

Summer 2016

TEMPLE BETH ZION
KOLEINU

קולנו



L'DOR V'DOR

From Generation to Generation

Helping Our Community Continue to Flourish

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TBZ News & Events

GROWING AS A COMMUNITY

by Rav Claudia

DEAR HAVERIM AND HAVEROT,

AS I WRITE THIS ARTICLE, WE ARE ABOUT TO CELEBRATE OUR EIGHTEENTH YEAR AT TBZ. I feel blessed to have been part of our community for more than half of this time. The changes and growth that we have experienced are reflected in our mission statement: "TBZ is an independent, inclusive Jewish congregation whose members of all ages are committed to each other, to joyful participatory worship, to meaningful Jewish learning, spiritual growth and acts of social justice".

I think of eighteen, and I think of what the next steps of our journey together as a community will be. Metaphorically, what does it mean for TBZ to graduate from high school and move to college, move to the next step of becoming an "adult"? We are entering an exciting year, which will bring changes and more changes, some, perhaps, challenging.

Pirkei Avot teaches us: "Al Shloshah D'varim Ha-Olam Omed—The world stands on three pillars." Torah—study of sacred texts and wisdom; Avodah—prayer and meditation; and G'milut Chassadim—acts of loving-kindness. This statement from the Ethics of Our Ancestors, is perhaps one of the basic teachings of Judaism and our goal as a community. It should be heard as a call for spiritual integration, recognizing that these three "pillars" are each needed to live thoughtful, reflective, and compassionate lives. These three realms of sacred experience flow together, with each enriching the other. Their interconnection leads to a situation in which our worship and meditation practices move us to take action in the world; our Torah study deepens our prayer experiences; and our social justice efforts lead to new Torah insights. Torah, Avodah and G'milut Chassadim, are not just three separate pillars, they are three fluid elements of a holistic Jewish life. Each helps us to make manifest the Divine presence in our lives and in the world.

And it is inspired by this teaching that we continue to find ways to grow as a community - spiritually, in numbers and this year, also physically. We are blessed to have a vibrant multi generational community engaged in learning, every day of the week. Members of all ages come to our building to study, to sing, to pray and to play (and to work) and our physical space is not big enough.

I don't have the words to articulate my excitement about the building revitalization project and the possibilities ahead after we beautify our building and add more space for all the facets of learning at TBZ:

adult learning, beit rabban, and mishpachot. A space that is accessible to all with a new lift, a space that will allow us to learn more Torah, to do more avodah and gemilut chassadim. (For more information, read the article on page 7)

This coming year will also be an exciting year as we celebrate sixteen B'nei and B'not Mitzvah between September 2016 and June 2017. Our largest number ever in one year. Some celebrations will be on Shabbat mincha or Sunday Rosh Hodesh but most will be on Shabbat morning. Some will be children that have been at TBZ since they were little and others will be children of families that have joined our TBZ community more recently. If you have been at TBZ for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah you know it is a joyous event. Reb Moshe and I love being part of such a meaningful moment in a family's life. We get to know the family and the children and we feel very blessed that all of our families take their part in the process of becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah very seriously. We are aware, that some people have concerns about how this will change our Shabbat morning services and we want to reassure you that, together with the leadership of the Synagogue Practice Committee, we are working on ensuring that our Shabbat services continue to be joyful and participatory for all, and that those who are not related to the B'nei Mitzvah family directly, feel included. We encourage community members who may not usually come to TBZ when there is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration to join us and experience the beauty of our community and the joys of this wonderful Jewish life cycle event.

Lastly, in the past few months TBZ has created a new Inclusion Committee, as part of the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project, and we will move forward to create a more inclusive community. We are grateful for the wonderful lay leaders who have stepped forward and taken the lead in this important endeavor.

Looks like eighteen is going to be a good year for us!

Quoting Reb Moshe: "We are in the continuity business" (though it sounds much more funny when he says it). It is through these three pillars, of Torah, Avodah and G'milut Chassadim, that we hope to achieve this. It is through spiritual integration that we hope to live a meaningful life.

As the summer approaches, I wish all of you and your loved ones, a wonderful, sweet and restful time. And remember, we are here, at TBZ, all summer...

Rav Claudia



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External Relations: Carol Kamin

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Programming: open

Spiritual Life: Molly Silver

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Koleinu Editor: Beth Harris

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www.tbzbrookline.org

TBZ NEWS & EVENTS

These are only a sample of the exciting events happening at TBZ! Check out our website to learn more about our programming and committees, and help us continue to grow our dynamic and spirited community.

