when it comes to addressing bias and hate.

We live in a time of alarming ignorance of history. Do we speak up when we hear ignorant or disparaging remarks against Jews? Or biased comments about minorities? Do we step up and clear the air with truth and clarity or do we allow the darkness to linger? It is incumbent upon us to learn or relearn as much as we can so we can speak up and be agents for truth. Similarly, do we demand that all our public and elected officials are held to these same standards? Are we fighting for anti-bias education and real history to be instilled to our next generation?

During this month in which we celebrate our nation's greatest presidents, let us be reminded of our nation's values through the words of George Washington's in his 1790 letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island: "For happily the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support."

L'shalom, in peace, wholeness and friendship

*Rabbi Leana Moritt*

### TERUMAH

If you haven't yet pledged or paid Terumah for this new decade and new year (which means that your membership has lapsed), this is the perfect time to get caught up. Returning or continuing members can make their pledges [here](#). Interested in joining as a new member? Do it right [here](#).

The services, celebrations, programs, education, and pastoral care provided by Temple Beth-El cost money and we struggle to balance our budget every year. Please make your generous donation so that we can continue to serve Reform Jews in Hudson County.

## PURIM BAGS ORDER FORM



Purim is the **ONLY** holiday that **MANDATES** the giving of tzedakah and GIFTS in the tradition of *mishloach manot*—sending gifts of food to friends in honor of the holiday of Purim. This is a wonderful way to show generosity to your fellow members as well as to Temple Beth-El.

Join us in sending *shaloch manot* greetings to ALL members and staff. **Each member household and all staff receive ONE bag with a letter with the names of those who donate to this fundraiser.**

Please return this form to the office with your check payable to Temple Beth-El. Or order and pay online at [www.betheljc.org/purim](http://www.betheljc.org/purim). We must receive your order by **Thursday, February 27** so we can include your name on the Purim letters.

The bags can be picked up on Sunday, March 8 during Religious School or at the Purim Celebration on Monday evening March 9, or at Shabbat Services on Friday, March 6 (which is also the New Member Shabbat!).

We ask all Religious School parents and any others who pick up their bags at Shabbat or on Sunday to deliver a few to those in your neighborhood.

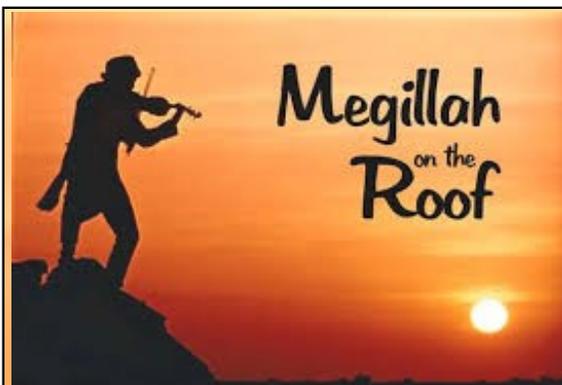
\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone



- Send a greeting to all Temple Members & Staff — \$ 100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Additional bags for non-members —\$10 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Shipping & Handling for bags to be mailed — \$10 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to make an additional donation to the TBE Food Pantry \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Get ready for Purim 2020!**  
**Megillah on the Roof** at Temple Beth El  
 Monday, March 9th, 6:30 pm

Wait, they spoke Yiddish in Shushan, Persia?!  
*If I were the King here*  
*Daidle, deedle, daidle, diguh...digguh, deedle, daidle, dum*  
*All day long they'd bow and kiss my ring*  
*If I was the Persian King!!*  
 That's right!

Needed:

- Actors and singers
- Helpers for costumes and props
- Some kind of help we haven't thought of
- Chorus line (just kidding!)
- Hecklers (see above)

Contact Cantor Wallach ASAP with your interest! [cantorwallach@betheljc.org](mailto:cantorwallach@betheljc.org)  
 Rehearsals will be held on 2/23, 2/25, 3/1, 3/8

## B'nei Mitzvah



Madeleine Moore, daughter of Celeste Moore, will become a Bat Mitzvah on February 1.

