

# Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

October 2021  
Tishrei / Cheshvan 5782



## *Minyanim:* Community Amidst COVID Chaos

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## My, How We've Grown! 1,000 Families: Who We Are

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## On the Cover

*"My, How We've Grown"*  
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## Editorial Board

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To contribute content, go here: <https://tbsneedham.org/submit>

## From the Editorial Board

What makes a temple large, strong, and blossoming? Each time our founding and longest-standing members rise to be celebrated and appreciated, our roots grow stronger. Each time our clergy interacts with us – not venerated from afar as in the old days, but embraced as accessible leaders among us – our trunk delivers nutrients to our branches, limbs, leaves, and flowers. And who comprise those parts? Our members of all ages, engaging with each other to grow as individuals and together as a congregation. Mazel tov to Temple Beth Shalom – to all of us – for reaching a mighty milestone!

For upcoming Scrolls we'd love to hear from you....

### Hankering for Hamantaschen

It's never too soon to secure your sweet tooth indulgences, and the Scroll is here to help. If you make hamantaschen, we would like to feature your culinary creativity in the March Scroll – just in time for Purim. So that we can hear your personal story about making hamantaschen and experience the sweets of your labors, please email [Scroll@tbsneedham.org](mailto:Scroll@tbsneedham.org) and let us know that you will bring hamantaschen to TBS on Sunday or Monday, December 5-6. At our December 7th Editorial Board meeting we will compare, contrast, capture (by photo), and contentedly consume the hamantaschen you bake. Then we'll feature our photos and your words; if you would like to share your recipe, we'll happily include a link to it on the TBS website. Please email us by November 1 to let us know you'll participate! Deadline for story and (optional) recipe: December 1.

### Do You Have a Special Hobby?

We are always looking for ways to feature our members, and we know some of you may have a unique or intriguing hobby the rest of us would enjoy hearing about! Please tell us about your passion for this hobby – how you got interested, how long you've been doing it, if you do it on your own or with others, and what you love about it. Email [Scroll@tbsneedham.org](mailto:Scroll@tbsneedham.org). Word limit: 175. Deadline: November 15.

### Ask the Rabbi

Do you have a question you've always pondered but never had the chance to ask? This might be your solution! Submit your questions to [AsktheRabbi@tbsneedham.org](mailto:AsktheRabbi@tbsneedham.org). Questions will appear anonymously, together with the rabbi's response, in upcoming issues.

*Please note: "Ask the Rabbi" is a chance to explore areas related to Judaism. It is not intended for questions about Temple policies, business, or personal questions.*

Wishing you a New Year full of happiness and good health!

*Joni Burstein on behalf of the Scroll Editorial Board*

## Services in October

Services may be available in person and/or via live stream. Please check TBS This Week to confirm details.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1 (26 TISHREI 5782)

6:15 PM —Tot Shabbat Service (TBS Parking Lot)  
7:15 PM —Simchat Shabbat Evening Service (Sanctuary)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2 (26 TISHREI 5782)

Torah: Bereisheet, Gen. 1:1 — 6:8  
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Online)  
9:00 AM —Torah Study (Online)  
B. Mitzvah: Riley Schneller and Leelah Murstein  
B. Mitzvah: Hannah McCarthy

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 (3 CHESHVAN 5782)

7:15 PM —Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 (3 CHESHVAN 5782)

Torah: Noach, Gen. 6:9 — 11:32  
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Online)  
9:00 AM — Torah Study (Online)  
10:15 AM — Torah Study is Great, but What Happens in the REST of the Hebrew Bible? (Online)  
B. Mitzvah: Ben Maron  
B. Mitzvah: Charlotte Harrington

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10 (4 CHESHVAN 5782)

Torah: Lech Lecha, Gen. 12:1-13  
B. Mitzvah: Jeremy Turgel

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15 (10 CHESHVAN 5782)

6:15 PM —Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)  
B. Mitzvah: Abigail Kube

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 (10 CHESHVAN 5782)

Torah: Lech L'cha, Gen. 12:1 — 17:27  
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Online)  
9:00 AM — Torah Study (Online)  
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah (Online)  
B. Mitzvah: Charlie Gomes Casseres  
B. Mitzvah: Samantha Meininger  
B. Mitzvah: Tyler Berger

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22 (17 CHESHVAN 5782)

6:15 PM —Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 (17 CHESHVAN 5782)

Torah: VaYera, Gen. 18:1 — 22:24  
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Online)  
9:00 AM — Torah Study (Online)  
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah (Online)  
B. Mitzvah: Jacob Dixon  
B. Mitzvah: Maisie Berger

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29 (24 CHESHVAN 5782)

6:15 PM —Erev Shabbat Service (Sanctuary)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30 (24 CHESHVAN 5782)

Torah: Chayei Sarah, Gen. 23:1 — 25:18  
8:30 AM — Shabbat Morning Service (Online)  
9:00 AM — Torah Study (Online)  
9:00 AM — Finding Our Jewish Values in Torah (Online)  
B. Mitzvah: Rose Kim  
B. Mitzvah: Jonathan Carita

#### Please join the TBS Community for Minyan

- Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM online and in the Beit Midrash
- Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM  
Zoom links are in the TBS weekly email.