Welcome Beth Ehrenreich, Our New Rabbis' Assistant

Beth brings her experience in sales and office management in nonprofit Jewish organizations to TBZ. Having recently moved back to the Boston area from Chicago (after growing up in Belmont) to be closer to her five children in the Boston and New York areas she is excited to have joined the TBZ family and looks forward to contributing to the smooth running of our office. She can be reached at rabbisadmin@tbzbrookline.org.

Adult Education:

The Rise of the Modern Jewish Religious Movements with Reb Moshe
June 5, 12, 19, from 7-8:30pm.

How did the different denominations arise on the 19th century? How did they develop and change in the 20th century? What are the prospects for denominations in the 20th century? What is the impact of post denominations on the American Jewish landscape? Please email rabbisadmin@tbzbrookline.org to register.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Join your friends and neighbors for an all-night educational and cultural experience at the 7th Annual Brookline Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot! Traditional and innovative programming will be offered. Come for one hour, or stay up all-night! Learn from world-renowned educators and neighborhood favorites. June 11, beginning 9:00 pm and ending June 12 at 4:10 am. Location: Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard Street and 100 Centre Street in Brookline, MA.

L'Chaim

- To Ari Newell on becoming Bar Mitzvah on June 18.
- To Gabriela Toppelberg on becoming Bat Mitzvah on May 28.
- To Matthew Hassan on becoming Bar Mitzvah on May 14.
- To Sylvia Chalfin-Wakeley on becoming Bat Mitzvah on April 16.
- To Rabbi Jeremy Sher on his recent ordination.
- To Noah Lior Dreyblatt on becoming Bar Mitzvah on April 2nd.
- To Lita Ribner on becoming Bat Mitzvah on February 27th
- To Julie Arnow and Michael Rosenbaum on the birth of their grandchild.
- To Diane and Mary Richler, and Nancy and Michael Grodin on the birth of a grandson.
- To Raffi Freedman-Gurspan, for receiving the Excellence in Advocacy Award from the JCRC.
- To Ma-ayan Sands on her recent ordination.

BEIT RABBAN

Registration for our educational program for children in kindergarten through seventh grade began in May. Students are engaged in a rigorous and fun classroom environment with a structured curriculum and a talented teacher. Our goal is to spark your child's love of Judaism and help them build a strong foundation of knowledge and experience to be active, engaged Jews. The 2016-2017 year registration is available using the following link <http://goo.gl/forms/UqOKMQTdlq>. Please contact Education Coordinator, Becky Khitrick at education@tbzbrookline.org with questions.

TEEN PROGRAM ON MONDAY NIGHTS

Our award winning Teen Education Program conducted in partnership with Temple Israel serves 8th-12th graders and their families. Teens are engaged as participants in Jewish educational experiences that are relevant to their day-to-day lives. The curriculum and environment encourages students to advocate for themselves and their needs and to grapple with the full set of human and individual concerns. Teens develop as leaders who have ownership and agency over their education and what their Judaism means to them. Be on the lookout for registration information soon. Contact Becky Khitrick, education@tbzbrookline.org or Michael Fishbein, mfishbein@tisrael.org with questions.

NISHMAT HAYYIM

Shabbat Afternoon

Meditation Retreat

June 18 & July 16, 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
in the TBZ sanctuary

Be fully alive to the hidden essence of *Shabbat vayinafash*.

Beginner and experienced meditators welcome! Yoheved Sheila Katz and Bobbi Isberg will lead sitting and walking meditation, chanting, optional gentle yoga and contemplative Torah study. Bring pillows/sitting equipment needed for comfort, and a water bottle or thermos to save paper/plastic cups.

Chairs and light kosher snacks will be provided. There is no fee but please consider giving what you can after Shabbat ends. Donation checks can be made out to "Nishmat Hayyim at TBZ" with '(The date) Shabbat Meditation' written on the memo line of your check.

We dedicate our practice to the benefit of all beings.

We look forward to sitting with you!

COUNTING THE DAYS OF THE OMER

A special evening

June 4th

with

Rabbi Shefa Gold

See back page for more.

TBZ NEWS & EVENTS



B'nei Mitzvah Class Supports Syrian Refugees

The B'nei Mitzvah class held bake sales in February and May and a carnival to raise money to help support Syrian refugees in the Boston area.



At The Hop

Winter's doldrums were chased away with a fabulous evening of Rock 'n' Roll held March 26th. Members costumed in poodle skirts, bobby sox and Brylcreem jittered bug the night away!



Celebrating Purim with costumes and Hamantaschen!