Madeleine lives in Hoboken, NJ and is a 7th grader at Hoboken Middle School. She enjoys music, art, movies, video games, and hanging out with friends.

Madeleine's Mitzvah project was helping the organization Family Promise. Family Promise is a non-profit organization that helps homeless mothers and children achieve sustainable independence through community-based response. Her responsibilities were to prepare hot meals for these families and to play with the children so their mothers could relax a bit. Madeleine really enjoys helping others and this was the perfect mitzvah project for her. She truly shone.

Her favorite part of being Jewish is celebrating all the holidays! She loves all the food that we prepare and the stories behind each holiday. Madeleine is so excited for her family and friends to see her called as a Bat Mitzvah.

Mazel Tov Madeleine!



Franny Haim is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Explore Middle School in Jersey City. She was born in Tel Aviv and moved to Jersey City, where her family had lived for many years, when she was 10 months old.

Franny is very artistic and creative; she loves drawing and painting. She also loves music and going to concerts. She likes playing softball in the Jersey City rec league, too. She has an older sister, Ruby, and an older brother, Shai, who had their bat and bar mitzvah at Temple Beth-El too. She also has two dogs, Buddy and Walter. Franny's dad is an immigrant from Israel, and she travels there at least once a year to see her big Israeli family.

Franny has been participating in Family Promise at Temple Beth-El since it began; she loves cooking for the families and playing with the kids during dinner. She also participates in the refugee resettlement group Welcome Home, and recently led an arts and crafts project for refugee children on one of their Fun Club evenings.

Franny's favorite part of being Jewish is Friday night dinner. Her dad cooks a huge Shabbat meal every Friday, making Iraqi food that his grandmother and mother taught him to cook, and welcoming anybody to the table who wants to come.

## Teen Leadership Opportunities Blossom Even in Winter

The Union for Reform Judaism offers many opportunities for your teen or college student to grow in capability both in the U.S. and in Israel. Learn about travel, study and service opportunities that can be life-changing by clicking this link:

<https://urj.org/leadership-opportunities-reform-jewish-teens>





**Saturday, February 22 10:30 — noon**  
at Temple Beth-El



Calling all children 0-5 and their grownups!

Join Rabbi Moritt, Cantor Wallach and Bracha the Beth-El Bear for a morning of Shabbat song, story, movement, crafts, snack and friendship.



Celebrate your birthday at Tot Shabbat by signing up to bring a special snack in honor of your child's special day or just sign up to help us celebrate Shabbat. We will provide juice.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4eaba62eabfdo-totshabbat>

Mark your calendars for Tot Shabbat mornings all year:

March 28    April 25    May 16    June 13    July 11    August 25

If you are not our Tot Shabbat list, please email [office@betheljc.org](mailto:office@betheljc.org) and ask to be added to our email list.

Drop-ins always welcome.

Many thanks to Aaron, Bethany and Hannah Brotman for hosting January's Tot Shabbat Downtown.

Let's do it again. If you have a party room in your building and would like to host, contact Rabbi Moritt with the month that suits you best.

sponsored by  Library



## February Family Happenings!

### First Friday Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner & Family Shabbat Service

Friday, February 7

6:30—8:30 pm

Bring a dish that serves 4-6 people and enjoy dinner with your Beth-El friends, followed by a family-friendly Shabbat service.

### Tot Shabbat

Saturday, February 22 at the Temple

10:30 am

Celebrate Shabbat mornings with our tots (age 0-5) and their grownups! Join Rabbi Moritt, Cantor Wallach, and Bracha the Beth-El Bear for song, movement, crafts, snack and friendship. All are welcome! Co-Sponsored by PJ Library of Hudson County

### Junior Youth Group Event

Sunday, February 9 — at Etienne Fialon's house in Jersey City

Kids in grades 5-7 are invited to gather for a fun, informal social event at the home of a Religious School classmate. Please bring travel-size toiletries for the kids to put together for the TBE Food Pantry. For more information and to RSVP, contact Michele Linder at [michele@betheljc.org](mailto:michele@betheljc.org).

