



From the Rabbi

THE GREATEST MITZVAH

Over these past weeks we have been called to examine the state of our spiritual, moral, and religious lives. The frame I used to help us do that on the High Holidays was “walking” – metaphorically and physically. How do we walk through the world as Jews? As a Jewish community? During times of increased fear? What does it mean to walk before God, with God, and after God – all expressions used in our sacred texts?

Here is one of the texts I shared:

What does the text (in Deuteronomy) mean: “to walk in God’s ways?” Is it possible for a human being to walk after the Divine presence?...[the meaning is] to walk after the attributes of the Holy Blessed One. God clothes the naked...so do you also clothe the naked. The Holy Blessed One visited the sick... so do you also visit the sick. The Holy Blessed One comforted mourners...so do you also comfort mourners. *The Holy Blessed One buried the dead...so do you also bury the dead.*

We walk in God’s ways by actions of lovingkindness, and by supporting each other, including in times of loss. Wherever Jews have lived, there has been the *hevra kadisha*, the Jewish Burial Society; literally, the “sacred gathering.” It is an organization of caring men and women who lovingly tend to the needs of the deceased. Members of the *hevra kadisha* attend to the practice of *taharah* – the ritual washing of the body prior to burial, as well as the cloaking of the departed in the traditional burial garments, *tachrichim*, and the placing of the departed in the simple casket. These rites are considered to be acts of pure kindness. Indeed there is no greater *mitzvah* in Jewish life than being part of a *hevra kadisha*.

Sadly, the availability of a *hevra kadisha* has become a problem on the North Shore, especially for those families who do not identify as Orthodox. Families who desire for their dear ones the traditional rites, including *taharah*, are left without recourse aside from sending

the corpse into Brookline or other locations. The principal of “*k’vod ha-met*” – respect for the departed -- must be sacrificed in order to adhere to our traditional rites.

Our North Shore Rabbis, together with Jewish funeral directors in our area, have been meeting in order to address the gaping absence of a local *hevra kadisha*. In addition, those leading the effort have engaged in discussions with Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) and the Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston (CHK). CHK is an independent, non-denominational organization of individuals, synagogues and other Jewish institutions committed to making the full range of burial rituals accessible and available to the entire Jewish community. It is a model that we are looking to emulate here on the North Shore. (See www.hevrakadisha.org for more information.)

This is where **YOU** come in, for creating and participating as a *hevra kadisha* is a voluntary expression of lovingkindness. If you may be interested in learning about, perhaps then being trained in the various rituals and procedures that have been part of Jewish life and death for millennia, our North Shore Jewish community will gather for an **informational session on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH at 7:30pm at Temple B’nai Abraham in Beverly**. Rabbis, funeral directors, and representatives of the CHK will be there to help all learn what might be involved in creating our own consortium of volunteers willing to share in this highest of all *mitzvot*.

There is no commitment to later participation in coming to this gathering – it is a chance to learn together, and see where we go from there. I hope to see you. Please contact me with any questions.

Rabbi Alison Adler

Are You Interested in an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class??

Maybe you never celebrated one, maybe you want a “do over” as a more meaningful experience. If so contact rabbi.adler@tbabeverly.org to find out more details. We hope to start a class in 2020!

From the President

This week marks the 1-year anniversary of the Tree of Life mass shooting that killed 11 and injured 7 people. This horrific event was the worst instance of what the ADL has reported as an alarming spike in antisemitism in America. Every one of us was deeply affected by this atrocity but none more than the members of the Tree of Life community.

The October 20 airing of CBS program *60 Minutes* had an excellent story on the surviving members and how the Pittsburgh faith community came together and built a strong bond among disparate religious institutions.

However, the story also showed how members of one Jewish community came away from the ordeal with very different opinions on how to respond.

The Tree of Life Synagogue is actually made up of three congregations sharing one building; two Conservative (one formerly Orthodox) and one Reconstructionist. Members interviewed for the story were asked similar questions and the fact that their answers varied so much would not surprise anyone who is a member of any synagogue.

