

Scroll

Temple Beth Shalom - Needham, Massachusetts

October 2014

Tishre / Cheshvan 5775



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From the Editorial Board

A New Scroll to Celebrate Our Vision

Shalom, Chaverim!

We are so grateful to all of you who have offered your tremendous feedback on the design of the new *Scroll*. We have heard from many of you that you have enjoyed the new look and feel of the publication, and (what to us is the greatest praise) that the new *Scroll* feels like a “real” magazine.

Some have even expressed wonder that we could afford such a magnificent publication, especially on a monthly basis. The good news is that there is no net expense increase in this new version of the *Scroll* (other than the time of our Editorial Board). As you may remember from Daniel’s article in the October 2013 issue of the *Scroll*, the Temple made a decision over a year ago to replace our old copy machines with leased machines that also served to bring the printing of the *Scroll* in house. Color copies are now part of our standard lease, and this means that we can take full advantage of the color capabilities of the machine without a need to cover expenses for toner or other supplies. While the paper for this issue (and last month) is slightly more expensive per page, we have already made up for this expense through the addition of several new advertisers who have expressed interest in reaching our community through our beautiful new publication. In the end, not only does the publication of the *Scroll* not cost additional money, it actually brings the opportunity of new revenue to support other programs of the Temple!

This month’s issue is dedicated in large part to our *Mikdash* – Sacred Space – Community Campaign. We are thrilled to be able to bring you articles and features that tell the story of the development of this great project, while at the same time continuing to bring you the news of our Temple which we know you value and need.

We would welcome your participation in the publication of our *Scroll*, either as a contributor, a photographer, and/or as a member of our Editorial Board. Please feel free to reach out to us at scroll@tbsneedham.org with your interest or any feedback. We welcome and read all of it!

L'Shalom,

The Editorial Board

From the Clergy

Our Sacred Space

By Rabbi Todd Markley

"God spoke to Moses, saying: Tell the Israelite people to bring Me gifts; you shall accept gifts for Me from every person whose heart so moves him or her...And let them make Me a **Mikdash - a sacred space** - so that I may dwell among them."



These *Torah* verses tell of the first covenantal construction project in Jewish history, and it is this passage that informs our own efforts to build a new home for our Temple Beth Shalom community today. We embraced the name *Mikdash* for this effort as a reminder that – like our ancestors in the wilderness – we too endeavor to create sacred space...a place that stands out as unique from other organizations and institutions in our lives. Our synagogue home is not only a learning center for people of all ages; not solely a house of worship where we seek out the Source of Holiness through prayer and song. Our building is not simply the place where we come together to rejoice in a new year, to kindle our Chanukah menorah, or to share in the festivities of Purim.

TBS is all of these and so much more! It is where we celebrate our major lifecycle moments and where we find comfort in times of sickness and mourning. This is where we confront the shortcomings of the world as it is and strive to create the world as it ought to be. This is where we forge relationships of meaning and purpose that inspire us to be our best selves and move us to be present for others. We now do all of this in spite of the constraints of our current building and its extreme limitations, having been built for a congregation of roughly half our size.

I am so excited that the time has come for us to craft for ourselves a *Mikdash* – a sacred space that will be home to our community now and for decades to come. With new learning environments for students of all ages, new spaces for communal celebrations and gatherings, and new areas for pastoral outreach and care, our home will now enhance our lives together in profound ways.

Continued on Page 17

OCTOBER 2014

SERVICES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 (10 TISHRE 5775)

6:45 PM — *Kol Nidrei* Early Service
8:45 PM — *Kol Nidrei* Late Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 (10 TISHRE 5775)

8:30 AM — *Yom Kippur* Early Morning Service
11:15 AM — *Yom Kippur* Late Morning Service
2:00 PM — Young Children's Family High Holy Day Service
3:00 PM — Afternoon Program with Rabbi Sonsino
3:00 PM — "Sharing Our Jewish Journeys"
4:00 PM — Afternoon Service: *Yizkor, Neilah, Havdallah*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8 (15 TISHRE 5775)

7:00 PM — *Erev Sukkot* Celebration and Service
Welcome Celebration for newest TBS members

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9 (15 TISHRE 5775)

7:00 AM — *Sukkot* Morning Service

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 (17 TISHRE 5775)

6:15 PM — *Kehillah Kids Shabbat* Service
7:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 (17 TISHRE 5775)

Sukkot Shabbat Chol Ha-Moed, Num. 29:23 – 29:28
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study
11:00 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service
B'nei Mitzvah: Jonah Berg and Matthew Peljovich

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15 (22 TISHRE 5775)

5:45 PM — *Erev Simchat Torah* Service and Celebration
Consecration Service (K, 1, 2, & 3 graders)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 (22 TISHRE 5775)

7:00 AM — *Simchat Torah* Morning Service (*Yizkor* read)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 (24 TISHRE 5775)

6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service
celebrating Alison Simpson

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 (24 TISHRE 5775)

Torah: Bereishit, Gen. 1:1 – 6:8
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study
11:00 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service
B'nei Mitzvah: Matthew Dougherty and Eric Gage
5:00 PM — *Bar Mitzvah* of Adam Remondi

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 (1 CHESHVAN 5775)

6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 (1 CHESHVAN 5775)

Torah: Noach, Gen. 6:9 – 11:32
8:30 AM — *Shabbat* Morning *Minyan*
9:00 AM — *Torah* Study
11:00 AM — *Shabbat* Morning Service
B'nei Mitzvah: Jacob Smalley and Emilia Wells

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 (8 CHESHVAN 5775)

6:15 PM — *Shabbat* Evening Service

From the Executive Director

Mikdash, a Journey and an Adventure

By Daniel Barkowitz

From almost my first day at TBS, I have been working with our community lay leadership on preserving and improving upon our building. While this may seem like the natural role for an Executive Director, busying himself in the inner workings of our facility, the work has been focused not just on daily maintenance and everyday issues, but on a collective dream.