TBZ NEWS & EVENTS

TBZ TEEN VISITS STATE HOUSE TO LOBBY FOR TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

Peninah Hodin participated in TIKKUN, a program that teaches teens the basics of social justice activism, organizing and advocacy as part of our Monday Night teen program. With her peers, Peninah took a trip to the Massachusetts State House where she lobbied her state representatives about issues that are important to her.

TIKKUN was an amazing experience for me. I loved everything about it, from the class to the trip to the state house. The first day, our teachers asked us what social justice issue interested us and got us thinking about what change we wanted to see in the world. Throughout the classes, we learned how to connect to our projects, studied great Jewish leaders such as Yitzhak Rabin, and had opportunities to meet with social justice leaders such as Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz.

When we went on our trip I felt very prepared. Before we left, our teachers helped us practice what we were going to say to each representative we would be meeting. These practice meetings definitely helped me feel less nervous to be visiting such important people and trying to convince them to help us achieve change in the city. The tour of the state house was wonderful and there was even a concert in one of the halls. We ate lunch together and then split up. The meetings went incredibly smoothly. My partner and I had practiced what we were going to say plenty of times. I think it was fun for both of us because we both cared very deeply about our topic, transgender rights, and it was amazing to talk to men and women who cared about what we had to say.

All in all, TIKKUN left me with a renewed view of myself and what kind of power I had as a citizen who wants to make change in the world.

-by Peninah Hodin



Weekly Shabbat Times

6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat - meditation; 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
9 am Shabbat Torah study; 10 am services followed by kiddush lunch

SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

June 3/4: Pride Shabbat

June 10: Shabbat Nariya and Pot Luck Supper, 6-9pm

HOLIDAYS

Yom Yerushalayim

June 5

Shavuot

June 11: Tikkun Shavuot at KI, 9pm

June 12: Service including Yizkor, 10am-12:30pm

Tzom Tammuz

July 24: Fast begins the three weeks leading to Tisha B'Av

Tish'a B'Av

August 13: Service, 8:30pm

BARBEQUE AND BARCHU

(see page 10 for more)

August 19: 5:30pm

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

June 18: Ari Newell 6:30pm

BEIT RABBAN AND MISHPACHOT EVENTS

June 4: T'filot Mishpachot, 11:30am (last of the year)

June 17: 1550 Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:30pm (last of the year)

BOOK CLUB

June 5, July 10, August 7

COMMUNITY MEETING

June 7: 7-8:30pm

MEN'S STUDY GROUP

June 4

POT LUCK SUPPER AFTER KABBALAT SHABBAT

June 10, July 1, August 5

RABBI SHEFA GOLD

June 4 (See back page)

TALKS

June 3: 8pm, Sheine Wizel and Joel Kershner about their trip to Morocco

June 11: 1pm, Adam Marshak about "Herod the Great America Jew"

TODAH RABAH

- To Peninah Hodin for organizing all the name tags. It was a long process and the results are amazing.
- To Phyllis Goldstein for her TBZ talk exploring the beginnings of antisemitism.
- To Lauren Garlick for chairing the Women's Retreat and to all the wonderful presenters.
- To Dima Basha, a Syrian immigrant who came to share her experiences with us.

- To all the contributors of crackers and soup for our monthly Family Table contribution.
- To Tali Buechler Walters for sharing her recent trip to Northern Spain with us.
- To Cantor Becky Khitrick and Rabbinical student Micha Shapiro for leading the community havdallah celebration and drumming workshop.
- To Alan Weisner and Marilyn Glazer-Weisner for taking over deliveries to JF&CS Family Table.
- To Lisa New for leading the poetry workshop at the recent Women's Retreat
- To our Spring Kiddush Fundraiser Underwriters and Contributors: Food - Edna Bension (Ora Catering), Music - Joe Wilion Fund, Printing - Rick Sands, and all of our TBZ vendor sponsors.

- To our Spring Kiddush Committee: Jill Goldberg - Chair, Elizabeth Bitton, Julia Freedson, Sue Kahn, Carol Kamin, Rav Claudia Kreiman, Sara Smolover, Mona Strick, Reb Moshe Waldoks, Tali Walters.
- To April Ropes for her beautiful program design for the Spring Kiddish and to Carol Nathan, Eric Gerber-Weiss and Beth Ehrenreich for their invaluable administrative assistance
- To the many volunteers who helped to make the Spring Kiddush Fundraiser such a successful event, especially the children, whose beautiful voices added so much to the day.
- To Jenni Seicol, Howard Brown, Bob Miller, Barbara Segal, Maggie Stein and Scott Tepper for all their industrious and creative work in making "At the Hop" such a success.