## Welcome New Members

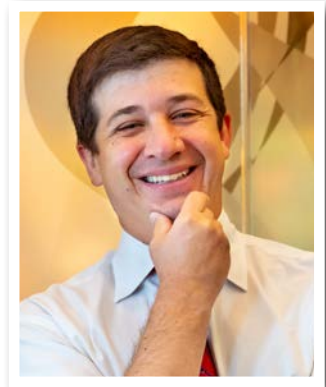
Jake Barringer  
Jordan Cohen  
Marc and Lauren Cohen and Noah (not yet 1)  
Shelby Cohen  
Matthew and Dana Cutter and Sophia (3) and Charlie (1)  
Lisa Greenfield and Daniel van Ackere and Julian (8)  
Karen Lange and Michael Broshi and Aaron (7) and Naomi (3)  
Meredith and Benjamin Levin and Gabriel (7) and Jordyn (2)  
Debra Loevy and Ezra (18) and Talia (16)  
Jennifer Meyerhardt and David Blaustein and Rachel (25) and Benjamin (23) and Lila (20)  
Shalva and Karen Nusi  
Briana Rubin  
Lauren Savrin  
Perri and Eric Schneider and Madison (1)  
Michael and Anne Scott and Colette (4)  
Danielle and David Smoot and Sadie (not yet 1)  
Brenda Tribush  
Rebecca Vaysburd and Hailey (5)  
Megan and Timothy Walls and Kennedy (9) and Francesca (7) and Carter (6)



*From Our Clergy*

## How We Grow

By Rabbi Todd Markley



A classic Jewish story is told of the “wise” people of Chelm - a town known for its earnest but rather foolish citizenry. One day two of the townspeople got into a fierce debate about how it is that people grow.

“People grow from the top down!” shouted one to the other. “I can prove it! When the soldiers march past our village I see clearly that their shirt sleeves do not reach all the way to their wrists. That is because they are growing from their heads towards their feet!”

“What is wrong with you?” yelled his neighbor. “When I see the soldiers march by outside of our village, their pants do not even come close to reaching their feet. This is obviously because the soldiers are growing from their feet up.”

“People grow from the top down!”

“No! It’s from the bottom up!”

And so it went for hours until the village rabbi strolled by and overheard the rigorous debate. He paused to listen to the two exchange their not-so-compelling arguments for a while and then interjected. “Friends, you are both mistaken. Human beings do not grow from top to bottom, nor do they grow from the bottom up. Rather, people grow from the inside out.”

True growth is rooted in connection to one’s history and traditions. Real growth is nurtured and sustained by our values and heartfelt convictions. Profound growth occurs when we see ourselves as part of a greater whole that is larger than ourselves and find meaningful ways to contribute to that collective while also benefiting from it.

I was reminded of the Chelm story when I learned that this month’s Scroll would be celebrating a Temple Beth Shalom milestone reached this past spring: for the first time in our congregation’s history, the number of households in our community has reached more than 1,000! It is touching and gratifying to know that so many have chosen to join us in our mission to bring rich, engaging, dynamic Jewish life to Needham and the surrounding area. So too, it has been a delight to see our communal numbers grow while still maintaining a sense of connection, shared purpose, and vision played out not in huge masses of souls but rather in smaller circles of leadership, learning, prayer, and celebration. While this growth is, indeed, cause for celebration, particularly during times when so many houses of worship in our nation are seeing declines in affiliation rather than expansion, the sage counsel of Chelm’s rabbi is equally wise in our circumstances.

Our growth has not been solely about top-down leadership nor bottom-up outreach efforts, though both are important. Temple Beth Shalom has grown from the inside out, touching the spiritual, emotional, intellectual, and social lives of so many in our community, and those souls have, in turn, invited others to join us in building that community we all share together. At the dawn of this new year of 5782, may we all - individually and collectively - continue along this path of sustained growth, and may we walk that path side-by-side in the TBS community that we call home.





*From Our Board of Trustees*

# A TBS Journey

By Wendy Gutterson



As you are reading this, we've just completed, and immediately begun, a cycle of Torah. This year TBS can expect a bit of added sweetness as we begin our Sefer Torah Project, a community effort to write our very own Torah. It's my pleasure and honor to be co-leading the project with Bernice Sue Behar, TBS Past President, and Rachel Happel, Senior Director of Learning and Engagement. This exciting undertaking has me certainly looking to the future and thinking about how we will embrace this new Torah as a reflection of our community's strength and resilience, and hopefully as a way of marking our emergence from our time spent apart. Working on the Sefer Torah Project also has me looking back at my family's TBS membership journey.

Twenty-five years ago, my husband, David Crandell, and I went 'temple-shopping,' and came to a prospective member open house at TBS. I didn't really know what to expect, as I'd only actually been in a temple a handful of times in my entire life. My Jewish identity was wrapped up in holidays celebrated at home and some vague memory of optional Friday night services at summer camp.

Our greeting when we entered the building, the pre-Mikdash building, was the first of literally hundreds of truly warm greetings we've experienced over the years. Our daughters, at that time a rising kindergartner and a newborn, were equally embraced and cherished, and we knew we had found our temple home. (Shout out to Peggy Gassman, who was the Chair of Membership at the time and helped us to fall in love with this community.) We became members and began attending Friday night services, 'commuting' from our home in Watertown as we began house hunting in Needham.

We stepped into TBS life slowly. I concentrated on learning the rhythm of worship services. I began seeing familiar faces at onegs and meeting other parents. Our children entered religious school and formed their own Jewish identities at TBS, at home, and through their camp experiences at URJ Crane Lake Camp.

As our connection to TBS grew, so did our joy. We celebrated Shabbat with new friends; we welcomed new clergy - Rabbi Jay, then Rabbi Todd, and Rabbi Julie. We rejoiced at our daughters' B. Mitzvahs, and between these two milestones, I began studying and celebrated my own adult B. Mitzvah. I accepted invitations to join committees and ultimately chaired the Religious School Committee and then the Member Relations Committee. We've attended countless programs and made many friends. With my family's encouragement I joined the Board of Trustees and now have the honor of serving as our Congregational Executive Vice President. In many ways, I connect my own Jewish journey to the opportunities for worship, volunteerism, and friendship that my growing TBS community offered.

As I look to the start of 5782, I do so with excitement about our community's growth, our new Torah, and for extending an invitation to all members, long-term and new, to step in and join the journey.