Our Strategic Planning group, of which I am a part, realized that our building was hampering our ability to be fully the kind of community we wanted to be. Our Strategic Plan (published in November 2012) read, in part, “We are committed to ensuring a physical and spiritual home for ourselves which allows for the full expression of our Mission and Vision.”

Much work has taken place since the earliest expression of this collective desire. We have thoroughly studied our space needs, we have met with many members of our community in more than 100 parlor meetings, we have worked with an architect to explore the possibilities, we have measured the financial feasibility of our congregation through a wide-reaching community study, and we have explored every aspect of planning, from construction to relocation and from landscaping to geotechnical. The collective outcome of this work, led tirelessly by a partnership of lay leadership and staff, is the plan we presented to our community during our High Holy Days: a beautiful, inspiring vision that we can achieve together.

There is much work yet to do as we head into the next stages of the realization of our collective vision, but our focus and energy now turn to our community. In the coming months, we will be speaking with every

family in our community to understand how each of us can best support this effort. Whether with our time (through volunteering), our talent (through work on the project), or our treasure (through financial giving), we hope that each and every one of us will lend support to make this dream possible.



Personally, I have been incredibly moved and inspired by the members of our community who have reached deep to offer their gifts to us all. The inspirational leadership and examples offered by the many who have already stepped forward prove that there are both deep desire and support for our communal vision. The diversity of age, socio-economic status, talent, and interest shows that we can reach every heart and every home of our nearly 800 member households.

The building of our new *Mikdash* will touch every one of us. There will be beautiful spaces in our new building that each of us will use. We will be served by a physical home that supports and nurtures our clergy, staff, faculty, and lay leadership. We will have new spaces to pray, to learn, to gather, to cook (and eat), and to celebrate. We will be inspired by the beauty of our collective home, while remaining deeply passionate about the fulfilment of our vision, which states that “we [are] committed to maintaining and building a temple home that warmly and comfortably houses the myriad souls who inhabit our sacred space throughout the year.”

To quote once again from our Strategic Plan, “The time has come to holistically address the long-term space, program, and spiritual needs of our community.” I hope you will join me and the myriad others who are stepping forward to offer your support for our new *Mikdash*.

A Bright Beacon of *Kehillah*

By Rachel Happel

If you have walked through the TBS atrium lately, you may have noticed a new addition to the display cases: a large, colorful mosaic in the shape of a Jewish star. This mosaic was created by the kindergarten and first grade students in *Mayim* (our K-5 learning program) during the 2012-2013 school year. It was the culminating project in a year-long exploration of what it means to be a *Kehillah* (community).

The kindergarteners and first graders took pride in discovering their personal connections to their families, the community, their history, and the Jewish people around the world. For their final project, the children created a mosaic art installation as a gift to the Temple Beth Shalom community representing the importance and values of Temple Beth Shalom.

The children discovered that Jewish life is dependent on community and that the Jewish community creates a context for so many aspects of Jewish life.

They discovered that the Jewish community at Temple Beth Shalom could be divided into six categories: prayer, holiday celebrations, life cycle events, people, learning, and places to meet. These categories are represented in the mosaic by different background colors of the tiles. The six elements that make up our community are just like the six points that make up a Star of David. Just as the lines of the star intersect or the two triangles overlap, the categories of community are intertwined as well.

Creating a mosaic in the shape of a Star of David was the perfect way to represent the *kehillah* that is Temple Beth Shalom and to teach others about community.

The completed mosaic embodies the children's deep learning and experiences from their year in *Mayim*. Every kindergartener and first grader designed and created his or her own tile. Alone, each tile represents an individual child. Together, the tiles create an awe-inspiring mosaic and reveal how individuals make up our Jewish community at Temple Beth Shalom.



Star of David Mosaic, by Mayim



Building for Our Future

Mikdash Begins to Take Shape

In the Torah, God directs the Israelites to build a house where God can congregate and communicate with the community. God's directions are incredibly detailed and everyone in the community understands their role in the construction project.

Today, Jews still need places to come together to worship, study and feel a sense of comfort and community. For over 50 years, Temple Beth Shalom has served as one such place. As the congregation and community continue to grow, however, our physical home cannot keep pace with the demands of our spiritual home. Fortunately, a new project to prepare the synagogue for the future is already underway.

Welcome to *Mikdash*.

In this new space, which has been under discussion and development for many years, TBS will expand to meet the growing needs of its members. With new spiritual, social and study spaces, including a family friendly reading space in the expanded Children's Center, *Mikdash* will enhance our building and our congregation and continue the TBS tradition of leadership and inspiration.

Among the many who are spearheading the *Mikdash* project are TBS members Beth Pinals (*Mikdash* Chair) and Jason Chudnofsky (*Campaign* Chair). While both have long been dedicated and involved TBS members,

they are also both busy professionals with familial and other demands. So why did they decide to become involved in such a time-consuming project?

"When I asked Beth why she was doing this," Jason explains, "she said it was her calling and her passion. I think that said it all."

Beth in turn asks, "How can you not step forward to do something when you are surrounded by such wonderful people who are so successful and clergy who touch our souls?"

As a team but of different generations, Beth and Jason can reach out to different demographic groups.

Jason reasons, "This is a big campaign...[so all age] groups need to be involved."

In fact, the *Mikdash mavens* say, this is a project that everyone can and should get behind. Although they acknowledge we have other priorities right now (such as home and family, support of Israel, and acts of *tikkun olam*), Jason suggests that a strong community core is strengthened by all these efforts.

"When you ... look at the world in which we live ...," he says, "it is hard to feel security and consistency and to find a way to feel ... you can make a difference. So start at home!"

