



November-December/Cheshvan-Kislev-Tevet
2013/5774

Reb Moshe's Message

Dear Khaverot and
Khaverim,

Hanukkah and

Thanksgiving
overlap this year...
and then almost never
again. This year, the first day
of *Hanukkah* coincides
with Thanksgiving Day.
Amazingly, this is the
first time it's happened
since President Lincoln
established Thanksgiving
in 1863 and it is also the
last time it'll happen
until the year 79,811.
I'll say that again: after
this year, *Hanukkah* and
Thanksgiving Day won't
overlap for another 77,798 years. Put
that on your calendar.

That's a shame. I would have hoped
that this would happen every year. It
is far more appropriate for *Hanukkah*
and Thanksgiving to overlap. It's far
more fitting than the juxtaposition of
Hanukkah and Christmas.

Before Thanksgiving was moved to its
current place on the calendar it was
celebrated as a fall harvest holiday.
The Pilgrims, and their connection to
the Hebrew bible, were influenced
by the *Sukkoth* harvest holiday in late
September or October. They were also
very aware of the Prophet Zachariah's
vision of all the nations of the world
coming to Jerusalem to observe

Sukkoth. *Hanukkah*, too, is connected
to the *Sukkoth* holiday and it explains
why it is celebrated for 8 days.



When the Maccabees
purified the Temple (165
BCE), their first act was
to celebrate the seven
day *Sukkoth* festival that
had been missed for a
number of years. *Sukkoth*
was the most elaborate
Temple festival. It is
associated with prayers
for rain, the most vital life-
giving resource. *Shemini
Atzeret*, the 8th day of
Assembly, was attached
to the seven day *Sukkoth*
festival, thus an eight
day festival.

Both Thanksgiving and *Hanukkah* are
festivals of gratitude. *Hanukkah* is not,
as it is often perceived, a gift-giving
equivalent to Christmas.

So what are we thankful for?

For many of us it is the gathering
together on these festive occasions
itself.

Our intergenerational interaction, as at
the *Passover Seder*, offers us remarkable
opportunities to pass on values that we
cherish to our children, grandchildren
and friends.

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חזקת
KOLEINU

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Connect with us on Facebook!

Photos, announcements and more!

Find the link on the homepage of the
TBZ website or visit:

www.facebook.com/pages/Temple-Beth-Zion-Brookline-MA/286991633146

The Yamim HaNoraim never have to end!



Did you know that our Rabbis' sermons
and personal prayers/talks given by our
members can be found on the TBZ
website?

[http://www.tbzbrookline.org/
prayer/personal-prayers/dvrei-
torah-personal-prayers-and-
sermons/](http://www.tbzbrookline.org/prayer/personal-prayers/dvrei-torah-personal-prayers-and-sermons/)

Thank you!

- Ginni Hamburg for bringing our bulk mail to the Newtonville Post Office.
- Maggie Stein for post holiday help
- Linda Brodt for being "on-call" in preparing High Holiday letters and packets
- Phyllis Brawarsky for cleaning the bima covers
- The Posternack Family for decorating our sukkah

(continued from page 1)

What are the specifically Jewish values that we hope are passed on? Both festivals emphasize the need to stand up for what we believe in. In the case of the Pilgrims it was leaving persecution in England behind, and in the case of *Hanukkah* it was resisting the forces of assimilation that were in full force in the Hellenistic world.

Thanksgiving offers us, as Jewish-Americans, to celebrate our unique situation in a land that has permitted us to flourish.

The recently published Pew "Portrait of Jewish-Americans" demographic study, tells us that 94% of Jews are proud to be Jewish; that about one-third of Jews born after 1980 say they have no religion, compared to just 7 percent for those born before 1927. The report also found evidence that the numbers of Jews with no religion could continue to rise. Among Jews married after 2000, nearly six in 10 chose a non-Jewish spouse, making them less likely to raise their children Jewish or join Jewish organizations.

About seven in 10 feel very or somewhat attached to Israel and more than 40 percent had visited. But all in all, despite a startling finding that close to 34% percent of Jews maintain that one can accept Jesus while remaining a Jew, 42% believed that it was essential to have a good sense of humor to be Jewish. I guess that explains the 34% group who checked off Jesus just to play with our heads.

There are some positive trends with regard to resisting assimilation. One such finding is that if we include in the Jewish population count those who identify as Jews who are not of Jewish origin (and haven't converted formally) and households in which Jews live, the number is close to 6.8 million, raising our percent of the American population from 2% to 2.2%. I guess there are over a million folks out there who want to be part of the Jewish people.

All established Jewish organizations and Jewish commentators are reacting to this study. If you're interested: "Google" "Pew Study on American Jewry".

For the Summary and the study itself, very interesting reading:

www.pewforum.org/2013/10/01/jewish-american-beliefs-attitudes-culture-survey/

Full report:

www.bjpa.org/Publications/downloadFile.cfm?FileID=17789

The rise in a "secular" cultural Judaism will continue to grow. The challenge to the synagogue community is how to reach out to this group and make the synagogue truly a "House of Assembly", as the Greek word connotes.

