

Monthly Bulletin

April 2019 Adar II/Nisan 5779

Passover Seder

Saturday, April 20 at 5 PM

FROM THE RABBI

This is a version of an op-ed I wrote for the *Jewish Journal*. It is a message connected to Purim, but it also applies to the Passover story, and the evil of Pharaoh and what it means to defeat this kind of evil in our own time. I wish you all a meaning-filled Passover.

It was Shabbat Zachor, the Sabbath of Remembrance, and people from many faiths gathered on the Lynn Common. Muslims, Jews, Protestants, Catholics, Unitarians, Quakers, and Buddhists were there, not only to condemn the massacre of Muslims in New Zealand, but also to reaffirm our common bonds of love and friendship. The event was coorganized by the City of Lynn and The Islamic Society of the North Shore, but the faith leaders in attendance were well-known to one another through their work with the Manna Project, The Salem Multi-faith Festival, the Essex County Community Organization (ECCO) and the Beverly Multi-faith Coalition. Though our goal was unity, each spiritual leader who spoke brought a unique perspective to the event.

Not all of the North Shore Rabbis were able to be present, but most of those who were shared reflections and prayers. Rabbi David Cohen-Henriquez of Marblehead's Temple Sinai said that we didn't come to the vigil because "they stood with us after Pittsburgh" - there is no "us" and "them," there is only "we". Rabbi David Meyer from Temple Emanu El in Marblehead shared a Talmudic disagreement about when the night has ended and it is time to say the morning Shema. One answer: When there is light enough to recognize the face of your neighbor. Rabbi Yossi Lipsker of Chabad Lubavitch of the North Shore reflected on why Jewish people say to mourners, "HaMakom yinachem etchem" - "May The Place comfort you." HaMakom, one of many names of God, is used in this instance because "place" is expansive, and can stretch to encompass the grief of all who mourn.

Shabbat Zachor, the Sabbath of Memory falls before Purim, so we read a passage from Deuteronomy that tells us to remember what Amalek did to the Israelites after the Exodus from Egypt. The Amalekites attacked the Israelite stragglers - the weak, the sick, the elderly, the women carrying children. This is a particular kind of evil that we must remember, but also blot out. Amalek is Haman in the Book of Esther and Hitler in the 20th century, and, indeed, the evil that Jews have faced generation after generation. This is a similar kind of evil represented by Pharaoh in the Passover story as he enslaved and worked to break the bodies and spirits of our ancestors. It is an evil we must never forget,

and work to destroy. Sometimes it targets Jews, sometimes others. White nationalism is one force of this evil in our world. In New Zealand, it manifested itself as Islamophobia, which is the same white supremacy underlying the anti-Semitic attack at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, the racist murders at an African American church in Charleston, and countless other instances of violence around the world.

On Shabbat morning our Temple B'nai Abraham community studied a commentary by Rabbi Kalonymous Shapira, "The Rabbi of the Warsaw Ghetto", who taught Torah in the midst of unspeakable horror of the Holocaust, knowing that they would all likely die. He asked, "How are we today to fulfill the commandment of destroying Amalek?" He made a play on words to say that Amalek is the power that "cools off" the Children of Israel in their love for God, as it says, "asher korchah baderech" - they "cooled you off," "on the way," meaning on the way of God. Amalek cooled the faith of the Children of Israel. According to this reading, the Rebbe taught, the way in which we can destroy Amalek is by overcoming any weakening of faith that we have when confronted with evil. If we refuse to be "cooled off" in our ardor for God, we succeed in destroying Amalek inwardly, in circumstances in which we cannot rise up against Amalek outwardly.

Let us reflect on what this teaching means in our time, when we confront an evil that can leave us feeling paralyzed, bereft of faith and hope, wanting to retreat into our own communities or into our own homes. Thankfully, we know that we are not facing certain death like the Jews of the Warsaw Ghetto; we can rise up outwardly in ways that can make our communities safer and stronger.