Speaking of "home," Beth sees the synagogue as a second home as do many of our Temple members. Beth also recognizes the need to expand upon all we currently offer and to make more room for our members to flourish and grow.

"We need places and spaces to learn that are congruent with this nationally recognized project-based working style," she suggests. "We need every



congregant who is having a celebration to have room to bring in their family to celebrate and worship... We need places where our nationally recognized and revered clergy and staff can do their work and interface with the congregants.”

The idea of looking to and providing for the future resonates with Jason, even though many of his contemporaries may have more years behind them than ahead.

“Why does my generation have a responsibility for this?” Jason asks. “Why should we spend our money so other people’s kids can make use of it? Is there an ROI for this? It is because of the comfort and support that others have [given] to me and my children [and] that we can give ... to others, [whether] they can afford it or not. Why do we do this? We have an obligation to the young to give them a platform.”

“Even if you aren’t in the same town as your grandchild now,” Beth adds, “you need to be thinking of them. It does matter!”

Looking back at his own life, Jason recalls all the pivotal times when his spiritual home meant and provided so much. He also notes that our commitments to becoming and staying Jewish do not end when we retire from our secular jobs.

“Judaism is with [us] all [our lives],” Jason notes.

While some admittedly fall away from their spiritual life as they get older and other issues arise, Jason observes how many return in order to have a source of support.

“Those commitments ... [we] made have increased because ... [we are] now honoring ... [our] own children and grandchildren,” he suggests, “but still with a commitment to make sure ... [we carry] on the

rules and laws of Judaism. We now find ourselves in a place to actually pass those ideas of kindness and warmth and love of Torah to thousands of other people to keep that light burning above our ark. We give our community the ability to do this for the next twenty and thirty years.”

This, Jason says, is the meaning of *Mikdash*.

And, Jason reasons, even older congregation members are getting involved.



“People of my generation are understanding that this is all lifelong commitment to replace yourself as many times as possible,” he says.

While their support is crucial, Jason adds that *Mikdash* is important to everyone in the family, including our children and grandchildren.

“We are looking for those thirteen-year olds who will become future leaders,” Jason explains. “We are looking for committee members and others who will become future Presidents [of TBS]. And we are taking it upon ourselves to make sure that *Mikdash* is successful, always under-

standing that it is a community project and that, if only one person does it, it will not happen.”

According to Beth, the promise will not be fulfilled even with two dedicated people.

“This is not about us,” she says of herself and Jason. “This is about *all* of us!”

To paraphrase Rabbi Hillel, Beth and Jason agree that this is a case of if not me, who, and if not now, when?

“This is a *Hineni* moment,” Beth observes. “it is a time when each and every member of the community can come forward and say, ‘Here I am.’”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Giant Among Children: Jesse Tobin Honored by JECELI

The Temple Beth Shalom community received a tremendous honor late last spring as Children's Center teacher Jesse Tobin was one of only 16 educators nationwide to be accepted into the prestigious Jewish Early Childhood Education Leadership Institute (JECELI), a national organization that is dedicated to preparing leaders for Jewish early childhood programs.



The 16-month program began with a two-week intensive summer program in which Jesse participated this past July. Over the course of the program, Jesse will expand upon her learning and skills in the areas of Jewish study, leadership, supporting teaching and learning processes in adults and children, and community building. In February of 2015, Jesse will travel to Israel to study early childhood programs there. Jesse's participation in this unique program is sponsored by The Jewish Theological Seminary, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Bank Street College of Education, and the Jim Joseph Foundation.

Supporting Circle of Hope

Temple Beth Shalom has a longstanding commitment to support the work of the Needham-based not-for-profit organization Circle of Hope. Circle of Hope is dedicated to serving individuals and families living in homeless shelters as well as those struggling for independent lives. The organization collects, sorts and distributes new and gently-used clothing as well as selected household items.

Volunteers are needed to sort, package and deliver donations. B'nei Mitzvah students can conduct clothing and cosmetic drives. TBS families can also consider such drives as family projects or a way to incorporate *tikkun olam* into their lives and family celebrations.

This Fall, Temple Beth Shalom has again committed

to donating 125 coats to Circle of Hope during the holiday season. We have met this goal for the past several years, but need your help to maintain the tradition. From November 3 through December 19, donations can be placed in the Circle of Hope box outside of the Temple office. Please make sure that all coats are clean and in good condition. While there is a need for all types and sizes, there is a critical shortage of men's coats. If you are unable to bring donations to TBS or have a large number of items, please contact Peggy Lowenstein (pelowenstein@gmail.com) to arrange for pick-up.

Learning Specialist Wittenberg Offers Parent Support Group

The Children's Center has had many staffing changes in our K-12 learning programs for this year that will result in the best possible experiences and support for children from kindergarten through twelfth grade. I am particularly delighted that Sara Wittenberg has assumed the role of Learning Specialist. She has been working hard to form relationships with all parents, and especially parents of children with special needs. Here is an introductory article from Sara, in which she shares information about a new Parent Support Group:



During the past school year, I got to know many families of children with special needs. My goal was to make our learning programs as inclusive as possible. In the coming year, I look forward to having many opportunities to work with families in order to support multiple learning styles. It is apparent to the educators at TBS that coming here to learn after a full day of school can present many challenges for students. I will also continue working with the Jewish Learning Guides and Hebrew Educators to create an environment where all children can learn to the best of their abilities. I will also continue working with various people at TBS to create a family support group that will help target challenges that may be seen at home and in school. Topics that the group will cover include: understanding a child's learning style in order to help them succeed in school and at home, learning ways to help a child de-escalate when they are upset, and understanding anxiety in a child and how to work through it.

I am looking forward to working with you and your family this year! Meetings start Wednesday, October 22 and run monthly through May 2015 from 7-9 PM. - Sara

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

I hope you will join me in welcoming Sara into this role and will spread the word to parents who might be interested in this group!