At TBZ we are, and will continue to be, an accessible avenue of access to Jewish connection, learning and community despite one's "theological" position. We do not consider lifting and growing one's "spiritual" life as antagonistic to "secularism". Many young people have not been exposed to a Judaism that enhances their lives. This is, to be honest, the result of arid synagogues that are not particularly inspiring, as well as a poor to middling Jewish education. Attitudes of younger Jews change as they grow older and have families of their own. A strong TBZ will enable us to remain a shul that cherishes diversity without being doctrinal. We remain an open space for exploration and experimentation.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving and *Hanukkah* this year, we are grateful for how our community cares for each other. This is our greatest achievement over the last dozen years or so. This success can be supported and enhanced with learning, joyous celebration and openness to our "questions".

I wish us all times of joy and celebration as this unique calendar event allows us to bring our Jewish and American selves together. It is a useful time to further our process of personal and communal integration as Jewish human beings.

Reb Moshe



Condolences

- To Laurie Stein Cohen on the death of her father, Dr. L. Jerome Stein.
- To Yechezkel (Ken) Lawrence on the death of his brother, Bruce Lawrence.
- To Raisa Shapiro on the death of her sister, Esfir Shapiro.
- To Linda and Len Rosen on the death of Linda's father, TBZ member William Cohen.
- To Alvin Silverstein and his family on the death of TBZ member, David Silverstein.
- To Nikki Decter on the death of her grandfather, Edwin Weinfeld.
- To Linda Chernick on the death of her partner, former longtime TBZ member, Larry Diamond.

May their souls be bound up in the Bonds of Eternal life.

HaMakom yenakhem otam im shear avlei Tziyon vYrushalayim.

A Global Social Justice Beit Midrash

The Center of Global Judaism of Hebrew College, would like to invite interested TBZ members to join the Boston Cohort for **TAKUM: A Global Social Justice Beit Midrash**.

TAKUM (tikkun u'mishpat/mending and justice) Global Social Justice Beit Midrash (Study Community) is an eight-month program (November-June) focusing on issues of human dignity and social justice. This unique initiative blends text study, community building, and service. We seek individuals eager to participate in a holistic Jewish educational experience with teachers and peers from the greater Boston area and from our international network of learners and doers in Brooklyn, London, and Jerusalem. Our International Partners include: ATZUM (Jerusalem), Congregation Beth Elohim (Brooklyn, NY), and Yeshivat Talpiot (Jerusalem).

This year's topic will be "Power, Responsibility, and Privilege" with a specific focus on three timely subjects: (1) Gender Equality (2) Immigration (3) Food Consumption and Distribution.

Program Description:

- Study Sessions – 1 gathering a month with your local cohort at Hebrew College (HC, 2 hours). Instructors include: Rabbis Or Rose, Toba Spitzer, David Jaffe, and Margie Klein. Some meetings will include special Shabbat or holiday meals in the homes of our staff (8 sessions).
- The Activist Studio – Join the international network for video/phone conversations with leading activists throughout the world (60 minutes, 3-4 sessions). We are

pleased to announce that Ruth Messinger, President of American Jewish World Service and Idit Klein, Executive Director of Keshet, have agreed to serve as guest speakers. Other presenters to be announced in the near future.

Recommended Elements:

- *Havruta* – Study with peers from other participating communities once a week or on a bi-weekly basis by Skype, Google, or free phone conference (in groups of 2-4 people). Translations, guiding questions, and other supporting materials will be provided by TAKUM (all available on our website).
- Service/Advocacy – We strongly encourage all of the participants in our cohort to engage in some form of justice work relating to issues of human dignity. TAKUM staff can help you with a placement.

Cost of the Program: \$100 (Including all study sessions, speakers, and meals; financial assistance available upon request)

The program begins on November 10th.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the Center for Global Judaism at Hebrew College: 617-559-8636, orose@hebrewcollege.edu.



ברוכים הבאים

Welcome to Our New Members!

Barbra Batshalom & Moshe Cohen

Igor Belagorudsky &
Tracey Callahan

Ruhama Benavot & Rick Kline

Philip & Amanda Bressler

Mel Brown

Anne Marie Codur

David & Lynda Danzig

Maria Fisher

David Freedman

Marilyn Glazer-Weiner &
Alan Weisner

Phyllis Goldstein

Jasmine Gothelf & David Winship

Lyle Greenman

Danya Handelsman &
Jed Shugerman

Alex & Amy Harwin

Hannah Lindholm

Jenifer Lipson

Becca McLouth & Amit Sid

Mark & Lisa Moellman

Deborah Nason

Kalman & Ethel Newfield

Rachel & Nathan Perdue

Rachel Rojanski & Adam Teller

Bella Rosner & Saul Schapiro

Matthew Schwartz

Micah Shapiro

Sara Shostak

Diane Sredl



Message from Rav Claudia

Dear Haverim v'Haverot,

At the beginning of October I participated in a full day training organized by **The Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston**, an independent, non-denominational organization of individuals, synagogues and other Jewish Institutions, committed to making the full range of burial rituals accessible and available to the entire Jewish Community. Reb Moshe and I, along with the TBZ community, are strongly supportive of this new effort.



blessed to have had the opportunity to learn about this great *mitzvah* and the possibility of performing it.