Can we blot out Amalek by drawing on our faith, our hope, our idealism to inspire us to create the world we want for ourselves, our neighbors, and our children? This vigil in Lynn is a reminder that the answer is yes. The destruction of Amalek can be achieved when people of different faiths, and different opinions, stand together. The destruction of Amalek can be achieved when we see each other's faces, when we stretch ourselves to feel the pain of the "other." The destruction of Amalek can be achieved through courage, love, and friendship.

In this season when we celebrate our liberation from slavery, may we be blessed with continued hope and faith, with courage and strength, with safety and peace.

Rabbi Alison Adler

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I enter this time of renewal, an awakening from a long cold winter and enjoy the warmth and sunshine of spring, I stop to think about the warmth and hope, and fun this community has brought to our lives.

Without a doubt, Judaism's greatest invention is the Shiva Minion. When my mother Janet passed away last month the outpouring of support from the TBA family was overwhelming. The shiva minion, as Rabbi Adler observes, is a big "group hug" from the community. I will eventually get around to thanking everyone individually for your support and contributions to TBA in memory of my mother but in the meantime, I would like to thank everyone who helped my family and me get through this especially difficult time.

Members of the board and TBA teachers recently attended ALICE active shooter training from Beverly Police. I've written in a prior article about our Security Committee, being chaired by Bernie Der, and the actions TBA is taking to ensure the safety of everyone who enters our building. ALICE training, a version of which the police conduct for the schools, forces us to think about and prepare for the

unthinkable. On Sunday, we conducted an active shooter drill for our Religious School. On one hand, I am horrified to think about this scenario playing out at TBA. On the other hand, I am thankful that we are taking active steps to protect ourselves for this worst-case scenario.

I was looking at the "master schedule" of events in Deb Schutzman's office. I did a back-of-the-napkin calculation and was surprised to see that we will have over 160 educational and social events at TBA in 2019!

The board and committees are preparing for all the yearend activities including nominating people for the board of directors and executive committee, coming up with the 2019-2020 budget, and preparing for the annual congregational meeting to be held on Sunday June 2.

Looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming social, community, and spiritual events!

Ken Hartman President, Temple B'nai Abraham

CELEBRATING A YEAR of GRATITUDE - TBA ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

We all have reasons to be grateful: family, friends, health, special milestones, to name a few.

We live in a world filled with hate, fear and dysfunction. Judaism teaches us through observance and prayer to stop and take notice of the blessings in our lives. We are asking you to pause, and reflect on what you are grateful for.

This year, for our raising event, we have chosen to focus on creating a special book where you can reserve space for your pictures or words that reflect your sentiments. Purchase ad space in this special book and share what you are grateful for with our community. This book, filled with our wonderful sentiments, will be distributed to those who contributed to it at our Congregational Meeting on June 2 where we will celebrate together with a *light* champagne brunch.

This book represents our only major fundraiser this year. Watch for details about how you can contribute!

SCHOOL NEWS

We are in the final stretch of Religious School year. With only 5 Thursdays and 3 Sundays left, there is still a lot going on. In preparation for Passover, on **Sunday April 7**, we will have our annual beloved **Chocolate Seder**. On **Sunday, April 28**, we move outside for our **Earth Day celebration and Pe'ah Garden** planting. **May 5**, our last Sunday of the year, we celebrate **Yom Haatzmaut**, Israel's Independence Day and feast on Israeli food, music and culture. Finally, **Friday night May 10 at 6:00 PM** we come together to celebrate the end of the year with a Religious school led service, **7th grade graduation** and total school moving up ceremony.

Thank you for all your support throughout the school year. We are blessed to have a true partnership with our staff and TBA families (parents and grandparents). You are what makes TBA special!

SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood Service

Friday, April 5, 2019 at 7 PM

Songs, prayers, and poems, this **Kabbalat Shabbat** has it all! The evening service will be followed by a delicious oneg. All are invited. Volunteer to read a part in Hebrew or in English, help plan and set-up for this event, or just sit back and enjoy the Shabbat. Come on your own or with a friend, sister, daughter, mother, or aunt! Contact Erin at the Temple office: 978-927-3211, ext. 101or email office@tbabeverly.org to RSVP and let us know how you would like to participate.