Rachel Happel
Director of K-12 Learning

TBS Launching New Task Force on Inclusion

By Jerry Schultz

The Ruderman Family Foundation is a philanthropic organization that envisions “a Jewish community in which people of all abilities are valued equally and participate fully.” The Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project (SIP) is the result of a partnership between Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) and the Foundation. In response to this opportunity, TBS has created its own Task Force on Inclusion to examine and improve our efforts in this regard.

At the kick-off event of SIP this past March, I gave a brief presentation based on my years of experience in special education. TBS and its commitment to improving inclusionary practices were well represented at this meeting, which was attended by Rabbi Perlman, Rachel Happel, Sara Wittenberg, Michele Markley and past President Michael Bailit. President Ed Zaval is also deeply committed to this project, and pledges his full support.

From a TBS perspective, the timing of the launch of the Ruderman/CJP Project couldn't be better. As we begin the third year of *Mayim*, which has become a national model for innovation in Jewish education, we have the opportunity to expand and improve upon the inclusionary practices that open doors to learning and Jewish life for all children, despite any differences or challenges. The same holds true for our widely-acclaimed Children's Center. Most important, as we stand literally and figuratively at the threshold of our new *Mikdash* initiative, we have the opportunity to think about the personal aspects of our community design and how we as differently-abled individuals will interface with and interact in our new and expanded facilities.

You can see why I am so excited about this! This is an unexpected opportunity for me to join with others to shape an environment that is both physically and psychologically responsive to the needs of all

congregants. In the truest sense of the word, this a sacred mission, and I am honored to be asked to provide a leadership role as we move forward.

Over the next several weeks, I will be inviting individuals who have a personal and/or professional investment in this effort to join me on a steering committee. Our primary goal will be to collaboratively generate a multi-stage plan for addressing the special needs of our community as we move toward the goal of ensuring that TBS is a place where all are welcome and where all can participate fully. We will eventually engage a broader group of congregants who will help us review the plan we have created.

I look forward to keeping you informed about our progress, and am eager to hear from you about your own personal perspective about this important mission. Please let Rabbi Perlman (jperlman@tbsneedham.org) or me (jeromeschultz@verizon.net) know if you would like to play a role in this effort.

Rahel Block, Social Justice Fellow at TBS

We are pleased to announce that Rahel Block, a member of our Temple Beth Shalom staff, has been selected to become a “Justice Fellow” through the Jewish Organizing Institute and Network for Justice (JOIN). JOIN is a national organization dedicated to training, supporting, and connecting Jewish organizers and their communities.

We are thrilled that Rahel will be receiving this special training and bringing these insights to TBS. Rahel has been a member of the TBS community and has worked with children and adults in our learning community for the past three years. Beginning this year, Rahel will serve as a full-time Youth Engagement Professional at TBS. She will be working with 6th-12th graders in both formal and informal settings. As a JOIN fellow, she will support our own congregation-wide social justice efforts. She will be working closely with Rabbi Bob Orkand, our community's leader in our Social Justice work, to help inspire deeper engagement throughout our congregation.



EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Here is a selection of events this month. For the most current and complete event notices, please see the TBS website and the weekly email.

KNIT HATS FOR ISRAELI SOLDIERS



Knitting mavens - Please join us and celebrate our completion of this special project. Please bring your finished (and unfinished) hats. We will package them, write notes, sew in our TBS labels, and present them to Rabbi Jay.

If you cannot make the meeting, please drop your hat(s) off at the Temple or call us to pick them up.

Monday, October 6, 2014 7:30 PM, at TBS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Margie Glou (mglou@comcast.net or 781-444-0943) or Bobbi Niss (bobbinniss@yahoo.com or 781-431-7610)

SUKKOT BLOCK PARTY



Join us for a fantastic afternoon of celebrating *Sukkot* at this outdoor festival. There will be tasty barbeque, great music, a MOON BOUNCE for the kids, *sukkah* decorating, and fun with friends new and old!

Monday, October 13, 2014, 4:00-6:00 PM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Rachel Happel (rhappel@tbsneedham.org)

REGISTER ONLINE: <http://tinyurl.com/sukkot2014>

TRIP TO YIDDISH BOOK CENTER



Join us for a wonderful day-trip to Amherst, Massachusetts - home of the Yiddish Book Center - where Yiddish language, literature, and culture are celebrated in dynamic, exciting ways. The world's first Yiddish museum, the Yiddish Book Center was founded to rescue Yiddish books—in the process, also rescuing a literature and culture that had been in danger of disappearing. The Center is dedicated to preserving and bringing alive the language, history, and culture those books represent. Visit includes a 90-minute guided tour, plus time to explore the Center independently and visit its English-language bookstore.

Sunday, October 19, 2014, Bus Departs at 8:45 AM, returns at 5:00 PM.

RSVP: by October 10 to Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0388)

COST: \$45 per person. Includes admission, box lunch and transportation.

Questions? Contact: Ron Matloff (ronmatloff@gmail.com or 781-444-3138)

GARDEN CLUB: "FAMOUS DUOS"



Be a part of a team and create a famous duos centerpiece or come and watch the unbelievable creativity of our club.

Pictured to the left: Garden Club member Peggy Gassman displays her very first solo arrangement for the *bima*.

Monday, October 21, 7:00 PM

RSVP: Fawn Hurwitz (fhurwitz@aol.com or 914-907-3184)

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP DINNER



Join the Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood at our annual Membership Dinner. This event promises to be a fantastic and fun girls' night out.

Thursday, October 23, Simon Hall

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Lauren Greenstein (laurengreenstein@icloud.com) or Tricia Sherman (tjsherman314@yahoo.com)

"HOME AGAIN, THE MUSIC OF OUR LIVES" WITH CANTOR MARILYN BECKER



Three Score and More presents Cantor Marilyn Becker who will sing Broadway songs by Jewish composers and Hebrew melodies, with relevant narratives. Light lunch will be served after the show.