### Rabbi Remind Me...about Purim?

Sunday, February 23

9:30—10:15 am

Parents join Rabbi Moritt for pre-Purim boot camp and study.

**All are welcome!**



December was another great youth group event! Back by popular demand, the kids spent their time making even more Chanukah cards for the elders of our congregation! They also made more than 50 sandwiches for the shelter! And there was still even time left over for a few board games and Xbox!

Our February Youth Group event will be Sunday, February 9, 3:30-5:30 pm at Etienne Fialon's house in Jersey City. Email [michele@betheljc.org](mailto:michele@betheljc.org) to get more details and/or RSVP.

## Why Shabbat is still the holiest day of my year of my week of my life. And how you can help.

by Lari Schwartz

For the past 7+ years as I work during the day I remember that at the end of the week is the jewel. Some weeks are easier than others but it has always been wonderful to know that I will have a special Holy day if I can get through the week. No matter how hard the week as I travel through difficult interactions, I know that when I wake up on Friday morning and I put the candles in their special Shabbat place, I am preparing my mind and body for a wonderful evening at Temple. I enter the sanctuary and greet the Rabbi and friends who are my community of unconditional love. Beautiful prayer, song and poetry guide me spiritually. Every Shabbat I am uplifted, centered and glad to feel at home.

Come join us, need I say it is a wonderful Shabbat every week and you will not be disappointed.

**We urge you to participate in our Oneg Shabbat and/or as an Usher  
to greet all who arrive to share in our community.**

Sign up [here](#)



## COMMUNITY RALLY AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

Saturday, February 8 at 1 pm

with Real Love Deliverance House of Prayers Ministries and Partners  
@CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB, 176 West Side Avenue, Jersey City

And join us for prayer services led by Rabbi Bronwen of CBJ and Rabbi Moritt of Temple Beth-El  
starting at 10:30 am. Services will be in Hebrew & English. All are welcome —we all speak spirit!

Putting an end to the crime and violence in our cities and communities is not a dream.

*It's a mission.*

Young people are dying on the streets due to gun violence, children are dying even in the schools. Parents are crying from city to city and community to community, which is why we are inviting each and every one of you, of all faiths and backgrounds, to come out so we can lift up our hands and voices together. It's time for us to put aside our differences for we have been divided far too long. Let us join forces face-to-face and strength-to-strength. We will not tolerate these cruel, senseless acts of violence.

*We can make real change.*

*We can do this together.*

Contact Pastor Viola Hemmingway at (201) 234-2448 or [pastorviolah76@gmail.com](mailto:pastorviolah76@gmail.com)  
if you or your organization are on board and would like to share words of hope and determination  
or ideas for productive action in solidarity.

*Face-to-Face. Strength-to-Strength.*

SATURDAY, February 8 1 pm @ Congregation B'nai Jacob (176 West Side Ave, Jersey City)

Temple Beth-El invites you to a  
*New Member Shabbat*

Join us at our New Member Shabbat as we officially welcome our newest members into the Temple Beth-El family.

Whether it's your first or fiftieth year at TBE, it's a great opportunity to meet someone new!

Friday March 6 6:30 pm First Friday Potluck Shabbat Dinner  
 7:30 pm Service, followed by Oneg Shabbat

Your vote in Israel counts!



Did you know that the Israeli government allows publicly funded gender segregation? Do you want the Western Wall to be a place where you can pray as a family!

The World Zionist Congress Elections are going on now, and your vote is critical to maintaining a large Reform presence in Israel and the United States.

Your vote is the one democratic opportunity you have to influence Israeli society as we continue our efforts toward equality, pluralism and tolerance. Voting takes place online until March 11, and will take less than 90 seconds to participate. If you're 18+ and identify as Jewish, we hope you will vote Reform.