One congregation decided to become active in the gun safety movement working to limit access to firearms like the ones used in the shooting. Another, however, said that gun control has no bearing on Jewish

worship, Jews' relationship with G-d, or their observance of Jewish practice.

Another disagreement was on the level of security required at the synagogue. Some members felt that increasing security was needed but wanted to keep the congregation open. One rabbi interviewed felt that every synagogue should follow the European model and hire an armed guard at all times.

The most moving part of the story was the overwhelming support from the Pittsburgh faith community (and across the country, actually). One of the stronger bonds was forged with the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh. The lay leader of the center spoke passionately at the healing service and even became emotional when responding to the *60 Minutes* reporter saying how an attack on Jews was an attack on all religious minorities. It is clear that members of both communities have developed an enduring connection that may not have come about if not for the shooting.

TBA has been blessed by not having to deal with something as unthinkable as the Pittsburgh shooting and G-d willing we never have to. But this story taught me a lot about supporting differences of opinion and the importance of keeping perspective on what is truly important.

Ken Hartman, President

High Holiday Bima Baskets and Break the Fast Donors

Thank you to the following people for their thoughtful donations for the Bima Baskets and the Break the Fast.

Robert Freedman
Paul & Jane Cohen
Susan Wolper
Deborah Willwerth
Lisa & Ben Fabry
Leo Berman
Bonnie & Arnold Goldsmith
Fred & Linda Feldman
Melody and Jack Kriteiman
Barbara & Joseph Younger

James & Wendy Cohen
Richard & Ilene Goldberg
Leon & Judy Allen
Michael & Karen Stearn
Arnold & Nancy Cowan
Erin Lipkowitz
Donna & Alan Pierce
Susie & Tom Cheatham
Linda & Sam Migdole
Lisa Horowitz & David Huth
Lauren & Tim Averill

Please excuse any omissions or errors

In the Shul

Sunday Morning Meditation Continues! Every Sunday from 7:30-8:15 am.

No experience necessary. An opportunity to sit in silence and begin the day with gratitude and quiet.

A replenishing gift to ourselves!

Look for an *Introduction to Jewish Meditation* class this Fall. We will discuss the ancient tradition in Judaism of meditation and how it deepens our prayer practice along with a contemporary understanding of mediation and how it contributes to our overall well-being. We will also practice basic meditation techniques.

Please contact Jerry Schwartz at 978-500-8769/978-468-6089 with any questions.

Cantor Siegel Genesis Class Continues!

Thursdays in the TBA Library, at 10 AM. Drop-ins and newbies are always welcome! Free and open to all!

Learn About the Greatest Mitzvah

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH at 7:30pm at Temple B'nai Abraham

North Shore Rabbis, funeral directors, and representatives of the Community Hevre Kadisha of Greater Boston will discuss what's involved in creating our own North Shore Hevre Kadisha - a group of volunteers performing acts of lovingkindness and our most sacred rites and rituals, by preparing the deceased for burial.

Contact Rabbi Alison for more information, or read her article in the bulletin.

Program on Jewish History of the North Shore

Join us on **Sunday December 15, 2019 at 10:00 AM** for an interesting program co-sponsored by TBA, the Sons of Jacob Cultural Enrichment Fund and the *Jewish Journal* entitled: "Preserving North Shore Jewish History: How to Browse and Research the Online Collection".

Stephanie Call, Associate Director of Archives and Education of the Jewish Heritage Center at the New England Historic and Genealogical Society of Boston will provide an overview of the North Shore Jewish history materials turned over to her organization by the former Jewish Heritage Center of the North Shore. They are professionally stored there, and are being scanned and digitized allowing for greater access online for this veritable treasure trove of irreplaceable historic materials documenting Jewish life on the north shore going back to the mid 19th century.