In Boston, we now have only an orthodox *hevra kadisha*, which works with the Jewish funeral homes. By supporting this new initiative, we are building a more pluralistic Boston Jewish community. This *mitzvah* doesn't belong only to the orthodox community, but to all of us, and we need to reclaim it. To do so, we need to get actively involved.

At this initial *Tahara* training session, with over one hundred people from the Greater Boston community, we learned about this most holy work. *Tahara* is the physical and spiritual preparation of the deceased prior to burial. Participating on a *Tahara* team is considered to be one of the greatest *mitzvot* a person can perform.

The ten hour sessions were conducted by David Zinner, the Executive Director of **Kavod v'Nichum**, the North American organization devoted to educating and training local *Hevra Kadisha* communities. David Zinner also spoke at Friday night services at TBZ.

A *Hevra Kadisha* (usually translated as "burial society" or "holy society") is a group of volunteers who are on call to prepare a deceased person for burial according to time-honored Jewish traditions. The Hebrew for a deceased person is *meyt* (male) and *meyta* (female). The *Hevra Kadisha*'s ultimate concern is to care for the *meyt/meyta* with respect and kindness. Members of the *Hevra Kadisha* maintain strict confidentiality out of respect for the dignity of the deceased.

Through my personal experience and as a rabbi, I have had the opportunity to be with people just moments before or after their death. There is something very powerful about that, and our tradition honors and gives context to this moment and to what comes after, with the way we treat and prepare the body before burial. I feel

The first step is educating ourselves and our communities about Jewish mourning practices, which you can find in our **Times of Need Booklet**, on our website, under Community Resources. Next, we have to learn how to perform a *Taharah*. And it is important to speak about this often difficult topic with our relatives, so that before they approach the end of their lives, they can make decisions about which customs they would like to observe.

If you are interested in learning more about the efforts of the **Community Hevra Kadisha** and how to support it, please check their website: www.hevrakadisha.org. You can also check the website of **Kavod v'Nichum**: www.jewish-funerals.org, a national organization whose goal is to educate & train local *Hevra Kadisha* communities. If you are interested in getting involved please let me know.

I feel really blessed to be part of a community that believes truly in the power of community and pluralism. Having a community *mikveh* and now a community *hevrah kadisha*, makes Boston a wonderful place to be Jewish.

B'vracha,
Rav Claudia



Save the Date

Carlebach Melava Malka* with Rabbi Sam Intrator

Nov 23, 5:30 pm

Rabbi Intrator is the former rabbi of the Carlebach Shul in New York City, and a renowned young spiritual teacher.

With soulful singing, heart-warming stories and profound teachings, Rabbi Intrator recreates the warm and exciting spiritual atmosphere that pervaded the gatherings of his late teacher and mentor, Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. Rabbi Intrator will chant and sing a Carlebach style Havdallah,

including short explanatory teachings. The singing, which generally leads to dancing, is very inviting, participatory and engaging. Rabbi Intrator intersperses the music with spiritual Torah teachings and stories.

**Melaveh Malka* means: "escorting the queen". The intent of the meal is to figuratively escort the "Sabbath Queen" on her way out, via singing and eating.



TBZ Trip to Israel

Join us on The Path of the Children of Abraham

February 16-26, 2014

Led by Reb Moshe



We invite you to explore the three Abrahamic Faith traditions as we tour the Land of Israel. Our trip will offer an opportunity to learn about these traditions in the diverse landscape of our ancestors. The confluence of the Abrahamic religions originated and flourished in Israel. The development and practice of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam can be experienced first-hand in this tiny country – with such rich diversity, fervent practice, and long history. We will study the principles, explore the locales, and practice the basics of these religions while traveling together in Israel. We will visit the most important Israeli sites where the teachings of these religions were first presented, study the basics and subtleties of these early teachings, and explore how they can be experienced today.

Approximate cost will be \$3600 per person double occupancy.

You may wish to extend your stay before or after our tour to visit Eilat and Petra or elsewhere. Just let us know.

By the time you receive this the deadline will have passed, so if you are interested, please contact the office right away. (617)566-8171 ext. 14. If there is still space, you're in.

Sponsored by the TBZ Israel Committee, Jonathan Klein, Chair.



Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors

- David Neiman IHO the *yahrzeit* of his mother, Mildred Neiman.
- Yechezkel Lawrence IHO the *yahrzeit* of his father, Nasaniel ben Lazer.
- Phyllis Brawarsky and Noah Fasten IHO the *yahrzeit* of Phyllis' father, Jack Brawarsky.
- Rick Bankhead IHO the *yahrzeit* of his father, Harry Bankhead.
- Lilly Pelzman and Jeff Borenstein, Zina Pelzman, Joshua and Hallie, Ben and Lesley and Anna IHO the *yahrzeit* of Abraham Pelzman and IHO the wedding of Ben and Lesley.
- The Rosen and Cohen families IHO the 95th birthday of William Cohen.
- Sheine Wizer and Joel Kershner IHO the *yahrzeits* of Joel's mother, Pearl Kershner, and Sheine's aunt, Fely Tenenbaum.