# B. Mitzvah

## **Hannah McCarthy, Saturday, October 2**

**School:** The Gifford School

**Interests:** Hannah is very passionate about helping people and animals. She loves animals, especially her dog Ellie and her bunny Brownie.

**Mitzvah Project:** Hannah volunteered at GOFI, where she helped take care of Golden Retriever puppies who get trained to be service dogs.

## **Leelah Murstein, Saturday, October 2**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Leelah loves Camp Pembroke and enjoys spending time socializing with her friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Leelah is raising money for cancer.

## **Riley Schneller, Saturday, October 2**

**School:** Kennedy Middle School

**Interests:** Riley enjoys playing hockey and baseball and spending time with his dog Howie. He loves spending summers at Camp Bauercrest.

**Mitzvah Project:** Riley volunteered with Keep Natick Beautiful, whose mission is to make Natick a cleaner, greener place to live, work, and play.

## **Charlotte Harrington, Saturday, October 9**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Charlotte has been dancing since she was 3 years old. She's a fierce advocate around gender and racial equity issues.

**Mitzvah Project:** Charlotte collected books for More Than Words, an organization that empowers youth who are in foster care, court involved or homeless.

## **Benjamin J. Maron, Saturday, October 9**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Ben enjoys celebrating Shabbat, and playing basketball and soccer. He's good at math and enjoys playing with his lab, Cupcake.

**Mitzvah Project:** Ben made COVID vaccination signs for nursing home residents to help them remember they'd been vaccinated and ease their anxiety.

## **Jeremy Isaac Turgel, Sunday, October 10**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Jeremy likes hanging out with his friends, playing baseball, and is an avid skier.

**Mitzvah Project:** Jeremy organized a collection drive for the Needham Community Council.

## **Tyler Bradford Berger, Saturday, October 16**

**School:** The Park School

**Interests:** Tyler is a warm, genuine person who loves sports, adventure, and overnight camp.

**Mitzvah Project:** Tyler is raising money for the non-profit 4ocean, whose mission is to end the ocean plastic crisis.



**Charlie Gomes Casseres, Saturday, October 16**

**School:** Oak Hill Middle School

**Interests:** Charlie loves the outdoors, playing soccer, baking, and playing with his dog Bea.

**Mitzvah Project:** Charlie raised money for Mass Climate Action by walking dogs and selling dog treats.

**Samantha Meininger, Saturday, October 16**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Samantha loves to bake and spend time with friends.

**Mitzvah Project:** Samantha offered complimentary tutoring in math and reading for those in need.

**Maisie Berger, Saturday, October 23**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Maisie loves art, spending time with her friends, skiing, and horseback riding.

**Mitzvah Project:** Maisie collected redeemable cans and bottles for NCC Food Pantry's Cans for Calcium and worked at the RTS sorting donations.

**Jacob Bentley Dixon, Saturday, October 23**

**School:** The Rashi School

**Interests:** Jacob's passions include freestyle skiing, flipping, fishing, and science. He's a loving brother, son, cousin, grandson, friend, and pet owner.

**Mitzvah Project:** Jacob volunteered with New England Disabled Sports, where he helped teach biking, paddleboarding, and golf to people living with disabilities.

**Jonathan Carita, Saturday, October 30**

**School:** Pollard Middle School

**Interests:** Jonathan loves sports, playing the piano, and reading.

**Mitzvah Project:** Jonathan collected and sold used sports equipment, and donated the funds to Hearts and Noses Hospital Clown Troupe.

**Rose Kim, Saturday, October 30**

**School:** Dover-Sherborn Middle School

**Interests:** Rose plays soccer and basketball. She plays piano, enjoys theatre, and loves spending time with her friends and dog, Brady.

**Mitzvah Project:** Rose collected, sorted, and packed donations for Hope & Comfort, an organization working to end hygiene insecurity.



# Around TBS

## Help Immigrants in Need!

We are the children and grandchildren of immigrants -- now, please help America's newest immigrants!

These families are low-income clients of the Waltham Alliance for Teaching, Community Organizing and Housing (W.A.T.C.H.). Social Action is partnering with W.A.T.C.H. to make an immediate impact on these families in crisis.

Each month Social Action will have different opportunities available for members wanting to make a difference. For the latest information on what is available, check out TBS This Week.

For questions or more information please contact [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org).



## Volunteer Tutors Wanted

For more than 25 years, TBS has partnered with The Mozart School, a Boston Public School (K-8) in Roslindale, by providing one-on-one and small group tutoring to their students. We have also supported these students through book drives, library sourcing, author visits and advocacy efforts

This program is coordinated by the Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy (GBJCL) and is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC).

The goal is to mobilize the Jewish Community to help elementary school children discover the joy of reading by building meaningful relationships with caring volunteers.

Volunteers are welcome from all backgrounds. A background in education is not required. Seeking individuals who are committed to engaging in student development. The GBJCL provides support, training and guidance to enable volunteers to be embraced and meet the needs of the students.

Interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer? Contact Nancy Krieger at [npkmk1@gmail.com](mailto:npkmk1@gmail.com).