The program is free of charge and a light breakfast will be served.

Please **RSVP by November 20** to Erin at the Temple office: 978-927-3211 or email office@tbabeverly.org.

Game Night

Bring your favorite games and join the fun at **Game Night** at TBA.

Saturday, November 16 from 7 to 9 PM.

If you wish, bring your kosher snacks.

All Ages Welcome!



Sisterhood



Sisterhood Paid-Up Supper

Enjoy a free* **Ladies Night Out** at Sisterhood's second annual paid up membership supper on **Tuesday, November 19th at 6:15 PM.**

Visit with new friends and old and learn how to **make your holiday table sparkle** with Ron Messina and Mike Halle of our own Henry's Market.

*Free with your paid-up dues, life membership, or new membership.

Please RSVP to the TBA Office by November 12.

For more information contact Phyllis at phylbobfreeman@gmail.com or 978-828-2236.

First year dues are complimentary. Please contact us if finances are an obstacle to membership.

Save the Dates:

Ladies, Latkes, and Libations – Thursday, December 19, 7:00 PM at the home of Phyllis Freeman, 13 Holly Lane, Beverly (thank you, Phyllis!)

TBA Book Club – Thursday, December 5, 7:30 PM at the home of Paula Ivey. To RSVP and directions, contact Paula at pdcivey@gmail.com. We will be discussing *The Flight Portfolio* by Julie Orringer

Comedy Night – January 25, 2020, 8:00 PM, with a well-known NYC comedienne promises to be a fun-filled evening

Brotherhood

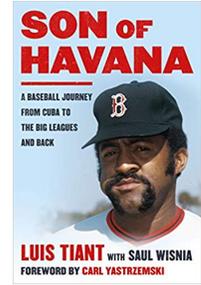
Brotherhood Sports Breakfast is Back!

Save the date- **Sunday November 24, 2019 at 10:00 AM** the TBA Brotherhood is bringing back another exciting sports breakfast featuring noted sports journalist and author Saul Wisnia (and a possible surprise guest) to discuss among other topics his recently published biography, *Son of Havana-A Baseball Journey to the Big Leagues and Back about the extraordinary life and career of our beloved Red Sox legend Luis Tiant.*

The breakfast is open to the entire north shore community.

The cost is \$18 for non-Brotherhood members. \$10 for members and children under 5 free.

Please **RSVP by November 20** to Erin at the Temple office: 978-927-3211 or email office@tbabeverly.org.



Parenting Through a Jewish Lens - SIGN UP NOW!

Free (generously sponsored by the Sam and Eve Weinberg Fund) for religious school parents – meetings to be held at Temple B’nai Abraham

Great opportunity to learn from both ancient and contemporary sources of wisdom that you are not alone in your parenting journey. Join other parents in your community for moderated discussions about topics that matter to you as a parent. Explore Jewish values that can enrich your family. Reflect on the joys and challenges of raising kids today. Find support, encouragement, and connection.

- ❖ Share the joys and challenges of raising a family
- ❖ Learn with master teacher, Dena Glasgow who also designed the curriculum, and Rabbi Alison Adler
- ❖ Discover how the wisdom of ancient texts and the current thinkers can inform our daily lives.
- ❖ 6 monthly sessions starting Sunday, November 3, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM
- ❖ Free
- ❖ Free babysitting

For more information and to register, contact Ahava Rosenthal at:

arosenthal@hebrewcollege.edu or 617-599-8734

In the Community

Beverly and Beyond – Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

November 26th, 7:30 - 8:30 PM at **First Baptist Church in Beverly.**

Childcare provided for younger kids.

Reflection on Grief and Gratitude, Drumming Circle, music offerings, art table on themes of Thanksgiving/Gratitude for children and young at heart, prayers, rituals from our varied traditions.

NEW THIS YEAR: Pie Auction to benefit Family Promise. Who are the top five pie makers at TBA? Contact Rabbi Alison if you want to bake.