Vote here [Vote here](#)  
 For more information, click [here](#) or click [here](#)

Parent Education at  
 Temple Beth-El  
 Sundays 9:30-10:15 am  
 during Religious School

Enrich your Jewish knowledge and parenting skills at the next session with Rabbi Moritt:



**Rabbi, Remind Me....**  
 Pre-Holiday Boot Camp and Study Sessions to stay one step ahead of the holidays

**Rabbi Remind Me...about Passover?**  
 Sunday, March 15

Please RSVP to Rabbi Moritt at [rabbimoritt@betheljc.org](mailto:rabbimoritt@betheljc.org) so she can prepare enough materials and secure the right size location.

## Member Spotlight

Jill & Robb Kushner



Welcome Jill and Robb Kushner, now members of Temple Beth-El for nine years. Prior to moving to Jersey City, the Kushners resided in South Orange and were active members at a reform congregation there, Temple Sharey Tefillo-Israel (TSTI), for almost 30 years.

Jill and Robb raised their two children, Matt and Liz, in South Orange where they became Bar and Bat Mitvah. Matt and Liz were both very active in NFTY during their teenage years.

For several years, Jill served as the coordinator and clearinghouse for social action activities at TSTI, supporting temple members who volunteered at the local food bank and at Habitat for Humanity in Newark, along with several other initiatives.

Robb developed an initiative that encouraged and supported Temple members to read Torah on a periodic basis at Friday Shabbat services.

This project started one summer when he was invited to read a Torah portion and write about it — and it was so engaging, Robb continued to read Torah regularly and involved others in the shul to read in this creative adult program. Robb has read Torah twice during High Holy Days at Temple Beth-El since becoming a member in 2011 and continues to contribute as a lay leader.

Robb and Jill met at the School of Education at Boston University. They both taught elementary education for a short while. Jill went on to become an educational writer and editor. Robb entered the corporate world, particularly financial services where, at a time when computers were not on every wrist, pocket or desk, he developed computer technology and focused on corporate education.

Robb has also been involved in producing his own videos and has created two short informational videos, which you can find on YouTube. These videos helped to promote the East Coast Greenway, an urban version of the Appalachian Trail running from Key West to Maine, 2900 miles of off and on-road trails, without motorized vehicles. This trail runs through Lincoln Park, just a short walk from Temple Beth-El.

Robb also has worked for the Union for Reform Judaism for several years and was involved in connecting with congregational leaders, specifically Rabbis, Presidents, and Executive Directors in 55 Temples in the NYC area, and has knowledge and experience in how congregations can survive and thrive and invigorate their membership to participate.

Robb held an important role in the initial start-up of *Kadimah!*, and Temple Beth-El has been so grateful for his hard work on Phase One of our capital campaign to renovate our beautiful building.

Robb is also active in a mindfulness meditation group in Jersey City that is a core part of his spiritual journey.

The Kushner family has grown over the years and is one of great love and compassion. Both of their children, now married, have provided Robb and Jill with three wonderful grandchildren. Matt and Lauren have 2 daughters, 4 ½ and 2 years old, and Liz and Ethan have a 20 month old son. Clearly Grandma and Grandpa are beaming with pride and are engaged in the care of their grandchildren, who all live nearby in Downtown Jersey City. Periodically, they have attended Tot Shabbat at Temple Beth-El.

We are all so grateful for the contribution and energy the Kushners bring to Temple Beth-El.



Newark Mayor Ras Baraka

### MLK Service Draws Hundreds to Temple Beth-El

Our 35th Annual Martin Luther King service was an extraordinary gathering both for healing and as a call to action. It was a pretty incredible night, with guest speaker Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and the choir of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church of the Incarnation joining us with our liturgy, junior choir and their own magnificent offering. See the Jersey Journal article about the service [here](#).

At right: the Choir of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church of the Incarnation with Amelie Mentha, Dexter Hudspeth & Ava Tartikoff of our Junior Choir



At left: Representative Donald Payne, Jr., Rabbi Leana Moritt, Mayor Baraka, Past President Irwin Rosen, current President Tom Rosensweet, Councilwoman Mira Prinz-Arie and Hudson County Freeholder William O’Dea



See our temple’s Facebook page [here](#). And there’s a separate page for Beth-El families [here](#).