- Bobbi Isberg and Seth Alper IHO the *yahrzeit* of Bobbi's father, Emil Isberg.
- Jan and Aaron Darsa IHO their new granddaughter, Alma Sarah Amshalem.
- Sheila Vernick IHO the *yahrzeits* of her father, Dr. David Kunian and her aunt, Dorothy Kunian.
- Silver-Burstein and Meyers-Zagorsky families IHO the beginning of the year 5774, and to wish everyone a wonderful year.
- Rosana Kapeller-Libermann and Towia Libermann IHO the *bar mitzvah* of their son, Noah.
- Steve Lewis IHO the anniversary of his *bar mitzvah*.
- Ilan and Ilana Bikel IHO their 75th birthdays.



Would you like to sponsor a Kiddush?

Visit our website to find out more:

<http://www.tbzbrookline.org/membership/sponsor-a-kiddush/>

Making Progress on TBZ's Fundraising Goal

by Sue Kahn and Carol Kamin
Co-chairs, TBZ Development Committee

We're happy to report that just about 50 percent of our annual fundraising goal of \$200,000 has been raised or pledged to date. We usually receive about 80 percent of our annual donations by December, and with your help, we're on track to make that happen again. We thank each and every one of you who have contributed so far to help us reach this important goal.

Through your gift, you are helping us to achieve the spirit of "belonging, connection, joy and fulfillment" that Larry Kraus spoke of in his Kol Nidre appeal. Through your gift-whether large or small-you are helping to ensure that our loving community has the capacity to grow from strength to strength.

We have a ways to go to reach our goal of everyone participating at a personally meaningful level and hope, if you haven't already done so, that you take this opportunity to affirm your commitment to everything that is good and beautiful at TBZ. You can donate on our website, www.tbzbrookline.org, or just call the office at (617) 566-2277.

As you know, membership dues only cover 70 percent of our expenses, so we rely on the generosity of all of our members to keep our commitment to never turn anyone away. Please join us as we work to ensure that our welcoming community can continue that commitment and to fortify and grow our spiritual home.



Mazel Tov!

מזל טוב!



- To Karen Brody on the marriage of her daughter Debra Brody to Yisroel Daitchman.
- To Shira Lewin and Aaron Tillman, big brother Jonah, and big sister Livya on the birth of a baby girl, Mia.
- To Barbara Moss on her new granddaughter, Shira Eden Moss.
- To Carol and Alan Kamin on their new granddaughter, Claire Janessa Kamin-Rankin.
- To Jan and Aaron Darsa on the birth of a granddaughter, Alma Sarah Amshalem.
- To Amy Mates and Billy Mencow on the birth of a grandson, Brody Allen (Nadav Yonaton) Kennedy.
- To Liz Sosland and Dan Bresman on the birth of a daughter, Ada Sosland Bresman.
- To Kim and Jonathan Golden on the birth of a baby boy, Sidney Maxwell Golden.
- To Joe Sousa and Vera Ventura de Sousa on the birth of a baby boy, Joseph Asher.
- To Rosana Kapeller-Libermann and Towia Libermann on the *bar mitzvah* of their son, Noah.
- To Jeralyn and David Ellowitz on the marriage of their son Jonathan to Miriam Hiersteiner.
- To Nancy and Michael Grodin and Diane and Marty Richler on the marriage of their children Leah Grodin and Michael Richler.



Sukkot at TBZ



Adult Learning at TBZ

by Reggie Silberberg, chair

Since Reb Moshe's challenge was so well received we would like to renew that challenge for the month of November. Please join us for Torah study in the sanctuary every Shabbat morning at 9:00 am followed by services at 10:00 am as we deepen our understanding of Torah and how it relates to our lives.

We would like to welcome the new chairs of Adult Learning, Jan Darsa and Amy Mates. They will begin Dec 1.

Coming Up:

Lunch & Learn

with Reb Moshe

Reb Moshe continues his weekly Tuesday Lunch and Learn, on November 19, from 12-1:00 pm in the small dining room

Upcoming Class

with Rav Claudia

Jan 27, Feb 3 & 10

More details to come

Speaking Torah at TBZ

with Rabbi Ebn Leader

Nov 11, 18, 25 at 7:30 pm

Speaking Torah is a new book by Arthur Green and a few of his students. The book is an attempt to make classic teachings from the early generations of the *Hassidic* movement accessible to a contemporary English reader. It is an invitation into the conversations of the circle around the *Maggid of Mezeritch* (18th century), and the conversations of those studying those texts today. In these meetings Ebn Leader, one of the co-authors of the book, will try to further extend that invitation to the participants. We will study teachings from the book appropriate to the weekly Parasha and hopefully model how the book can be used for developing a regular learning practice of *Hassidut* alone or with friends.