## Committee Meetings in October – Stay Involved!

*TBS Committee Meetings will be virtual online meetings via Zoom until further notice, to implement health measures for Covid-19. Committees not listed will not meet formally this month.*

### Committee Name

### Date and Time

### Email Contact for Information

Adult Learning	Wed. Oct. 6, 7:30 PM	adultlearning@tbsneedham.org
Brotherhood	Tues. Oct. 12, 7:15 PM	brotherhood@tbsneedham.org
Communications	Wed. Oct. 20, 7:15 PM	communications@tbsneedham.org
Environmental Action	Thurs. Oct. 28, 7:15 PM	environaction@tbsneedham.org
Garden Club	Tues. Oct. 12, 7:15 PM	gardenclub@tbsneedham.org
Library	Every Wed., 9:30 AM	library@tbsneedham.org
Scroll Editorial Board	Tues. Oct. 5, 7:30 PM	scroll@tbsneedham.org
Sisterhood Leadership Council	Thurs. Oct. 7, 7:30 PM	sisterhood@tbsneedham.org
Three Score/More or Less	Mon. Oct. 25, 7:30 PM	threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org
Tzedek	Wed. Oct. 13, 7:15 PM	tzedek@tbsneedham.org
Worship	Tues. Oct. 19, 7:15 PM	worship@tbsneedham.org

*Please check with the email contact in case of a change in date and for meeting location.*



# October Highlights

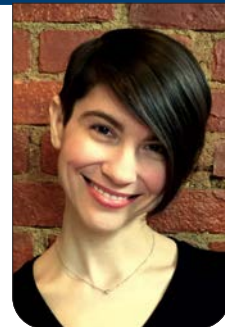
## At the Intersection of Spirituality and Mental Health

**Monday, October 4, 7:30 PM**

Mark your calendar and register now for this stimulating virtual presentation which will examine the connection between spirituality and mental health, and how our understanding of each affects us and our loved ones. Both research and clinical experience have demonstrated the positive impact of understanding this relationship.

Join us for this interactive workshop in which we'll explore how spiritual reframing and Jewish texts can guide our mental health journeys as individuals and as a synagogue community. Our presenter is Hadassah Margolis, MSW, LICSW, a clinical social worker who is Lead Therapist at McLean's Spirituality and Mental Health Department. Research and clinical experience make an impressive case for the positive impact of spirituality, however you experience it, on mental health and wellness. A detailed bio of Hadassah can be found here [t-b-s.me/hadassahbio](https://t-b-s.me/hadassahbio).

Register at [t-b-s.me/spiritualitymentalhealth](https://t-b-s.me/spiritualitymentalhealth) to get the link. Don't miss this one!



## Sisterhood Fall Membership Ice Cream Social

**October 6, 6:30 PM, TBS Parking Lot (Rain date: October 13)**

We can't wait to connect in person with old and new friends. Watch your inbox and Facebook for registration information! New Sisterhood members attend for free when you join Sisterhood.

Coming soon: Fall Membership Virtual Event: Mixology and Mingle!

For questions, contact Susan Patkin, at [suspatkin@gmail.com](mailto:suspatkin@gmail.com).



## Community Servings - In Person Volunteer Shifts

**October 11 - 15, 9 AM - Noon**

TBS Social Action continues to partner with Community Servings to help provide medically tailored, nutritious, scratch-made meals to chronically and critically-ill individuals and their families. Volunteers can expect to help with tasks like peeling and chopping vegetables, portioning and packaging food, and packing meal bags for delivery to Community Servings clients. This organization is amazing and makes for a fantastic COVID-safe volunteer experience!

Community Servings' address is 179 Amory Street Jamaica Plain, a 25 minute drive from TBS. Plentiful parking in their lot. Orientation will be provided for first time volunteers and training and support provided throughout all shifts.

On or after September 27th, Community Servings will be offering open shifts to non-TBS volunteers. You are welcome to volunteer, but please contact Nate Ross, Manager of Volunteer Service, directly at 617-522-7777 x228 to arrange your shift. Questions? Please contact Social Action at [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org).



# October Highlights continued...

## TBS ConNEXTions: Fall Brunch at Lookout Farm

**Sunday, October 17, 10:30 AM, 89 Pleasant St. in South Natick**

We can't wait to see you in person! Join us for an outdoor Farmer's Sunrise Brunch including coffee, cider, French toast, veggies, potatoes, salad, chicken, pasta, and more! \$36 per person.

For those who would like to stay afterwards to pick farm fresh apples with us and continue to schmooze, apple picking is an additional \$10 per person. For questions email Lori Shaer at [lshaer@me.com](mailto:lshaer@me.com).

Go to [t-b-s.me/lookoutbrunch](https://t-b-s.me/lookoutbrunch) for tickets by October 6.



## Brotherhood Retreat

**Saturday, October 23, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, The BiStro  
(formerly Three Squares)**

Are your Zoom meetings not even “remotely” interesting anymore?

This event is live and in-person!

Off the success of our last punim-to-punim event, the Brotherhood BBQ, we invite you to join us for our annual retreat. This year we are only retreating across the street from TBS to 669 Highland Ave. Our schedule includes a bagel breakfast and learning with Rabbi Jay, lunch and learning with Rabbi Todd. We'll have plenty of schmooze time and end in the afternoon with a local Shabbat hike. All this at the very reasonable cost of.....FREE, FREE, FREE! Sign up at the link below to let us know you're coming so we can plan seating and refreshments. All TBS COVID protocols will be observed (masks required when indoors except when eating or drinking). Questions? Email: [brotherhood@tbsneedham.org](mailto:brotherhood@tbsneedham.org)

To register please go to: [t-b-s.me/BHRetreat](https://t-b-s.me/BHRetreat)



## Three Score/More or Less: An Afternoon of Bowling at Kings Legacy Place in Dedham

**Sunday, October 31, 1:30 – 3:30 PM**

Do you remember the last time you went bowling? No? Then it's time to get your bowling legs moving to Kings at Legacy Place in Dedham. Join Three Score/More or Less for this year's kickoff event, an afternoon of ten pin (light balls available) non-competitive fun. We'll form four person teams, and bowl unlimited strings for two hours. Optional 'after party,' weather dependent, at either J.P. Licks or Caffe Nero.

This includes shoe rental. Make checks payable to Temple Beth Shalom, and note 'Three Score Bowling Event'. Check must be received to confirm the reservation. Let's celebrate our ability to be together as a group! Current local COVID guidelines will be followed. For questions contact [threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org](mailto:threescoremoreorless@tbsneedham.org).