This annual event is hosted by the TBA Sisterhood.

Sisterhood Book Club

Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 PM. We will be discussing *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish. All are welcome to join us. Location to be determined



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Presents the Annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust Commemoration

Wednesday, May 1, 7-9:00 PM at J. Henry Higgins Middle School 85 Perkins Street Peabody, MA 01960

The Yom HaShoah Community Holocaust Commemoration will include two keynote talks from Holocaust survivor Janet Applefield and Australia-based photographer Richard Wiesel. Local veterans from the 26th Infantry Division will open the program with the Posting of the Colors.

During the ceremony, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will honor the Holocaust survivors, families of late survivors, and recognize their Holocaust Legacy Partners who represent them in classrooms and elsewhere.

Children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors will join the Holocaust survivors for the traditional Generations Candle-Lighting Ceremony.

Select students from regional schools will be presented with the *Sonia Schreiber Weitz Upstander Award*. The Salem State University Community Chorus will perform under the direction of Susan Shane. Cantor Alty Weinreb, of Congregation Shirat Hayam, Swampscott, will recite special memorial prayers. The event is free and open to the public.

Holding Hands While We Listen to Each Other...

Continuing Dialogue About Israel, and Issues That Can Divide Us.

Sunday, April 28, and May 19

In the fall we brought in a facilitator from the national organization "Resetting the Table" to lead a conversation about Israel. Like the larger Jewish community, we have a range of views on Israeli policies, and Israelis and Palestinians, and it can be an emotional, heated conversation. Resetting the Table's help's Jewish communities have these conversations in ways that help us hear each other, even when we disagree. Forty-two people participated in that program, and many said they wanted a class to give more background and history and a chance to use their dialogue skills. We hope you can join us for two upcoming programs (best if you can make both, but if only one works we will see if there is room).

April 28: Where Do We Go From Here? Five Jewish-Israeli Views, 9:30-12:30

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is in large part a conflict over who may exercise rights and sovereignty over the same strip of land, resources, and holy sites. This session introduces students to central border disputes and how different conceptions of land, security, and fairness inform divergent Jewish-Israeli visions for management of or resolutions to the conflict.

May 19: Town Square, 10:00-12:00

A Town Square offers a customized forum for a community to engage in courageous conversation across divides in facilitated, small group discussion. Highly trained facilitators support participants to surface what matters most and remain receptive and connected even while directly addressing charged differences. Common Israel-related topics include: Roles and Responsibilities of US Jews and Boundaries of Legitimate and Illegitimate Public Criticism.

Contact the office to sign up. Contact any of the working group members or Rabbi Alison Adler with questions. The program is free, and first come-first served. Spaces are limited. Costs covered by a grant from Combined Jewish Philanthropies.

Healing Service

Sunday, April 7, 4:00 PM

Music, prayer, reflection, community.

Open to all who are in need of healing of body and soul. For yourself, or for people you care about. Free childcare is available but you must let us know if you need it so we can plan accordingly – Planning team: Jerry Schwartz, Deborah Noah, Deb Willwerth, Nicole Levy, Tom Cheatham, Marcy Yellin contact Erin office@tbabeverly.org.

Knit Club

Wednesday April 17, 7 to 9 PM, at the home of Linda Goodspeed: 5 Marjorie Way Beverly (617)366-9029

Bring your needles or craft!



PASSOVER SEDER AT TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

Join us for a delicious four-course brisket dinner (or a four-course vegetarian option) catered by Larry Levine's and a meaningful, family-friendly Passover Seder led by Rabbi Alison Adler.