The book (2 volumes) can be purchased at Jewish bookstores or online (Amazon, etc). The book will also be available at a special reduced price (\$50) at the book launching event at Hebrew College (Sunday 11/3/2013, 3:00-5:00 PM). If you plan to participate but choose not to purchase the book, please inform the office so that copies of pages being studied can be provided.

Women's Day Retreat

Join us for our 3rd Women's Day Retreat

Sunday, Jan 26, 2014

at TBZ

Come meet new women from TBZ. Take part in large and small-group discussions, prayer, food and sisterhood.

If you would like to get involved in the planning, please contact Rav Claudia at ravclaudia@tbzbrookline.com.



Nishmat Hayyim at TBZ

by Reggie Silberberg, chair

Please join us for our second contemplative Shabbat at the Essex Conference Center in Essex, MA. We held this event two years ago and everyone commented on the deepened Shabbat experience they encountered. We hope to see many of you again for this year's Shabbat retreat. See below for details.

We hope to begin 2 additional opportunities for meditation and reflection.

The first is a Sunday meditation, which will last about 1.5 hours. We hope to reach people in our community who are unable to be with us on our monthly Shabbat afternoons and provide a 2nd opportunity for our regulars. Look for

details in your email and on our website in the next few months.

We would also like to offer a contemplative, mindful lunch on Thursdays, from 12 – 1:00 pm, if there is sufficient interest. Let us know if you think you might join us, by replying to nishmathayyim@tbzbrookline.org

Flyers about the Shabbat retreat and the Shabbat afternoon meditation can be found outside the sanctuary.



Nishmat Hayyim at TBZ presents

A Contemplative Shabbat Retreat

December 13-15, 2013

at the Essex Conference Center in Essex, MA

For information about the Essex Conference Center visit www.eccr.com

Come join us and participate in a warm, contemplative Shabbat with Reb Moshe Waldoks, Bobbi Isberg, and Yoheved Sheila Katz in an idyllic setting in Essex, MA, only 45 minutes north of Boston. (Bios can be found on our website: www.tbzbrookline.org)

Share the full beauty of Shabbat in prayer, study, meditation, chant, good fellowship, nature walks, yoga, good food, and more in this marvelous natural setting.

The cost is \$220 per person for 2 nights lodging with all meals included, beginning with Friday night Shabbat dinner and ending with Sunday lunch. Snacks are available all day and are included in the cost. (Limited scholarships available.)

Don't miss this rare opportunity for a Contemplative Shabbat in nature! Open to TBZ members and everyone in the larger Boston Jewish community. Reserve your place early and register NOW! Only 18 double rooms available.







If you are interested please respond to Reb Moshe at rebmoshe@tbzbrookline.org and/or nishmathayyim@tbzbrookline.org






And then please send your check to the TBZ office at: TBZ, 1566 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 02446. The check should be made out to *Nishmat Hayyim at TBZ*. Please write "Dec 13/14 TBZ Nishmat Hayyim Contemplative Retreat" in the memo section of your check. Or call the office 617.566.8171 ext. 14 and charge it. **Deadline for registration (on a first come basis) is Nov 20, 2013.**

More information at www.tbzbrookline.org



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5:30 pm, Child-Friendly Kabbalat Shabbat @ 1550 Beacon 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 pm, Family Dinner 	2 <i>Parshat Toldot</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - babysitting available 1:30 pm, Men's Group
3 10:15 am, Family Table Mitzvah Day 5:00 pm, Board Meeting 7:00 pm, Rosh Hodesh Group	4	5	6 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:30 pm, Merchant of Venice w/J. Klau	7	8  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	9 <i>Parshat Vayetzal</i> 9:30 am, LATE Torah Study 11:00 am, Intergenerational Family Service for All (see pg. 13) 1:30 pm, Meditation Retreat
10	11 7:30 pm, Speaking Torah with Ebn Leader (see pg. 8)	12	13 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban	14	15  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	16 <i>Parshat Vayshlach</i> Bar Mitzvah - Daniel Solomon 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - babysitting available
17 9:30 pm, Tikkun Olam Group 10:00 am, Shacharit & Tfilin Workshop - Gr. 6 & 7 (see pg. 12)	18 7:30 pm, Speaking Torah with Ebn Leader (see pg. 8)	19 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	20 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban	21	22 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	23 <i>Parshat Vayeshev</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 am, Mishpachot Services 1:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group 1:30 pm, Men's Group 5:30 pm, Havdalah w/ Rabbi Initiator (see pg. 5)
24 10:00 am, Organic Torah of Shmita 10:00 am, Hanukkah Deliveries to 1550 Beacon	25 7:30 pm, Speaking Torah with Ebn Leader (see pg. 8)	26 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	27 Hanukkah First Candle 	28 Hanukkah Second Candle Thanksgiving Day	29 Hanukkah Third Candle  6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	30 Hanukkah Fourth Candle <i>Parshat Miketz</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Hanukkah Fifth Candle 1	Hanukkah Sixth Candle 2	Hanukkah Seventh Candle 3 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	Hanukkah Eighth Candle 4  4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 5:00 pm, Hanukkah Party (see pg. 13)	5	6 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 pm, Community Dinner (see back page) 	7 <i>Parshat Vayigash</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - Special Oneg/Kiddush Shabbat 11:30 am, Mishpachot Services 1:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group
8 3:00 pm, Community Meeting 5:00 pm, Board Meeting 7:00 pm, Rosh Hodesh Group	9	10 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	11 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:30 pm, Synagogue Practices Committee	12	13 Contemplative Shabbaton Retreat - Essex (see pg. 9) 	14 <i>Parshat Vayechi</i> Contemplative Shabbaton Retreat (see pg. 9) 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services - babysitting available 1:30 pm, Men's Group 5:30 pm, Havdallah Drumming Circle (see pg. 13)
15 Contemplative Shabbaton Retreat (see pg. 9) 7:00 pm, TBZ Book Club	16	17 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	18 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban	19 7:30 pm, Tikkun Olam Group	20 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	21 <i>Parshat Shemot</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 am, Mishpachot Services 1:30 pm, Meditation Retreat
22	23	24 12:00 pm, Lunch and Learn with Reb Moshe	25	26	27 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	28 <i>Parshat Vaera</i> 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
29	30	31				