TBZ Announces \$1.1 Million *L'DOR V'DOR* Capital Campaign

Helping TBZ Continue to Flourish

By now you've seen the images of how our revitalization projects will help TBZ flourish: five new rooms on the 3rd floor with a lift to get there; refreshed lobbies, restrooms, and stairwells; new welcoming area with secure front doors; and more. We are busy finalizing the plans and choosing the contractor. We are most excited that, **with your help**, we can aim for a late fall start of the construction and have our newly revitalized space completed in the spring of 2017! Our TBZ staff is already carefully planning for the accommodations to any programming that might need to be made during that time.

None of this will be possible without each of your contributions to our *L'DOR V'DOR* Capital Campaign.

Why is our campaign called "*L'DOR V'DOR*"—From Generation to Generation? Quite simply, because it is our obligation as current members to provide for the future generations of TBZ, just as those who came before us gave us this magnificent building in the heart of Brookline's Jewish community. *L'DOR V'DOR* means that we think beyond ourselves, beyond this moment in time. Can you imagine attending a class 20 years from now on our 3rd floor—perhaps utilizing the lift to get there? Can you envision the children of today's Beit Rabban bringing their children to our thriving school? Or perhaps just next year—attending Shabbat morning Torah study in a 3rd floor classroom, or the Women's Retreat with room for everyone to attend the session of their choice? It is visions such as these that led to this amazing reimagining of our space-constrained building, and are now closer to becoming reality.

All that is missing from this reality is your pledge and donation in order to reach our goal of \$1.1 Million by October 1!

As of May 1, we are well on our way, already raising \$623,500 in gifts and pledges from a very generous group of TBZ members! Incredible! Now it is your opportunity to join these donors and give your own visionary gift to TBZ. As is our fundraising custom, we strive for 100% participation—from the smallest affordable gift to the most generous. We provide different payment options to allow you to make your contribution in a way that works best for you—1 year, 3 year, or even 5 year payment plans. And we value and respect everyone's right to the privacy of their donation and will never publish amounts of gifts. Our goal is to have all pledges or donations by October 1st—a lofty, but doable goal—if each of us does our part.

It will take each and every one of our members to make *L'DOR V'DOR* succeed.

We will be reaching out to each and every one of you in the coming weeks and months to secure your personally meaningful pledge. While you wait for that phone call or letter, please take some time to think deeply about your role in *L'DOR V'DOR* and how you want to participate in ensuring the viability of our building both for us now and for future generations. We understand you will have to weigh this gift against the many worthy causes and institutions that ask for your donations. And that you will be keeping in mind that TBZ is still

counting on your generous annual contribution in order to maintain our Operating Budget (a.k.a. paying the bills!). So, please, look into your hearts and decide on a meaningful gift that will ensure our building is here *L'DOR V'DOR*. We look forward to speaking with you soon.

Capital Campaign Steering Committee:

Jonathan Klein, Sue Kahn, Tali Walters, Carol Kamin,
Sara Smolover, Michael Goldberg, Reb Moshe and Rav Claudia



Sanctuary with new gallery seating



Handicapped accessible upper level meeting room

WHY ADULT LEARNING AT TBZ?

By Reb Moshe

Over the last year Adult Learning at TBZ has flourished with a diversity of offerings. Our goals are the integration of the intellectual and the spiritual parts of our lives. Creating "literate" Jews who benefit from our ancient Jewish wisdom is essential for our continuity. Broadening our knowledge base enriches, not only our Jewish life, but helps us probe those values that may not always be served by our professional lives.

I look forward to seeing many more of you engaging in our plentiful offerings.

Shabbat Torah study at 9am remains an exciting opportunity to deepen our understanding of our weekly portion. These sessions elicit many original interpretations extending Torah to its broadest definition as "living midrash".

Brookline Clergy Association's fall and spring interfaith class on the formation of Jewish and Christian identity in the first centuries of the Common Era and the encounter of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in the Middle Ages was fully subscribed with members of many of Brookline's congregations.

Evening classes at TBZ (3 week modules) attracted dozens of participants. In the fall, member, **Prof. Jonathan Decter** of Brandeis, offered a class on **Maimonides**. Our Spring classes, taught by Reb Moshe, on the **Origins of Hasidism** and the **Emergence of Early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism** were well attended.

The Women's Retreat in January drew a fantastic crowd and offered many opportunities for Jewish learning.

TBZ Talks on selected shabbatot during kiddush saw members of our congregation sharing their expertise on a variety of subjects.

We also had fascinating talks by **Tali Buechler Walters**, co-president, sharing stories and pictures of her **Camino de Santiago** (The Way) Pilgrimage in Spain. On June 3, **Sheine Wizer** and **Joel Kershner** will share experiences of their trip to **Morocco**. They will be joined by Anne-Marie Codur, our member who is of French-Moroccan background. On June 11 **Adam Marshak** will discuss the enigmatic figure Herod the Great. Come learn more about the insights Herod's story may offer us into our own conceptions of modern religious identities.