Our Twitter feed has over 800 followers! Check it out [here](#).



Latke-making at Temple Beth-El before the Chanukah celebration in late December. As the photos show, these members had a blast!



L to R: Lari Schwartz, Jeff Kaplowitz,



L to R:  
Scott McLure,  
Irwin Rosen,  
Lari Schwartz,  
Mathieu Fialon,  
Judith  
Schteingart,  
Andrea Gaines,  
Hadassah Batya  
Chapman

Temple Beth-El on HBO!

That's Temple Beth-El standing in for a Newark synagogue in HBO's miniseries adaption of *The Plot against America* by Philip Roth. Directed by David Simon and Ed Burns, it stars John Turturro, Winona Ryder and Zoe Kazan.

This photo was taken on the first day of filming last year. The show airs in March 2020. You can find the trailer [here](#)





We welcome our newest members:

Orit Binshtock & Kristofer Knesel, *Hoboken*  
Risa Hoffman & Brian Vandenberg, *Jersey City*  
Roberta Lipp, *Jersey City*



to the Lipsky family on the naming of their daughter  
Leah Jenna, Leah Talya Hadassa  
bat Shmuel Hirsch v'Chaya Leah Maryasha



If you experience a serious health issue, or know of any temple member who is in need, please call the Temple office so that we can be of assistance.

### Rabbi Moritt to appear at NJ—PAC Sisters of the Word Beyond the Gospel Series

**free!**  
**beyond gospel music series:**  
**sisters of the word**  
**mar 26**

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Credit



Rev. Natasha Rouse



Rabbi Leana Moritt



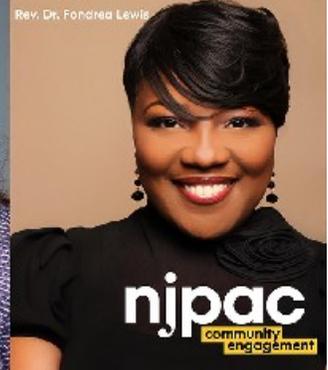
Bishop Loretta Smith-Johnson



Apostle Dr. Priscilla Sanabria



Rev. Dr. Fondrea Lewis



### Weekly Food Pantry Wednesdays 5—6:30pm



Help provide food and basic necessities for our neighbors in need. Adding a few items to your regular shopping trips can make a world of difference. If you prefer to shop online, you can make your purchases using our [Amazon wishlist](#). We've even created a QR code that takes you right to it. For details on how it works, or a



Scan with QR Studio

general list of the most needed items, [click here](#).  
Volunteers are needed every week to distribute donated food and clothing.



Family Promise<sup>®</sup>  
of Hudson County

Building community, strengthening lives.

February 9—16

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. WE NEED YOU.**

by Lari Schwartz

I am pleased to announce that we have successfully completed **TWO YEARS** as host for many temporarily homeless families. Thank you all for past your generous contributions of time and support to help the Family Promise families feel safe and secure as they all travel this precarious road back to having a home of their own. Families have moved into their own home over the last few years with the support and confidence of Family Promise.

Family Promise is a national program that helps working families stay together, boys and girls, fathers and mothers, all while struggling to get back on their feet and move to a new home. Temple Beth-El is one of 13 congregations that has committed to four weeks of hosting a year. We have a “buddy” system with United Synagogue of Hoboken which also provides volunteers to help us as we host the families. We are hopeful that our two synagogues will be able to keep Family Promise adequately staffed and the families fed and housed.

Despite this being our third year hosting families, many people at Temple are still surprised to learn of the program and don't know about this wonderful opportunity, the mitzvah for you and your family, and the safe space we provide for the families. Four times a year Temple Beth-El sets up our Social Hall so that 4 or 5 temporarily working homeless families have a place to eat and sleep and feel “at home.” I feel blessed and truly moved that we can offer this space and share our temple home with others. It is all possible with the help of people like you.