Sunday, October 26, 2014 11:00 AM-2:00 PM, Simon Hall

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Roberta Gerson (robertagerson@comcast.net or 781-453-9743) or Ina Melen (imelen13@comcast.net or 617-969-2626)

RSVP: Send \$18.00 per person payable to Temple Beth Shalom with names of attendees and phone numbers to Mildred Cohen, 67 Noanett Road, Needham, MA 02494. The deadline for RSVPs is October 15th.

YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH & WELLBEING



Participate in a discussion-based panel focusing on nutritious feeding options from solid food introduction through the toddler years.

Monday, October 27, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Dawn Ellis & Liz Berkman (bbb@tbsneedham.org)

COMING SOON

PROJECT EZRA



On Thursday, December 25, Temple Beth Shalom will once again join hands with the Needham Community Council to provide dinners on Christmas Day. 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, and bake “finger desserts.” A *Mitzvah* You’ll Never Forget!

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

Thursday, December 25, 2014

QUESTIONS? RSVP: Lois Sockol (781-449-1226) or June Atkind (617-462-4350)

17TH ANNUAL SISTERHOOD SPIRITUALITY RETREAT



Join us for a unique and exciting weekend on Cape Cod filled with friendship, creativity, worship, laughter and song! Led by our own temple staff and Sisterhood retreat planning committee, we will enjoy a relaxing and wonderful weekend together. Reconnect with old friends and make new friends in a warm and welcoming environment.

Space is limited to 54 participants. As in the past, we expect spaces to fill up quickly, so book now.

Friday, January 23 – Sunday, January 25, 2015

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Amy Willis (willisamy@comcast.net) or Betty Weiner (bweiner235@gmail.com)

RSVP: <http://tbsneedham.org/sisterhood/retreat2014>

GARDEN CLUB: ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



Did you know... During the English Gregorian period 1714-1760 pestilence was rampant and indoor plumbing was not. Elegant ladies would often carry small bouquets of fragrant herbs and flowers to fend off the terrible odors. Tussy Mussies also known as nosegays remained popular through the Victorian era. Tussy Mussies came to be used as gifts where every flower had a meaning and ladies referred to a book called the “Tussy Dictionary” to decipher the message from the gift. Come buy some Tussy Mussies at our annual fundraiser.

Sunday, November 2, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM, Needham High School

QUESTIONS? Fawn Hurwitz (fhurwitz@aol.com or 914-907-3184)

LEARNING

GREAT BOOKS OF THE JEWS



Join us for a fascinating Monday “Lunch and Learn” Series. Come for one or several of our classes.

This course will look at some of our most important texts and the role they have played in the development of Jewish thought. Each session of this course will stand alone. No prior knowledge is needed and all readings will be in English.

Complementary lunch will be served at each session (RSVP by previous Thursday necessary so we know how much to order). You may, of course, bring your own lunch as well. Meals are provided thanks to the generosity of the Richard Todd Sacks Jewish Lifelong Learning Fund.

Mondays, 12:00 PM–1:00 PM, Oct. 6th, 20th, 27th, Nov. 3rd, 10th, 17th

TEACHER: Rabbi Bob Orkand

RSVP: One week prior to each session to Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org)

OUR FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES ARE NOT JUST FOR CHILDREN



This special course runs at the same time as our weekly “Torah Study,” providing a new and exciting learning alternative. Please join us for *Shabbat* morning minyan at 8:30 AM, grab a nosh in between, and then choose a great learning path to set the tone for your *Shabbat*!

We all have our favorite Bible stories: Adam and Eve, Noah and the flood, Jonah and the whale are three examples. We go through life remembering these biblical passages as stories for children but as not having as much relevance for adults. The fact is that these Biblical stories contain important insights into human nature that can and will inspire much discussion.

Each session of this class will stand alone, so participants are free to attend all or some sessions. No prior knowledge is needed. The only requirements are a desire to learn and an open mind.

Saturday mornings – Oct. 18th, Nov. 1st, 15th, and 22nd, 9:00–10:00 AM

LEARNING CONTINUED

TZION: AN IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF ISRAEL'S HISTORY



Temple Beth Shalom is proud to sponsor an outstanding, in-depth learning experience that focuses upon the most essential historical and social elements of Israel's history. What led early Zionist thinkers to consider the creation of a Jewish state? What is Jewish about Zionism? What were the events, moments, and circumstances that led to the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Is it possible to better understand the circumstances of today by looking to Israel's past?

This is a two-year program. However, participants may enroll in only one year should they choose to do so.

Mondays, beginning October 20th throughout 2014-2015, 7:00–9:00 PM

ENROLL: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0388)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Rabbi Perlman (jperlman@tbsneedham.org)

CONSIDERING ISRAEL TODAY AND TOMORROW



Robert Leikind is a veteran Jewish activist and leader, who serves as Director of the AJC's Boston office. Throughout his career he has worked to enhance and protect the well-being and the rights of Jews and other communities. Under Rob's leadership, AJC Boston has become one of the most respected contributors to AJC's highly regarded global campaign to defend the interests of the Jewish people, secure fundamental rights of other vulnerable peoples and defend the right of Israel to live in peace and with security. In the course of his work, he has been a frequent contributor to television, radio, social and print media on topics ranging from Israel and anti-Semitism to interfaith relations and civil rights. Rob was a leading Jewish community voice during this summer's campaign in Gaza. He will share his insights on Israel's current direction during difficult times.

Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 7:00–9:00 PM

REGISTER: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0388)

PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS



Energetic and memorable conversations lead to greater understanding of your vital role as parent. Explore core values (*ikkarim*) that can strengthen your family. Learn with expert instructors who understand your concerns as a parent. Enjoy rich conversations with other parents on topics that matter

For Parents with Children Ages 0-3: Thursdays, 9:30-11 AM. Includes free babysitting.
For Parents with Children Ages 0-10: Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM

Ages 0-10. Starts Wednesday, October 22 - 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Ages 0-3. Starts Thursday, October 23 - 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Dawn Ellis & Liz Berkman (bbb@tbsneedham.org)

REGISTER: <http://www.hebrewcollege.edu/parenting>

THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL IN A NUTSHELL FALL "SPARKS OF INSIGHT" SERIES



A Four Session Journey from Biblical Times to the Present

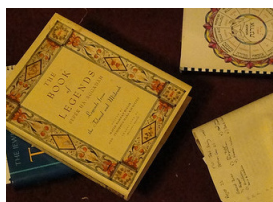
In December, 70 travelers from the TBS community will be journeying to Israel with Rabbi Jay and Emily and educators from our learning team. During their travels they will explore sites that span Israel's 3,000 year history. This course will chronologically cover that journey across time – bringing to light and life the main issues of both the Biblical and political landscape. While this course is intended to deepen the experience of our TBS Israel travelers, all are welcome! (If you are considering a much deeper study of Israel's history, please see information about the *Tzion* course.)

Tuesdays, 7:30 PM–9:00 PM, Oct. 28th, Nov. 4th, 18th, and Dec. 2nd

TEACHER: Rabbi Jay Perlman

REGISTER: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0388,

"THE BIBLE JOURNEY" A SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION TO ILLUMINE OUR LIVES



TBS is fortunate to have Rabbi Ullman as part of TBS's Adult Learning community. He is an outstanding teacher of Torah who travels throughout New England and the world teaching Torah as a spiritual path. Founder of the School for Jewish Studies, Rabbi Ullman uses Jewish wisdom to help people discover the sacred aspects of their daily lives and how to unite the breath of life that resides within them with the wind-spirit of God that moves through all creation. He also leads adult hiking/study trips to Israel, the Alps, the Canadian Rockies, and St. John.

Thursdays, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM: Oct. 23rd, Nov. 6th, 20th, Dec. 4th, 11th, 18th, Jan. 8th, 15th, Feb. 12th, 26th, Mar. 5th, 26th, Apr. 9th, and 16th

TEACHER: Rabbi Alan Ullman

REGISTER: Deb Hecht (dhecht@tbsneedham.org or 781-444-0388)

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

ABOUT SUKKOT

Sukkot is one of the three Biblically-mandated festivals on which our ancestors were commanded to make a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem.

The Hebrew word *sukkōt* is the plural of *sukkah*, which means "booth" or "tabernacle." These were the mobile dwellings in which our ancestors lived and which many of us build and spend time in at this time of year.

In addition to the *sukkah*, many people make use of a *lulav* (a collection of branches from various types of plants and trees) and an *etrog* (a lemon-like citron) to more firmly connect *Sukkot* to the harvest season.



ABOUT SIMCHAT TORAH

Simchat Torah means "Rejoicing of the Torah." It marks the day when we traditionally finish the cycles of reading the Five Books of Moses and start over again.

Simchat Torah is traditionally the only time when the *Torah* is read at night.

Many congregations take all of their *Torah* scrolls out and dance around the sanctuary with them.

Many Reform congregations also mark *Simchat Torah* with a Consecration service at which students are officially launched into their Jewish education.



YOM KIPPUR BONE MARROW DRIVE

Saturday, October 4, 8:30 AM-1:30 PM

Swab a Cheek, Be Inscribed for Life

Our congregation has partnered with Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism to bring an exciting and unique opportunity to help save lives through a donor recruitment drive to be held on Yom Kippur at The Rashi School in Dedham, MA, from 8:30 AM-1:30 PM.

Potential bone marrow donors will be entered into the national bone marrow registry and will then be eligible until their 61st birthday to be a donor for someone suffering from a life-threatening blood disease and help save their life.

Registration is simple. All it requires is a quick cheek swab and completion of a short consent form. Potential donors must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and in general good health.

The only way you will ever know if you can help save a life is by taking the first step and getting tested. The entire process takes less than 10 minutes!

For more information and to volunteer, contact Judy Weinberg (781-444-4897 or judithfweinberg@gmail.com) or visit <http://www.yomkippurproject.org> for more information.

From the Clergy (continued from page 3)

I hope that, like our ancestors, your heart will be moved to offer your own gifts to this endeavor. If we all share in this effort together, we can build a home where our aspirations become realities, where our community of relationships of meaning can increase and deepen...a place where God can, perhaps, be felt to dwell among us. *Ken Yehi Ratzon* – May it be God's will...and ours as well.

Marsha Moller Sisterhood President

As an experienced educator who has worked in the Boston public school system for over a decade, Marsha Moller knows how to engage and support people in her community. As president of Sisterhood, she brings these skills and talents (and a host of others) to engage and support people at TBS and to encourage them to reach out to others as well.



Ed, Marsha, and Sam

Before coming to teaching, Marsha worked in a family business (alongside fellow TBS member Richard Marson, who is her father), which instilled in her a devotion to family and an eagerness to work with those she cares for to help something grow. This too imbues her work with Sisterhood and elsewhere in her life as well.

Speaking of family, Marsha's husband Ed has also been a leader at TBS, serving as treasurer of the Brotherhood and the Temple. Both have also served on various boards for such organizations as Combined Jewish Philanthropies, the JCC of Greater Boston, and the *Rashi* School. Marsha and Ed's son Sam is a *Rashi* graduate who has also served as a song leader for the past two summers at Eisner Camp.

What does being Jewish mean to you?