Mishpachot

Beit Rabban is off to a GREAT start!

Now a month into the year, *Beit Rabban* is bigger and better than ever. Now in its fifth year, we have 41 children enrolled in grades K through 7. All TBZ children are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of previous experience or skill level. As we are a smaller program with a commitment to differentiated instruction, we seek to meet your child where they are, and help them learn, grow and become more connected to the TBZ community!

We are welcoming back continuing teachers Micah Shapiro (2/3rd grade), David Shapiro (now with the *Bnei Mitzvah* Class) and Miriam Diamond (Hebrew Learning Specialist). This year we are welcoming some wonderful new teachers to our community:

Hannah Lindholm - Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Hannah Lindholm is an artist and experienced educator in both supplemental Jewish education and inner-city middle school through Citizen Schools; an Americorps program. From Madison, Wisconsin, Hannah brings eight years of experience working in the Jewish communities in Madison, Boston and Denver. She graduated with a BA in Studio Art and International Studies from Brandeis University. Hannah is also currently the Youth Educator at Temple Israel in Boston.

Matthew Schwartz - Assistant Teacher, Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Matt is a recent graduate of Berklee College of Music, where he studied guitar performance and composition. He has worked as a private guitar tutor, and looks forward to honing his skills as a teacher. Matt loves making music, learning and teaching Judaism and hanging out with kids.

Phil Bressler - 4th and 5th Grades

Phil Bressler is currently a student in the rabbinical school at Hebrew College. He grew up in Minnetonka, MN where he was involved with NFTY and later worked as Regional Adviser for NFTY after he graduated in 2006 from Washington University in St. Louis. He moved to Boston in 2008 to pursue an MA in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University. He has since taught SAT prep, worked as Para-rabbinic Fellow and a religious school teacher in several local synagogues. He loves baseball, downhill skiing, reading, and making music with his band, Taller In Person.



Ongoing Programs During November and December

Babysitting: Nov 2, 16, Dec 14

Tfilot Mishpachot: Nov 23, Dec 7, 21

Bnei Mitzvah Group: Nov 23, Dec 7

Beit Rabban: Nov 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 11, 18

Calendar for all Mishpachot events in our website:

<http://www.tbzbrookline.org/learning/children-family-education/mishpachot-calendar/>

If you would like to be added in our TBZ parents google list, please e-mail Jenny Berz: jbberz@gmail.com



Mishpachot Sukkot Celebration - TBZ Members shake their local lulavim, and beautify our community sukkah

Save the Date:

Hanukkah 1550 Deliveries

November 24; 10:00 am

Shacharit and Tefillin

for B'nei Mitzvah Group (6th & 7th graders)

Sunday, November 17

10:00 am

To register, please go to:

www.tinyurl.com/tefillin5774

The Mishpachot Committee is flourishing at TBZ!

by Jenny Berz, Mischpachot Chair (jbberz@gmail.com)

TBZ parents are at the core of TBZ's success as a unique Jewish education program with its holistic approach to learning. This year we are turning to TBZ parents to consider the roles they can play in the future as thought leaders in our community and for this program. We can't do it without you! Together with our educational consultant from Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Cindy Rivka Marshall, we will explore our wishes and potential plans for the upcoming year as we seek to build on the strengths of our innovative educational program and expand our potential to deepen and connect our work to the life of the congregation as a whole. We look forward to seeing many familiar as well as new faces at our committee meetings this year.

Intergenerational Shabbat (Family Shabbat!) Nov 9, 11:00 am

Join us for our biannual intergenerational service in the sanctuary for ALL! This service will be filled with song, dance, ruach and participation for adults and children of all ages.

The service will include a shorter-than-usual Shacharit Service and Torah service with some story telling. It will be welcoming for children and adults alike.

Please note this is NOT a children's service, but a Service for ALL!

The whole community will celebrate Shabbat together.

Because of the later start, Torah Study will be held from 9:30-10:30.

Register Now!