To RSVP visit [t-b-s.me/3Scorebowling](https://t-b-s.me/3Scorebowling) and send a check for \$18 per person to the TBS office.



# Recurring Events

## Pre-Shabbat Yoga

### Fridays, 9:00 - 10:00 AM, TBS and Online

Join Stephanie Javaheri every Friday morning for pre-Shabbat yoga. Yoga is all about the inside and not the pretty or bendy postures that we see on the outside. It's about self inquiry, observation and awareness of your body, breath and mind to help feel more grounded.

Set aside preconceived yogic notions and come experience an hour of bliss with slow mindful movement. No experience necessary. Just an open mind.

Please register at [t-b-s.me/yoga](https://t-b-s.me/yoga).



## Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Bob Orkand: "A History of the Jews in America, Continued"

### Mondays, 12:00-1:30 pm, Online

Jews have lived in what became the United States for 366 years. The contribution by American Jews to this nation has been extraordinary, in large part because of the freedom afforded to not only Jews, but to other minority communities, as well. There has been a long-standing fear that Jews in America are doomed to assimilate, that they cannot survive in an environment of religious freedom and church-state separation. In the United States, where religion is totally voluntary, where religious diversity is the norm, where everyone is free to choose his or her own brand of Judaism—or no Judaism at all—many have assumed that sooner or later Judaism will disappear. And so, each generation has had to wrestle anew with the question of whether its own children and grandchildren would remain Jewish, whether Judaism as a faith would end and carry on as ancestral memory alone.

Judaism in the United States has not only survived but thrived. This course will look at why this is the case. How have America's Jews adapted to living in a land of freedom? And, what has America's Jewish community contributed to this, its home.

Please note that it is not necessary to have taken last semester's class to participate in this one. All are welcome.

Please register at [t-b-s.me/JewsInAmerica](https://t-b-s.me/JewsInAmerica).



## Bag Lunch and Breakfast Food Drive-up Collection for Homeless Shelters

### Friday, October 22, 9:15 to 9:45 AM in the TBS Front Parking Lot.

TBS Social Action needs your help with our monthly collection of bag lunches and breakfast foods for donation to homeless shelters in the Brockton area. This is a great project to do individually or as a family! Participate in this monthly mitzvah to help feed the increasingly large numbers of homeless guests at these shelters. There are many options: Make bag lunches, or donate cases of water or juice or a variety of breakfast items.

It's easy! Our collection team will be in the TBS front parking lot, on the far side from the Temple, at the corner of Highland Avenue and Webster Street, ready to safely transfer your donations from your car as you drive up.

If you can't make it on October 22, just sign up for your food donation items and then email us at [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org) to arrange for an earlier delivery date.

Questions? Contact : [socialaction@tbsneedham.org](mailto:socialaction@tbsneedham.org)

To sign up for specific food donation items, go to: [t-b-s.me/baglunch](https://t-b-s.me/baglunch)



# Recurring Events continued...

## Israeli Dance

**Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm, TBS**

Join Emily Perlman for a wonderful Israeli dance experience. Israeli dance is a great way to engage the culture of Israel and the Jewish people through music and movement. This is an intermediate level class for those who have some Israeli dance experience. Those who are willing to learn by watching others are also encouraged to attend. The tuition is \$5 per session, which is paid when you come.



## Save the Date

### Project EZRA 2021: Still in Need

**Saturday, December 25**

**On Saturday, December 25, Temple Beth Shalom will once again join hands with the Needham Community Council to provide Christmas dinners.**

Each year the need seems to increase, so please help us.

We cannot do this Mitzvah without you.



Volunteers are needed to:

- carve the turkeys
- assemble the dinners
- deliver the dinners
- bake “finger desserts”

**A Mitzvah You'll Never Forget**

Please Participate, Please call:

Lois Sockol: 781-864-2393 or Anne Braunstein: (617) 462-2214

Know of someone who needs a dinner on Christmas Day? Please, Let us know.



# TBS Growth

## Inspires Innovation the K-7 Learning Programs

By Rachel Happel

Our community's tremendous growth over the past several years has challenged us to be creative in expanding the capacity of our K-7 learning programs. Our professional K-12 leadership team and the Elementary Learning Committee (ELC) together engaged in demographic research, visioning, and planning, and began to explore ways in which we might accommodate more children and families.

Moving away from thinking only about space, we began to think creatively about how we use time. One initial change was adding a new Mayim session on Friday afternoons. While this may sound simple, we had a few hoops to jump through to make it happen. Our Mayim faculty typically work Sunday through Thursday, so adding a Friday session meant needing to stagger staffing in order to avoid a 6-day work week. Also, our Mayim sessions end with t'filah (prayer and song) in the sanctuary from 5:30-6:00 pm; a Friday session meant potentially bumping up against Friday evening Shabbat services and dinners.

We also started to think creatively about our program offerings. We had already experienced success with our Mayim Tamid program (a spin-off of Mayim that combines after-school care and Jewish learning). Could we develop additional alternative program options that would be appealing, meet the needs of families, and alleviate our emerging capacity constraints?

In the 2019-2020 school year, we offered a new option called "Mayim B'Yachad" (MBY), which was a family learning model for kindergarteners and their parents. In MBY, kindergarten children came to TBS earlier in the afternoon on Needham Public Schools Early Release Days, and they also came together with a parent for parent-child learning one Sunday afternoon a month. With the success of our original pilot group, we expanded the program to two full groups in 2020-2021. (Sadly, due to the pandemic, those groups never actually met.)

Due to the pandemic in the 2020-2021 school year, we needed to stretch our creative muscles even more, experimenting with additional program formats we had already been considering: online learning, outdoor learning, and at-home learning! The success we experienced in all three formats led us to continue some of these offerings. In 2021-2022, our K-7 enrollment is split to include 314 children in our regular Mayim & Jr. Etzim programs, 83 children in our outdoor learning programs, 76 children in our Mayim Tamid program, and 18 children in our online learning program. We imagine these new models are here to stay, and we hope to bring Mayim B'Yachad back in the 2022-2023 school year as well!