Being Jewish is bi-directional. By that, I mean it is the intangible and tangible things that enter my life as a Jew that nourish and enrich me. It is also the things that I am obligated to do as a Jew; the *mitzvot* that we are to perform.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday?

My favorite Jewish holiday is *Rosh Hashanah*. It is an exciting time that meshes well with our secular life, as it is the start of the new year and the school year. It is a time when I get to reconnect with friends who have been away for the summer. The lead up to *Rosh Hashanah* and the actual holiday in some ways gives me permission to take the time to reflect.

What is your fondest memory involving Jewish life?

In 1987, I made a trip to the former Soviet Union with other Jews from Boston, as part of a Combined Jewish Philanthropies mission to meet with *Refusniks*. It was an amazing trip, which culminated in a visit to

Israel. I remember going to the *Kotel* immediately upon my arrival in Israel. It was late at night and there was a light snow falling! It was a very powerful and emotional experience to have left a very repressed society and to arrive in the land of Israel, to be able to touch the wall and to be able to pray freely and to not fear being a Jew.

On a family level, very fond memories involving Jewish life were visiting Israel with my husband Ed in 1990 and then a family trip with our son Sam in 2006. On that trip, we found the perfect *tallit* in Safed for Sam, one that he has physically and spiritually grown into over the years.

What brought you to TBS?

When we moved to Needham, there was no question which temple we would join. My aunt and uncle - Vivian and Richard Marson - had been TBS members for years and all of my cousins became *bnei mitzvot* there. There was never any notion of shopping around for a temple, as both Ed and I grew up as Reform Jews and we would join the congregation within our town.



CHAI LIGHTS (continued)

Why did you become involved in temple leadership?

The short answer is that someone asked me to join. I think that is often how things work. Someone knew that I had been a CPA and was working in my family business and I had some skills that the Temple needed at that time. Interestingly, I first became involved on the Board of Trustees and then as the assistant treasurer and then treasurer of the Temple before I became involved with Sisterhood. I was part of the Temple's overall leadership for over five years. Although it was an interesting experience, there was something missing. Our son attended *Rashi* from K-8th grade and so Ed and I did not have Temple friends, as our community was the *Rashi* families. Sisterhood provided me with the opportunity to be part of a smaller community within TBS and to deepen my connection.

When I get involved in something, I generally always become a leader of the organization. I guess it is just part of my wiring! My mother was a particular powerful role model for me in this area. She was the president of every Jewish organization she joined from her own Sisterhood to Women's Philanthropy of CJP. To a great extent, I have followed this same path.

How do you hope to contribute to our temple community?

As Sisterhood president, I hope to build upon the space created where women can have fun, make friends, develop leadership skills, deepen their involvement in temple life, while enriching their Jewish souls. It is a tall order, but we have really remarkable people of all ages involved with Sisterhood who create an atmosphere for women to learn and to flourish in their Jewish lives. Another passion of mine is philanthropy, and I hope that through Sisterhood, we can teach each other about our obligations as Jews to give *tzedakah* and the power that women can have through *tzedakah* to make the world a better place.

SPOTLIGHT



Sisterhood

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Shalom is a unique space for women to connect to the larger community. According to President Marsha Moller, Sisterhood "helps make a large place feel like home." Sisterhood encourages members to form friendships and build leadership skills through their frequent educational, social, and spiritual programs and initiatives. Drawing upon the strength of our relationships and our Reform Jewish values, Sisterhood engages in activities to benefit our congregation, the greater community and Israel. Among the highlights of the Sisterhood calendar are their upcoming Rummage event (October 19-20), "Girls, *Gelt* and Gimlets" Channukah party (December 11), Spirituality Retreat (January 23-25, 2015), and the Women's *Seder* (March 26). Sisterhood also hosts a luncheon for the local senior community and supports area campers and scholars.

As an affiliate of Women of Reform Judaism, which represents over 65,000 Reform Jewish women worldwide, Sisterhood is also a means by which TBS members can engage and affect the Jewish world outside of our temple doors and the world at large as well. As Sisterhood is also a multi-generational group, the diversity enhances the strength and interest level in the group.

"Joining is easy," Moller says, noting that anyone interested can contact Membership Vice Presidents, Marcy Hirschen (hirschen@verizon.net) and Magda Schmalz (mkschmalz@yahoo.com). "All you have to do is say 'Yes!'"



CONTRIBUTIONS

The Minimum donation for contributions in the *Scroll* is \$18.00.
"At birthdays, anniversaries, *yahrzeits*, etc., support your Temple Fund."

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IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Jay's officiating with warmth, wisdom, & guidance following the passing of our mother/grandmother, Rita Feinstein

Rabbi Perlman for all his support & guidance as Alex became a *Bar Mitzvah*

Jerry Bruder
Rabbi Perlman's care & support
Rabbi Perlman for his warm & heartfelt presence at my father's funeral

Rabbi Perlman for his help & kind words during my mother's service

Rabbi Perlman's care & support & a beautiful service for Haya Linde
The support & blessing the TBS Community brings

Rabbi Jay for making Ben's *Bar Mitzvah* a stop along his Jewish Journey & not a destination

IN HONOR OF

Liana Perlman's participation in *Godspell*

David Feldman's special birthday
Liana Perlman's birthday

IN MEMORY OF

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Rabbi Lenke for all her support & guidance as Alex became a *Bar Mitzvah*

Rabbi Lenke for her approach & demeanor in preparing Ben so well for his *Bar Mitzvah*

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Maurice Cutler
Nettie Canal

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Cantor Jonas for all her support & guidance as Alex became a *Bar Mitzvah*

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IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Perlman, Wendy Shulman & *Chesed* for all their kindness & support towards Lucille Shore
Chuck Levin for leading the beautiful Memorial service in memory of Maurice Cutler