Registration form must be completed and mailed/delivered to the TBA Office by Thursday, April 11 Your Name:
Please indicate the number of people attending according to their age:
number of adults attending (\$40 each)
number of children ages 0 - 5 attending (Free)
number of children ages 6 - 12 attending (\$10 each)
number of young adults ages 13 - 22 attending (\$18 each)
financial assistance needed to attend this event
Please indicate your dinner choices here:
number of brisket dinners
number of vegetarian dinners
number of children's dinners (chicken fingers)
please check here if you will need a ride to this event
Enclose check payable to TBA Sisterhood
For more information contact Erin: TBA office at: 978-927-3211 ext. 101 or email: office@tbabeverly.org
TBA Passover Seder - It takes a village!
Help is needed Thursday, April 18 thru Sunday, April 21
If you have any time to volunteer, please contact: Bonnie Goldsmith at:
bgoldsmith@emersonhosp.org, 508-523-1099 or Donna Pierce at: donna.pierce5@gmail.com, 978-524-0298. Even an hour or two will make a difference and be helpful. Thank you!
Authorization To Sell Hametz
in the year 5779/2019
If possible, all hametz—food not acceptable during Passover, or materials containing such unacceptable food—should be destroyed or given away before the holiday begins. Should this be impossible, the hamets may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to someone not Jewish until the holiday ends. Please complete the form below and return it to the TBA office by noon on Thursday, April 18.
Know all people by these presents: That I, the undersigned, do hereby make and appoint Rabbi Alison Adler my true and lawful representative to act in my place and stead, for me and in my name and in my
behalf, to sell all hametz owned and possessed by me, knowingly or unknowingly, as stated in the Torah
and defined by the sages of Israel. Rabbi Adler has the full authority and power to sell said hametz and to
lease said place or places wherein said <i>hametz</i> may be found, upon such terms and conditions as
discretion dictates.
Authorization to Sell Hametz in the year 5779/2019

And to this I hereby affix my signature on this _____ day of ____ in the year 2019.

Town _____State ____

Signature ______Address _____

Telephone ______

The Congregation is Grateful for the Following Donations **CHILDREN'S CHOIR FUND**

Ruth Helman to Susan Grant and Family, sorry to hear of the loss of your mother and grandmother

Ruth Helman to Fran Baker, best wishes for a very speedy recovery

GARELICK/BLACK FUND

Sheila & David Katz to Nancy Black, wishing you a speedy and complete recovery

GENERAL FUND

Fran Baker to TBA, heartfelt thanks to the wonderful women with Bikur Cholim who provided Jordy & I with delicious meals after my recent surgery and accident

Phyllis & Bob Freedman to Donna Pierce, have a speedy recovery

Phyllis & Bob Freedman, to Ken Hartman in memory of your mother

Judy & Len Allen to Fran Baker, wishing you a speedy

Robert Freedman to Fran Baker, refuah shlema

Linda & Dan Magalnick to Susan Grant and Family, in memory of your mother, Phyllis Sklover

Linda & Dan Magalnick to Fran Baker, wishing you a speedy recovery

Susan & Michael Grant, from Patricia Sklover in memory of Phyllis Sklover

Paula & Alan Ivey to Marshall Sterman, sympathy of the loss of your wife

Nathalie Glovsky to the Freedberg Family in memory of **Charlotte Freedberg**

Bonnie & Arnie Goldsmith, to Fran Baker, Best wishes for a speedy recovery

Leo Berman to Abe Kaufman, Happy Birthday, many, many more!

Leo Berman to Fran Baker, get well soon. We miss you! Linda & Fred Feldman to Fran Baker, wishing you a speedy recovery

Leo Berman to Ken Hartman, sorry for your loss Leo Berman to Nancy Black, have a speedy recovery Leo Berman to Marshall Sterman, sorry for your loss Bonnie & Arnie Goldsmith to Donna Pierce, wishing you a swift and speedy recovery

Eli & Dina Davidyan to Marshall Sterman, in memory of your wife

Eli & Dina Davidyan to Susan Grant, in memory of your mother

Eli & Dina Davidyan to Ken Hartman, in memory of your

Cindy Lann to Ken Hartman, in memory of your mother House Works to Ken Hartman in memory of Janet Hartman BMR Management Group to Ken & Fred Hartman in memory of your mother

Annette Kossover to Arnie Goldsmith, Happy milestone birthday! Wishing you much happiness!