We are delighted that experimenting with new models of learning has enabled us to meet the needs of so many learners.

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As we start the new year, we draw your attention to the array of advertisers who help to support the *Scroll*. With our flexible policies that allow new advertisers to come on board at any time during the year and all advertisers to change their ads during the year with special season-specific messages, we have added several new businesses. So please check out the advertiser pages at the end of the *Scroll* this month and each month. You won't want to miss any advertising messages!

**This year, TBS members qualify for a 5% discount** if they also list their businesses in the TBS Online Business Directory. Advertising frequency can be monthly, the full 10-month year, or anywhere in-between; sizes range from 1/8 page to full-page ads. If you are interested in advertising your business, please contact [advertising@tbsneedham.org](mailto:advertising@tbsneedham.org). Shana tova!





# TBS *Minyanim*: Community Amid

Please join the TBS Community for *Minyan*

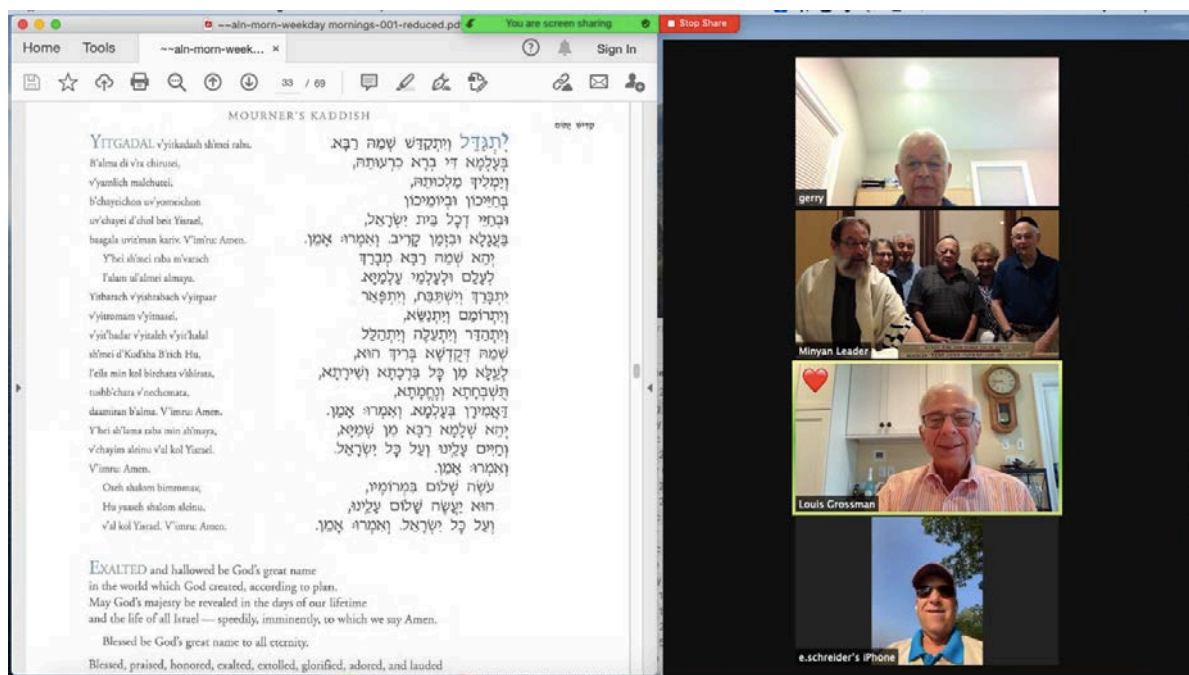
- Monday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM online and in the Beit Midrash
  - Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM
- Zoom links are in the TBS weekly email.

The past year and a half has been among the most difficult in recent memory as communities have been ripped apart by the scourge of COVID-19. And yet, amidst the loss and pain, our TBS community has been able to pull together and, in many ways, emerge stronger.

A highlight of how we have been able to support each other is our virtual evening *Minyan*, led weekly by amazing community members like Kris Danna, Peggy Gassman, Steve Peljovich, and Matt Robinson. If you have never attended a *Minyan*, this practice is rooted in the Jewish tradition of coming together around prayer, particularly when you are in mourning.

“It has been amazing how people have used the online *Minyan* to engage the community at this difficult time,” says Robinson.

For over 30 years, the lay-led morning *Minyan* has been inviting community members to gather, study Torah, and pray for themselves and others. Seven years ago, an evening *Minyan* group was added.



Morning minyan, every Monday and Thursday at 7:00 AM. A great way to start the day!

“Attending the lay-led *Minyanim* gives me the opportunity to meet with my ‘kallah,’” suggests long-time *Minyan* member David Berg, using the Hebrew word for communal gathering, “to provide a locus for members of the community.”

When COVID precluded meeting together in person, both *Minyans* were able to quickly move online. As a Reform



# amidst COVID Chaos

community, we never questioned the validity of praying virtually and, despite the potential limitations of online interactions, the increased call for comfort and community and the consistent and easily accessible online format helped the *Minyanim* grow.

“The evening *Minyan* [has] become kind of a checkpoint to the day,” says Hal Gershman, who has been attending online with his wife Carol for many months. “It is easy, enjoyable, enhanced by the camaraderie of the attendees, and most important of all...it is really good for the soul!”

While many participants in the morning group recently began meeting in the synagogue again, the evening *Minyan* will continue to predominantly meet virtually. For those who wish to attend virtually in the mornings, there is a virtual option. Likewise, for those who wish to participate in-person in the evening, there will be a way as long as it is safe to do so. For more information, please check the TBS weekly email.