Louis Grossman for his kindness & support during our sadness
Temple Beth Shalom for all the support offered by the staff & arms of our wonderful Temple family
Matt & Emily Robinson's many acts of kindness

IN MEMORY OF

Howard Oshry
Maurice Cutler
Rita Feinstein
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The *Bat Mitzvah* of Cindi Elias on 09/06/14

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 David Feldman on his "special" birthday
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 Sabrina Shemesh for working with Ben so beautifully in preparation for his becoming a *Bar Mitzvah*

Lisa, Jeff, Josh & Ben Shapiro
 Sandy, Leandro & Nate for all the logistical support to make Ben's *Bar Mitzvah* day run so smoothly

Lisa, Jeff, Josh & Ben Shapiro
 Emily Perlman for adding her voice to make Ben's *Bar Mitzvah* so warm & meaningful

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Stephen Staum for his leadership & support at the *minyán* service following the passing of our mother/grandmother, Rita Feinstein

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YIZKOR ELOHIM

We extend our sympathy to...

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Steven and Lori Peljovich, Maya, Matthew and Sam on the passing of their father and grandfather, Bernard Peljovich

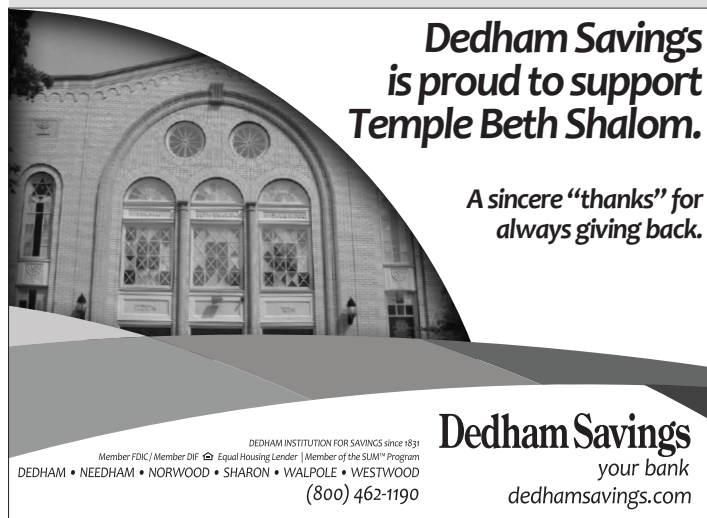
Lisa and Joshua Teeter, Gabrielle and David on the passing of their father and grandfather, Charles Keone

Gerry Zablatzky, David, Marc and Jeff on the passing of their husband and father, Seymour Zablatzky

Alice Fastov on the passing of her brother, Robert S. Fastov

Sarah and James Fleckner, Joshua, Hannah and Rachel on the passing of their grandmother and great-grandmother, Betty Schiff

Stuart Schneller, Jeffrey and Amie Schneller on the passing of their mother-in-law and great-aunt, Freda Driks



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OCTOBER 10

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Robert Liner
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Joseph Reisner
Lester Gerstley Rosskam
Herman Rubin
Alan Silverman
Jennie Stocklan
Myron Thurman
Jacob Zalman Ullian
Esther Weinstein

OCTOBER 17

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Marilyn Baker
Sumner Brunswick
Sheila Helen Cohen

George E. Cotsonas
Zelda Cutler
Miriam Erdos
Leonard S. Feuer
Maurice Fisher
Anna Francer
Lorraine Granek
Edith Levy
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William Benjamin Perlin

OCTOBER 24

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Estelle Schnall
Celia Stauf
Daniel Steckler
Fannie Williams
David Wrobel
Marilyn Alpert
Sol Alter
Lillian Appelton
Harold Brick
Marianne Brinz
Leonora Davidson
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Sally Goodman
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Irving Hentoff
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Sylvia Karol
Neal David Kertzman
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Stephen Rauch
Henry Sadow

Abraham Seri
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Barbara Stein
Selma Storch
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Anne Weiss
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OCTOBER 31

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Morris Canal
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Sukkot Fun for Kids

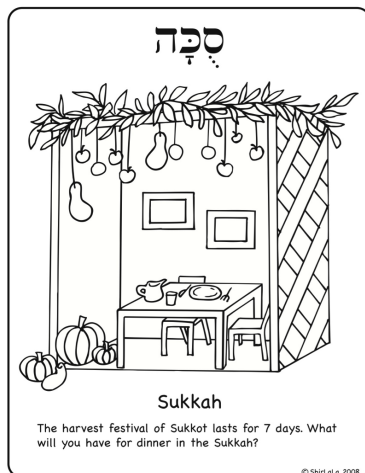
Sukkot begins at sundown on Wednesday, October 8. We are lucky to have two *sukkot* (plural of *sukkah*) at TBS for you to visit during the seven-day holiday! We hope you will come to our *Sukkot* Block Party on October 13 for fun *Sukkot* activities. There are also lots of *Sukkot* activities you can do at home.

Create an Edible Sukkah!

The recipe below is healthy and delicious, but if you're feeling like a dessert *sukkah*, you can substitute graham crackers, peanut butter or frosting, and pretzel sticks or licorice to add extra sweetness to the holiday.

You will Need:

- crackers (stone ground wheat crackers work well)
- cream cheese (or use peanut butter or soy butter)
- carrot sticks (you can also use green beans)
- cherry tomatoes



Instructions:

1. With one cracker lying flat on a table, **spread** thin strip of cream cheese onto the two opposite sides of the cracker.
2. **Stand** a cracker in the cream cheese at a perpendicular angle (90 degrees) to create the walls. Repeat with another cracker.
3. **Stand** *sukkah* upright: you now have three walls.
4. **Create** the roof or *s'chach* with carrot sticks (or green beans).
5. **Decorate** your *sukkah* with cherry tomatoes. Eat and enjoy!

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