The Congregation is Grateful for the Following Donations

GENERAL DONATION

Paul Weinberg to Elaine Israelsohn, wishing you a speedy recovery
Ruth Helman to Lee and Ken Bloom, in loving memory of Helen Bloom
Linda and Dan Magalnick to Lee Bloom with our deepest sympathy, in memory of your mother Helen Bloom
Barbara and Joseph Younger to the Bloom Family in memory of Helen Bloom
Ann Parker, thank you for your inclusiveness and what you do for the community
Fran and Jordy Baker to Marcia Ruderman, thinking of you and wishing you well
Fran and Jordy Baker to Elaine Israelsohn, get well soon
Fran and Jordy Baker to Annette Kossover, missing you over the holidays
Fran and Jordy Baker to Eileen & Ralph Edelstein congratulations of the birth of your great-grandson
Fran and Jordy Baker to Susan and David Rosenbaum, congratulations on the birth of your grandson
Diane Isenberg to the Bloom Family, sorry for your loss
Lisa Horowitz and David Huth to Eric Zieff in memory of your father
Betty Knight to Larry Strauss in memory of Myra Strauss

KITCHEN FUND

Nancy and Joel Black to Eileen & Ralph Edelstein in honor of the birth of your great-grandson

ONEG AND KIDDUSH FUND

Marina and Ariel Erijman in honor of their daughter Myra's naming

PIERCE FAMILY FUND

June and Murry Davis to Alan Pierce, our friend, attorney extraordinaire, & friend the Greater NS Jewish Community

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Allison and Susan Wolper to Marshall Serman, enjoy your new home and Happy Birthday

STEPHEN HELMAN MONDAY NIGHT SUPPER FUND

Paula Ivey to the Bloom Family in memory of Helen's kindness and laughter

YAHARZEIT FUND

Zelda Kaplan in memory of Herman Moses
Eileen Edelstein in memory of Solomon Barr
Stephen Arrington in memory of Harold Arrington
Cheryl Brilliant in memory of Janice Miller
Robert Brilliant in memory of Samuel Peres
Owen Grush in memory of Helen Grushky
Paul Weinberg in memory of Abraham Shumsker
Paul Weinberg in memory of Lillian Shumsker
Paul Weinberg in memory of Hyman Weinberg
Paul Weinberg in memory of Abraham Weinberg
Deborah Willwerth in memory of Jean Ericson
Joel Black in memory of Leo Isadore Black
Sarazita Freedland in memory of Gerald Freedland
Joan Shechet in memory of Sherwin Shechet
Philip Goldberg in memory of Rebecca Smith
RosaLee Goldstein in memory of Enid Goldstein
Scott Barron in memory of Herman Rich
Scott Barron in memory of Marvin Rich
Scott Barron in memory of Nathalie Shapiro
Scott Barron in memory of Robert Rich
Scott Barron in memory of Frances Rich
Nancy Tartakoff in memory of Molly Greenwald

Thank you for your donations - Please excuse any omissions or errors



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Erin Lipkowitz	Admin. Assistant

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**Content for December Bulletin is due
November 12**
Send your content to: editor@tbabeverly.org

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, November 18

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
Saturday 9:00 AM

Sunday: 9 AM

Temple Office Hours:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Upcoming Events at TBA

Sunday Morning Meditation with Jerry Schwartz

Sundays at 7:30 – 8:15 AM

Cantor Siegel Genesis Class

Thursdays at 10 AM

Parenting Through a Jewish Lens

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Sisterhood Paid up Supper

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RSVP for Sports Breakfast and Historic Society Program

Wednesday, November 20

Brotherhood Sports Breakfast

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Jewish History of the North Shore

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Ladies Latkes and Libations

Thursday, December 19, at 7 PM

Comedy Night

Saturday, January 25, at 8 PM

15th Annual Author Brunch

Sunday, March 22, at 10 AM

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