Tikkun Olam group presented a series on Jewish social issues on three Shabbatot. Lively discussions during Kiddush were well-attended.

Dima Basha, a Syrian refugee who resides in Newton spoke at a Shabbat service

Wise Aging groups (Fall and Spring), were facilitated by Reb Moshe and Dr. Anne Waldoks, and successfully launched the program. Both reached the maximum attendance. Registration for next fall and spring will open soon.

Nishmat Hayyim (The Breath of Life) Meditation Project and the Spiritual Life gatherings are co-sponsored by Adult Learning. We also hope to add a **Mussar**—a character development course using Jewish sources in the fall.

Book Club flourishes, offering members an opportunity to discuss books with Jewish themes.

Community Retreat in May offered adult learning sessions with Rabbi Ebn Leader, Reb Moshe, Rabbi Natan Margalit and Cantor Becky Khitrick.

There is no better way to connect to our rich Jewish tradition of learning and interpretation than studying together in community.

Please join us and share what subjects you would like to explore in the coming year. Contact Maxine Lyons, maxineiris@comcast.net

CONDOLENCES

- To Tmira and Marc Ring on the death of longtime TBZ member Sara Ben-Meir.
- To Caitlin Feuer and her family on the death of Caitlin's father Alan Feuer.
- To Boris and Olga Smolyar and their family on the death of Boris's father Benjamin Smolyar.
- To Ronnie Levin and Joel Schwartz and their family on the death of Ronnie's mother, Vivian (Bricklin) Levin.
- To Susan Brent and her family on the death of Susan's cousin, Norman Samuels.
- To Jen Goldman and her family on the death of Jen's mother, Jan Goldman.
- To Nina Piken and her family on the death of Nina's mother, Ruth (Zillman) Piken.
- To Rosanna Hertz and Robert Thomas and their family on the death of Rosanna's mother Sydell Hertz.
- To Betsy Showstack and her family on the death of her mother, Selma Showstack.
- To Jacob and Rosalind Joffe and their family on the death of Jacob's father, Irving Joffe.
- To Phyllis Brawarsky and her family on the death of Phyllis's mother, Muriel (Korn) Brawarsky.

May their souls be bound up in the Bonds of Eternal life. HaMakom yenakhem otam im shear avlei Tziyon vYrushalayim.

המקום ינחם אתם עם שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים.

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Sheine Wizel and Joel Kershner

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Jennifer Goldman
Patricia Gonzalez
Janet Echelman
Monique Kahn
Elijahu and Ilana Livni
Nina Piken
Josh and Jose
Portuondo-Dember
Henry Silverman

6TH ANNUAL PRIDE SHABBAT

Friday, June 3
Saturday, June 4

with
Special readings,
member
D'var Torah,
Mardi Gras beads
and rainbow
cupcakes!



Barbeque and Barchu

Kabbalat Shabbat Under the Stars

Friday, August 19th, 5:30pm,

Corey Hill Park on Summit Ave, Brookline

Grilled veggie and kosher beef hot dogs as well as beverages will be provided.

Contributions of vegan, kosher or vegetarian (non-dairy) dishes are welcome!

Be on the look out for more details over the summer.

Preparing for Revelation

with Rabbi Shefa Gold



Shabbat, June 4
7:00 - 9:00 pm in the TBZ Sanctuary

PRE-PAID TICKETS ONLY. DEADLINE IS JUNE 1st. TICKETS ARE \$20 PER PERSON

No walk-in tickets will be sold at the door as start time is during Shabbat. Buy tickets online at www.tbzbrookline.org or through the TBZ office.

In counting the days of the Omer, we prepare ourselves to become the vessels for God's Presence and messengers for the Divine Word. God instructs Moses to tell us to make ourselves holy for the Day of Revelation, to wash our garments and get ready!

We will joyfully prepare for revelation with a evening of Hebrew Chant. The Chant will help us connect with our longing for Truth, clear our minds, open our hearts and strengthen our commitment to receive Torah anew.

Rabbi Shefa Gold recently named "One of the 33 most Inspiring Rabbis in America," by the Jewish Forward", is a leader in Aleph: the Alliance for Jewish Renewal and the director of C-DEEP (The Center for Devotional, Energy and Ecstatic Practice) in Jemez Springs, New Mexico. She received her ordination from both the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi. She is a composer, Hebrew Chant master, and author. *For more info visit the TBZ website.*

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