Annette Kossover to Ken Hartman, my deepest condolences

KITCHEN FUND

Nancy & Joel Black to Donna Pierce, wishing you a speedy recovery

Susan Wolper to Arnie Goldsmith, looking good – 70 agrees with you! Happy Birthday

SAM & EVE WEINBERG FUND

Paul Weinberg to Fran Baker, refuah shelma- wishing you a speedy recovery

Robert Freedman to Lily Schultz, condolences on the passing of your mother, Judith Vaughan

Paul Weinberg to Donna Pierce, wishing you a speedy recovery

Paul Weinberg to Ken Hartman, Condolences on the loss of your mother

Susan & Allison Wolper to Paul Weinberg, in loving memory of your folks, our good friends, we miss them

STEPHEN HELMAN MONDAY NIGHT SUPPER FUND

Alan & Paula Ivey to Fran Baker, wishing you a speedy recovery

Michael & Karen Stearn to Fran Baker, get well soon

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Doris Jacober to Rabbi Adler in memory of Gary Jacober Sheila & David Katz to Fran Baker, wishing you a complete and speedy recovery

Sheila & David Katz to Eileen Edelstein, wishing you a complete and speedy recovery

Susan Wolper to Ken, Peg, Ali, & Becca Hartman, may mom and grandmother's special memories be with you

James Cohen to Ken Hartman & family in memory of his mother

Zellie & Harold Kaplan to Susan and Michael Grant in memory of Phylliss Sklover

Arnie & Bonnie Goldsmith to Ken Hartman, deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother

Fran & Jordy Baker to Susan Grant, sending you our deepest sympathy on the loss of your mother, Phyllis Skolver

Fran & Jordy Baker to Ken Hartman, deepest sympathy for the recent loss of your mother, Janet Hartman

Fran & Jordy Baker to Nancy Black, thinking of you & sending you get well wishes

Fran & Jordy Baker to Donna Pierce, thinking of you and sending you get well wishes

YAHRZEIT FUND

Gerald Ostrer in memory of Edith Ostrer Mark Golderg in memory of Sarah Goldberg Bette Siegel in memory of Ethel Landsky Betsy Visnick in memory of Molly Green Nancy Tartakoff in memory of Ruth Tartakoff Nancy Tartakoff in memory of Alexander Tartakoff Melissa Bornstein in memory of Judy Malin Harvey Maibor in memory of Jason Maibor Adrienne Rosenblatt in memory of Eleanor Udis



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Monday Night Supper



Adult and youth volunteers from Temple B'nai Abraham regularly prepare and serve dinner at First Baptist Church on Cabot Street, Beverly.

Please join us on the third Monday of the month.

Our next Monday Night supper date is:

Monday, April 15

We need help in the church kitchen and in the dining room anytime from 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Visit our Facebook page or watch for our weekly email with information updates.

Service Hours at Temple B'nai Abraham:

Weekdays: Mondays and Thursdays 6:55 AM

Shabbat: Friday 7:00 PM and

Saturdays 9:00 AM

Sunday: 9 AM **Temple Office Hours:**

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Upcoming Events at TBA

Sisterhood Service

Friday, April 5, 7 PM

Healing Service

Sunday, April 7, 4 PM

Knit Club

Wednesday, April 17, 7-9 PM

Passover Seder/RSVP by Thursday April 11

Saturday, April 20, 5 PM

Sell Hametz return form

Thursday, April 18, noon

Israel Conversation: Where Do We Go from Here?

Sunday, April 28, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sisterhood Book Club

Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 PM

Yom Ha Shoah Commemoration/Higgins Middle School Peabody

Wednesday, May 1, 7-9 PM Israel Conversation: Town Square Sunday, May 19, 10 AM - 12 PM

Congregation Meeting

Sunday, June 2

If you or someone you know has been sick, in the hospital, or needs some comfort, please contact Rabbi Adler: 978-927-3211 or

rabbi.adler@tbabeverly.org