TBZ Community Hannukkah Party



Wednesday, Dec 4

5-7:00 pm



Join us for our annual *Hanukkah* party! There will be games, activities, latkes, song and a wonderful Adult learning session! Remember to bring your *hanukkiyah* as we light the candles as a community.

To register and for more information, go to www.tinyurl.com/Hanukkah5774



Register Now! Musical Mishpachot Havdallah with Drumming Shabbat, Dec 14 5:00 pm

You don't need to wait until our community retreat to enjoy the sweetness of *havdallah* with your TBZ friends! Join us as we say goodbye to shabbat together with song, drumming with Micah and community. For more information and to register, please go to www.tinyurl.com/drumminghavdallah

TBZ Teen Girls' Rosh Hodesh Program - Join us for our Second year!

Last year we debuted a new Teen Girl's Rosh Hodesh Group. Each month, 8th, 9th and 10th grade girls join facilitator JoJo Jacobson to delve into the month's holidays and themes, learn more about themselves and each other, and have a great time. All 8th and 9th grade girls at TBZ or from local congregations are invited to join. We are excited to continue this program and would love more teen girls to attend! Let us know if your teen is interested.

For more information and to sign up, please contact Suzie Jacobson at beitrabban@tbzbrookline.org.



From prayer to social action...

TBZ's Tikkun Olam Group

creating opportunities to make a difference as a Jewish community

by Sue Brent

The Tikkun Olam Group (TOG) is a vibrant group of committed individuals who come together to put Jewish values into action. Whether it's participating in the Walk for Hunger or writing to our representatives to enact social justice, we create a place for all TBZ members to help repair the world.

So far this Fall, TOG members had a presence at:

- The Massachusetts Coalition to **Prevent Gun Violence** at the State House (see article below).
- GBIO-sponsored public action to enforce the Chapter 224 **healthcare cost containment** legislation, at Temple Israel. (see article below).
- **Sukkot celebration** to acknowledge our connection to and responsibility for the Earth.
- A year-long course on the **Torah of Shmita**, taught by Rabbi Natan and Ilana Margalit which began on Sunday, Sept 29th, to prepare for the *Shmita* next year. We are exploring our individual and collective responsibility, as Jews, to anchor our choices about

purchasing and consumption in Jewish laws and spiritual text. (Pick up a flyer outside the sanctuary).

- **GBIO Delegates Assembly:** A Congregational Organizing Campaign to deepen relationships across institutions, at the Roxbury Presbyterian Church.
- An event to **raise awareness of disabilities**, beginning with participation in the **Down Syndrome Buddy Walk** on Sunday, October 13th.
- The 2nd fundraiser to help a community in Kenya send their children to school. We purchased jewelry and crafts handmade by mothers in **Kenya**. Last year TBZ's support paid the tuition for 6 children to attend school for the year.
- We also continue to help struggling families in our community with **Family Table**.

Stay tuned for other TOG-sponsored events over the coming months. If you would like to learn more about TOG, contact Judith Schechtman at j_schecht@hotmail.com.



Gun Control Hearing-What A Way To Prepare For Yom Kippur

by Jane Liebschutz, MD, MPH

On Friday Sept 13, hundreds gathered at the State House for the 5th and last hearing held around the state, to discuss more than 60 pieces of legislation related to gun laws. The Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, GBIO and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense helped coordinate the briefing before the hearings. Several also testified. I represented the TBZ Tikkun Olam Group as part of GBIO. I am also a member of the Moms Demand Action Massachusetts Chapter. It is tremendously exciting to see that the number of gun control advocates outnumbered representatives from the National Rifle Association, which is not typical in these discussions. Part of that was due to the excellent organization from GBIO, including a huge turnout from many congregations.

After a 9 am briefing and press conference, the hearings started with testimony from elected officials, including Governor Patrick, Mayor Menino, Mayor Warren (Newton), Dan Conley (Suffolk DA and mayoral candidate at the time) and numerous state representatives and senators. Parents of victims of the Newtown, CT shooting spoke, as did parents of victims of gun violence in inner city Boston. A group of



clergy representing GBIO took the stand, each recalling the moral imperative to halt gun violence. There was acknowledgment of the need for Jews to testify earlier in the day, as the entire hearing wouldn't conclude until the evening.

Decreasing death and injury from gun violence requires a multipronged approach, as there are different events that lead to death and injury. For example, access to firearms has been shown to be responsible for excess suicide deaths- having a lethal weapon simply makes it more likely that a suicide attempt results in death. Decreasing firearm suicide deaths will require a focus on background checks, improved reporting to the mental health system and improved access to mental health care.

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Accidental shootings, particularly by children, can be reduced by safety features on firearms, safe storage, and insurance against accidental shootings by firearm owners.

Criminal gun violence needs both legal and technological solutions. For example, law enforcement solutions could include stiff penalties for straw purchasers, easier reporting for lost or stolen guns and universal background checks; technological solutions might involve a change in the way that the ID is imprinted on the gun so that it cannot be filed off the firearm. For mass shootings such as occurred in Newtown, CT, smaller ammunition clips may limit loss to life.