Temple Beth-El will once again be hosting Family Promise February 9 —16. To make this happen **WE NEED YOUR HELP. The success of sharing our space depends on the generosity of your time and energy.**

#### **We need VOLUNTEERS**

- To bring **dinner** for 10 to 13 people every night.
- To come with your own children or on your own to **entertain** the families, especially the kids, at 6 pm and have dinner with the families. Or on Saturday from 9 – 1 and 1 —6 pm and again 6—9 pm. Mostly the kids need to be amused as their parents relax. I find the kids mostly entertain me!! The adults are predominantly working mothers and they come back exhausted from the day's travels to and from work and the searching for housing and keeping their children safe and under some care by a school or some organization!
- To **sleep** in our Social Hall with the families. More often than not you will get a full night's sleep, and all the while you will be a supervisory presence and turn the lights back on in the a.m. The families sleep from 9 pm to 6 am and get a ride at 6:30 am to the Family Promise Day Center, located at the Fountain of Salvation on Communipaw Avenue in Jersey City.

You may wonder how these families fell into such dire straits. Some families have lost jobs or are working at employment that does not pay sufficient income to meet the bills every month. Others suffer adverse circumstances such as caring for special needs children that demand both time and money that would otherwise be used for working or housing. Family Promise provides social services and day services to help these people find jobs and housing and return to the normalcy of their lives as a family.

This is a great opportunity for families with children, for the mitzvah, to serve our community at large. Especially in this day, when the world watches as children are being separated from their parents, Family Promise's aim is to keep families together. Family Promise helps children learn first hand that others are less fortunate, and this is a wonderful time to give to the community around us. Volunteer training is available.

#### **Three ways to let us know you want to volunteer or if you have questions:**

**SIGN UP NOW** at [www.betheljc.org](http://www.betheljc.org), for a time or activity.

**GO DIRECTLY TO SIGN UP GENIUS AT** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a48a9ad23aaf94-family1>

**EMAIL** Lari at [lari@betheljc.org](mailto:lari@betheljc.org), subject line: Family Promise questions.

A major thank you to all who participated in 2018 and 2019. Without your help and time and energy and delicious food, we would not have been able to provide this much needed service.



*Thanking those who sponsored displays for our bimah or Oneg Shabbat or Kiddush refreshments (through January 15)*

**Harvey & Shirley Roter** in memory of Harvey's father, Solomon Roter, on his Yarzeit

**Adrienne Kaye** in memory of Adrienne's father, Murray Siegel, on his Yarzeit

**Andrew Lang** in memory of Angelynda Rossi Hanan

**Celeste Moore** in honor of Madeline Moore's Bat Mitzvah

*Would you like to sponsor an oneg Shabbat? This joyful gathering is a great way to recognize an accomplishment, celebrate a birthday, let the world know you are happy, or honor the memory of a loved one on a yarzeit. Choose your date! [Click here.](#)*



## Tributes

- To celebrate a happy occasion
- To say I'm sorry for your loss
- To remember your loved ones
- To thank someone for a kindness

A card acknowledging your contribution will be sent to the recipient, and the message will be listed in the newsletter. To send a tribute, use the form [online](#) or write, email or call the Temple office.

### Sustaining Fund (General Fund)

In appreciation of High Holy Day services

Dr. Cheryl Biber  
Philip Fishman  
Benjamin Gordon  
Lawrence & Olinda Sturm

In support of the Yom Kippur Appeal

Suzanne Goldstein Smith &  
John Thompson

Donations:

Maurice & Jacqueline Harounian  
Stuart Lutz & Sara McHugh  
Sandra Purkert

In memory of victims of the Jersey City attacks on December 10

Nancy Daines

In memory of my mother, Pauline Yankowitz

Mimi Eagle

In memory of my son Richard Heitner

Molly Heitner

In memory of my husband, Jack Karten, on his Yarzeit

Phyllis Karten

In memory of my father, Dr. Marshall Bergen

Carol B. Pantuck

In memory of Willis Hines

Tom Rosensweet & Barbara Hines

In memory of Hilary Sutcliffe

Edward & Ann Walsh

### Music Fund

In memory of Shirley Porte

Jay & Bonita (Bonnie) Heyman

In honor of Rabbi Moritt for bringing community together

Fred & Karen Schnur

### Rabbi Discretionary Fund

In honor of Rabbi Moritt

Aaron & Giovanna Dunkel

In memory of Shirley and Murray Haar

Eric Jordan

In memory of Robb's Mother, Milani Lee

Robb & Jill Kushner

Donation:

Tom Rosensweet & Barbara Hines

In honor of Eric Nadler and daughter Ella Leddy Nadler

Miriam & Coleman Nadler

In honor of Rabbi Moritt for extraordinary leadership

Liz Weingast

Glen Pertz, his partner Carol Boeckel and his sister Judith on the death of his mother, Doris Woolf

Dan Ackman, Laura Katzive, Ben & Alex on the death of Dan's father, Milton Ackman

Michael, Tyler and Sammie Schonberger and family on the death of Mike's mother, Lisa Feldman

Joseph Hanan and Rachel Hanan-Martin on the death of their mother and temple member Angelynda (Angel) Hanan

Barbara Hines, Tom and Vanessa Rosensweet and family on the death of Barbara's father, Willis Hines

Donald and Stuart Fischer and family on the death of our longtime member, Charlotte Fischer



Save the date!  
**2nd Seder at the Temple**  
**Thursday, April 9**



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**Yarzeits/Memorial Plaques/Simcha Tree Leaves/Cemetery**

The yarzeit, or anniversary of a loved one's passing, is a time to remember the person, in the synagogue by reciting the Kaddish prayer, through the giving of extra charity and through learning. Each week at services we speak aloud the names of those people whose yarzeit has occurred that week.

- To update your family's yarzeit listings go to the [TBE yarzeit list](#) or call or write the office.
- To purchase a Memorial Plaque to honor the memory of your loved ones click [here](#)
- To purchase a Simcha Tree Leaf to honor or congratulate friends or family members for special events or accomplishments please click [here](#)
- Temple Beth-El has cemetery plots in the beautiful locations of **Mount Moriah Cemetery** in Fairview, NJ and **Mount Lebanon Cemetery** in Iselin (Woodbridge). Please email TBE Cemetery Committee member Larry Gutterman at [LPGutterman@verizon.net](mailto:LPGutterman@verizon.net). He would be happy to discuss it further.

**Yarzeits**



**Week ending February 8**

Adolph Rabinowitz  
 Ruth Tarlowe  
 Simy Burman Neels  
 Clara Rosen Safier  
 Dr. Hans Jonas  
 Abraham Breverman  
 Betty Kale  
 Earl Rosenfield  
 Jane Scanlon  
 Irene Vogelman

**Week ending February 15**

Harold Hibell  
 Gertrude Rabner  
 Janevive Jean Nadler  
 Mechanic  
 Ruth Winograd  
 Adele Parnes  
 Abraham Barland  
 Jonathan Greenberg  
 Joseph Abbott  
 Joel P. Eisenberg  
 Edward Ruskin  
 Douglas Sandlauffer

Allan Roy Bardack  
 Robert D. Bouer  
 Laura Harwood  
 Ethel Pesin

**Week ending February 22**

Vivian Schwartz Stern  
 M. Louis Silverman  
 Malvina Rabinowitz  
 Miriam Swerdloff-Karp  
 William Bauer  
 Harry Zlotowicz

**Week Ending February 29**

Juliette Barland  
 Elaine Shub  
 Isabel W. Rosenfield  
 Paul Bardack  
 Peter Menkes  
 Judith Ferbel  
 Lenora Singer  
 Dr. Leo E. Fischer  
 Mae Rosenzweig  
 Richard Podlaski  
 Jennie Tannenbaum

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