*Evening minyan meets Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at 6:45 PM.*

*Minyan* is open to everyone and all are welcome to participate. Les Suckney, who recently joined TBS, in part because of the welcoming community he found in the evening *Minyan*, shared how grateful he was for this critical component of Temple life at TBS.

“This is an important function of any temple,” Suckney said.

Whether you are looking to say *kaddish* for a loved one, looking for an opportunity to connect with other TBS members, or looking for some quiet reflection at the start or end of a day, the *Minyan* may be a great option for you.... And with the virtual component you can now easily participate from anywhere. We’d love for you to join us anytime!

If you are interested in getting more involved or learning how to lead *Minyan*, please contact Matt Robinson at [Matt@TheRobinsonReporter.com](mailto:Matt@TheRobinsonReporter.com).

# 1,000 Families: Who We Are

By Rahel Gruenberg, Community Engagement Manager

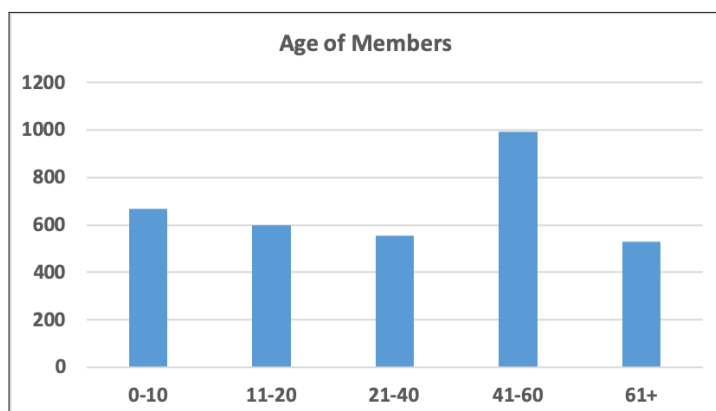
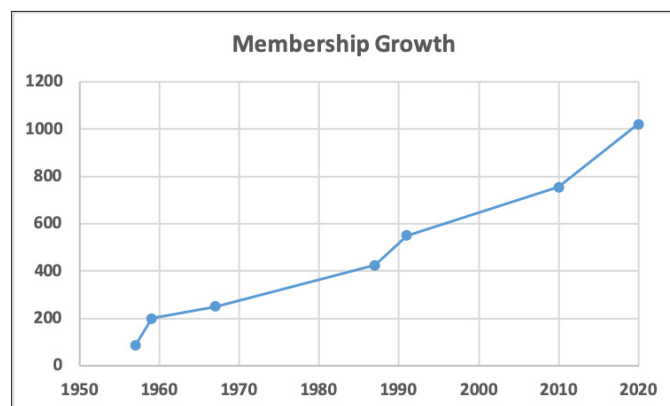


The Jewish High Holy Days encourage us to practice *Cheshbon Hanefesh* (Accounting of the Soul). We are encouraged to think about our actions in the past year and reflect on where we have missed the mark, how we can do *Teshuvah* (repair), and what we want to do differently in the year ahead. For some, this may mean taking a closer look at their relationship with Temple Beth Shalom. This year I have been thinking about who we are at Temple Beth Shalom. Part of my role as Community Engagement Manager is to be able to articulate this for new members as well as for long-standing members who are stepping into a new phase of their life and reevaluating their relationship with the Temple. The underlying question that I am frequently asked by both new and long-standing members is “Do I belong here?” The answer is yes!

60 plus years ago, Temple Beth Shalom was started by a small group of families looking to create a local Jewish community. This year, we have passed the 1,000 household mark, officially transitioning TBS into a large community by the standards of the Union for Reform Judaism, of which TBS is a member congregation. Many of those original founding families are still active members of our community. Our community's size is both something to celebrate and, at times, a challenge to navigate. It means that we have been able to add amazing clergy and professional staff and that we are able to add targeted programming for specific cohorts.

While our large size means we may not know everyone, the number of opportunities are greater to connect to those in a similar stage of life or with shared interests.

At TBS, we have almost as many members under age 10 as we do over age 60. The Temple Beth Shalom Children’s Center has over 200 children who have been able to safely come to school in person throughout the pandemic. Our K-12 programs support nearly 600 students and have created multiple types of learning models to allow students to continue to engage with their Jewish community; outdoors, virtually, and with their families at home (see page 13).



But as I do a *Cheshbon Hanefesh* (Accounting of the Soul) of our community, I think not just of the total size of the congregation, but also of the smaller groups that make up who we are. Together, we are more than just the sum of our parts; each household has a unique, important role in making up the fabric of our community.







I think of the 20 or so people who joined us at the end of last summer in our parking lot to learn about food insecurity with our social justice community.

The 30 families who submitted their innovative sukkah creations, many made by their children, to our social media contest. The Sisterhood members who sewed masks last year when they were hard to come by. The adult community that readily adapted to learning together online. The dozens of Chesed members who made phone calls and ran errands and helped us deliver food to help support and keep our community connected. All of those who joined for regular Shabbat services and weekday minyan online.

TBS is *both* a place where we are big enough that there is always an opportunity to meet someone new and small enough that there will always be a familiar face. If you would like to become more involved or explore new means of involvement, please email or call!



*Innovative sukkah creations*



*Sisterhood member sewing masks*



*The 40 people who baked Challah on Zoom.*



*Collecting and distributing personal hygiene supplies*

I look forward to assisting you in connecting – or reconnecting – with the aspects of Temple Beth Shalom that bring you joy and fulfillment.

Rahel Gruenberg, Community Engagement Manager, can be reached at 781-444-0077 ext. 50, or [rgruenberg@tbsneedham.org](mailto:rgruenberg@tbsneedham.org).