I was prepared to speak on public health issues along with a group of other physicians but had to leave to prepare for Yom Kippur before my panel was called. I submitted my written testimony, and am excited to see what sense the committee will make of all the opinions and proposed laws so that Massachusetts can lead the way for the lowest gun violence rates in the nation.

People's Hearing Puts Health Care Execs In The Hot Seat Over Costs

(adapted by Rick Bankhead from an article by reporter Martha Bebinger, heard on WBUR).

On September 17, at Temple Israel, TBZers met with members of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, or GBIO, for a "people's hearing" and pledged to hold healthcare leaders accountable. On one side of the stage, a high-powered cast of four hospital executives representing \$10 billion in health care spending. On the other side of the stage, four health insurance CEOs who handle 85% of private health insurance in Massachusetts.

In keeping with GBIO "tradition", the event began with a prayer. Temple Israel Rabbi Matthew Soffer offered:

"May our hearts be firm in our efforts to lift up the fallen and our hands be strong as we remove weighty stumbling blocks to afford quality health care."

And from GBIO president, the Rev. Burns Stanfield:

"The temptation with something as complicated as health care cost is to hope someone else will deal with the problem. But regular folks can't afford to do that, because health care costs are taking a bigger and bigger chunk out of family, town, state and federal budgets." "Why are we here?", Stanfield asked, "Because we have a distinct calling to do something about this issue that matters."

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center CEO Kevin Tabb was first up to answer the question of the evening: **What is his hospital doing to make sure health care costs don't rise any faster than inflation?** He said it would be invaluable if we, as faith communities, would take a leadership role in statewide discussions to ensure that BIDMC is providing better end-of-life care and is spending money as wisely as possible.

Boston Medical Center CEO Kate Walsh, Partners CEO Gary Gottlieb, Steward Health Care CEO Ralph de la Torre and Tufts CEO Jim Roosevelt all joined Kevin Tabb in discussing how their respective hospitals try to reduce spending.

Jay Gonzalez, the vice president of CeltiCare (a for-profit insurance plan that offers some of the cheapest coverage in the state while limiting where you can go for care) said, "There is no other state in the country where

a massive consumer advocacy group like you would be holding an event to grill health care executives, and where those health care executives would actually show up! It says something about the health care community in Massachusetts!" (and it certainly says something about the drive and energy of GBIO.)

David Seltz, director of the state's relatively new Health Policy Commission, (which held its own cost hearings two weeks after this hearing), noted, "We act as a watchdog and a spotlight because we need to trust what many on this stage have said, but we also need to verify." The open question is: **Will hospitals, insurers and consumers bring health care spending down on their own or will state government have to go back to setting rates?** At least in Massachusetts, the major players are talking and listening to each other as they wrestle with these questions.

There are many opportunities to experience TOG's rich calendar of events and actions over the coming year. Please join us. Contact TOG chair, Judy Schechtman at j_schecht@hotmail.com for more information, and dates for our next meeting.



Save the Date:

Community Meeting

Dec 8, 3:00 pm

Donations

(Donors 4/16 - 10/10/13)

Francine Aaron
Nechama Chaya Abkowitz
Diane Abrams
Jeffrey Abrams
Stephane & Mara Acel-Green
Fran Shtull Adams
Ruth E. Adler
Nancy Alimansky
Seth Alper & Roberta Isberg
Laurie Alpert & Barry Weiss
Frederick & Marcia Altman
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Judith & Bob Armell
Rebecca Arnoldi
Julie Arnow & Michael Rosenbaum
Nancy Aronson
Jerome Avorn & Karen Tucker
William Bachman & Megan Gerber
Diane Balser
Richard Bankhead
Maiyam Baron
Daniel & Lisa Barrett
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Deborah Bennett
Louise Berenson
Morton Berenson
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Fredrick & Diane Berk
Walter Bernheimer II &
Rosalind Bernheimer
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Ilan & Ilana Bikel
Aaron & Susan Bikofsky
Marga Biller & Jeffrey Rosenberg
Nancy Blacksin
Theodore Bloomstein &
Tzviyah Rosenstock
Stuart Books & Judith Haber
Jeffrey Borenstein &
Lilly Pelzman
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Noah Fasten
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Judith Cohen
Randi Cohen & Bill Coblentz
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James Dolan
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Jonathan & Sheryl Eilberg
David & Jeralyn Ellowitz
Norton & Sandy Elson
Allen Elstein
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Razelle Epstein
Judith Epstein-Fisher & Richard Fisher
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Ronna Tapper-Goldman
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Eleanor Zwelling



Save the Date

Community Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner

with latkes, featuring Kugel by Edna

Friday, Dec 6, following Kabbalat Shabbat (7:30-9:00 pm)

sponsored and (lovingly) prepared by the Oneg/Kiddush committee

Adults: \$20; Seniors: \$10, Children under 12: no charge

New Members: please come as our guests

RSVP: deadline is Nov 29



We need everyone to RSVP, even our guests. 3 ways to RSVP:

1. Call the office at (617) 566-8171 ext. 14, and pay by credit card
2. Visit our website www.tbzbrookline.org and register via PayPal
3. Mail a check to the TBZ office

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