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The baby naming ceremony of our  
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## We Are Here For You

This is a trying time for all of us, and your Temple community is here to be of help. In addition to the challenges of the coronavirus threat, life events continue.

Have a difficult situation going on in your family? Have you experienced a recent loss of a loved-one? Has your family celebrated an engagement, wedding, birth, or other joyous event? Anticipating upcoming surgery or a hospital stay?

Don't forget to let your TBS family know!

When significant life events are taking place – good or bad – the clergy at TBS want to know, as do our educators when the situation is impacting a child in our learning programs. Please e-mail or call our clergy or educators at: 781.444.0077 to share what is happening so that we can be supportive.

We are here for you. We want to know so we can help!



# Yahrzeits

## OCTOBER 1

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 Jason Berger  
 Nita Boyer  
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 A. Peter Davis  
 Eunice Duchin  
 Kenneth Ellis  
 Zoya Epshteyn  
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 Theodore M. Feldman  
 Marshall Finck  
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 Robert Richards  
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 Norma Rosin  
 Henry Sadow  
 Celia Sandberg  
 Reba Schneller  
 Abraham Seri  
 Henrietta Serwer  
 Beatrice Shapiro  
 David Shenkman  
 Michael Shulman  
 Marshall Singer  
 Celia Staum  
 Diane Stocklan  
 Jean Wolk  
 Avis Young

## OCTOBER 8

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 Morris Annis  
 Lillian Appelson  
 Rebecca Lauren Bernstein  
 Harold Brick  
 Cynthia Sue Cardillo  
 Lewis Saul Davidson  
 Robert Evans  
 Bette Finkelstein  
 Bertha Fox  
 Joseph R. Freshman  
 Charles Fuller  
 Elena Galante  
 Oscar Y. Gamel  
 David Gibgot  
 Lawrence Goldstein  
 Sally Goodman  
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 Myra Halpern  
 Perry Philip Hart  
 Irving Hentoff  
 Myrna Higgins  
 Joseph Kalikow  
 Helen Karatzas  
 Laura Jean Levine

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 Myer Miller  
 David Miller  
 Eugene Notkin  
 Irving Olin  
 Diane Onixt  
 Janet Parker  
 Frumeth Brenda Hirsh  
 Polasky  
 Stephen Rauch  
 Bertha Sandberg  
 Leya Savikovskaya  
 Alan Shear  
 Ruth Sherman  
 Marc Alan Slotnick  
 Gertrude Smith  
 Mindy Sneider  
 Barbara Stein  
 Jacob Strasnick  
 Esther Weinstein  
 Jerome L. Wiener

## OCTOBER 15

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 Harris Akell  
 Irene Bailit  
 Solomon Baker  
 Harry Allen Bor  
 Sumner Brunswick  
 Morris Canal  
 Rose Chalfin  
 Sheila Helen Cohen  
 George E. Cotsonas  
 Zelda Cutler  
 Leona G. Deutsch  
 Miriam Erdos  
 Leonard S. Feuer  
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 Lenny Shapiro  
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 Jennie B. Shusterman  
 Judah M. Silverman  
 Selma Storch  
 Anne Weiss

## OCTOBER 29

Abraham Berkson  
 Harry Bookman  
 Vivian M. Channen  
 Dorothy Cohen  
 Tessie Cohen  
 Evelyn Cornell  
 Mamie Davis  
 Charles Diamond  
 Helen Dwin  
 David Emmer

Irving Fradkin  
 Philip J. Freedman  
 Mollie Glick  
 Virginia Hyde  
 Lawrence Jacoby  
 Gnesya Khayter  
 Bernard Kline  
 Priscilla L. Littman  
 Howard Magier  
 Samuel B. "Mickey"  
 Mesnick  
 Carl Roy Ostroff  
 Frances Ratta  
 Frances B. Robinson  
 Sherman Seeche  
 Kay Shafton  
 Sheldon Shapiro  
 David O. Shapiro  
 Philip Shoicket  
 Susie B. Sims  
 Lyubov Sirotnina  
 Max Joseph Smith  
 Albert Sosnino  
 Irene Steger  
 Nelson Storch  
 Deborah Swartzman  
 Max Temkin  
 Lorraine Tobin  
 Edward Tobin  
 Dianne Waldman  
 Harold Yampolsky

## YIZKOR ELOHIM

*May God Remember Our Loved Ones and Bring Comfort to...*

Linda and Ed Schreider,  
 on the passing of their sister and sister-in-law, Sandra Kalman

Judy Levine  
 on the passing of her husband, Nathan Levine

Nelson Hammer, Dan and Dauri Hammer  
 and Alison Hammer and Chris Robert, Molly, Abby and Vivian  
 on the passing of their wife, mother and grandmother, Lora Hammer

John and Stephanie Kube, Nicolas and Abigail  
 on the passing of their mother and grandmother,  
 Diana Hamilton

Lila Klaus  
 on the passing of her grandmother, Gertrude Klaus

Michelle and Sam Schatz, Caleb and Gabby  
 on the passing of their grandmother and great-grandmother, Raquel Sudit

Linda and Peter Mesnik, Amara Ben and Lizzy  
 on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Sarah Ansin Ravech

Harry Cohen, Erica Kaplan, Oren Cohen and Carrie Faber  
 Michael and Annie Kaplan and David Kaplan  
 on the passing of their wife, mother and grandmother, Sylvia Cohen

Eta and Neil Chansky, Gabriella and Daniel  
 on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Judith Shapsay Marmor

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**Dates and Topics:**

**Tuesday, November 16 — *The Next Big Thing: Heat Pump Technology***

**Monday, December 6 — *Buying an Electric Car***

**Wednesday, January 26 — *Buying Green Electricity***

**Wednesday, February 23 — *How to Reduce Household Plastic Use***

**Thursday, April 14 — *Native Plants for Landscaping***

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