

From Rabbi Michael Silbert

rabbi@tbdrochester.org

Recently someone told me that her birthday is on September 12th. When her grandson became old enough to put the pieces together and realized this is one day after the infamous September 11th, he said to her with great alarm: “Grandma! That’s just one day after 9/11! What would have happened if your birthday was just one day earlier?!”



Grandma replied wisely, “Well, then my birthday would have been on the 11th” and she punctuated the sentence in fluent Yiddish by giving a shrug of the shoulders and opened her hands to him, which in English, roughly translates into: “*Nu? So what do you want me to do about it?*”

This seemed like the perfect Jewish response to me: “*There’s tzorres (trouble) in the world, but what should I do? Sit at home and put my life on hold until the strife is over? There’s always going to be something, so I might as well do the best I can to enjoy life and make sure that difficult situations don’t get the better of me.*”

All that in a shrug!

This kind of thinking is what I call “realistic optimism”: when times are tough, let’s be honest about it and acknowledge it, while at the same time continue to look for what Leonard Cohen called the “crack”, the “crack in everything / that’s how the light gets in.” We need to let the light in, especially when times are darkest of all.

I offer this to you as a preamble to saying that the Jewish New Year will soon be with us, marking the

end of a year of terror and horror for the Jewish people. Almost a whole year ago on Simchat Torah, October 7, 2023, the final day of the Jewish High Holy Day season, the largest number of Jews were killed in a single day since the Holocaust. Hundreds more were dragged away into captivity, some molested, some dismembered, some even lifeless. In the year that’s followed, antisemitism has been experienced in every single Jewish community on earth, at levels not seen or imagined since World War II. Now, as colleges return for their fall semesters, we wait with uncertainty for the next volley, the next layer of assault on Jewish life, dignity, rights and equality.

With such a dark cloud hanging over us, how are we supposed to be excited and hopeful about the celebrations and New Year which lie ahead?

I think we need to take a page out of my friend’s book i.e. the friend whose birthday is within a hair’s breadth of 9/11, by which I mean: we can either be controlled and defined by the circumstances, or we can take control of our own circumstances and choose to define ourselves.

Similar to the conundrum of the rapidly approaching High Holy Day season, a few months ago in the spring I was concerned about how the joyous festival of Purim would feel this year for the Jewish people. In my anticipation of that event, I looked for extreme analogies, going so far as to search for articles, reports and testimonies about how Purim was received and celebrated during the Holocaust. The little I was able to find described how this ancient celebration often served as an inspiration for Jews in

(Continued on page 9)

Message from the President

Phil Katzman

Congregants,

Thanks again to all those who attended and helped to organize TBD's 70th Anniversary Celebration. For me the time went by fast but I know that those who attended appreciated the archives, entertainment, and great food and drink. Thank you to the Rochester Jewish Chorale and Eastman Klezmer Ensemble for participating! And, thank you to those who helped plan and set up for our event.



See photos from the party on Pages 6-7.

It is with gratitude that I announce that recently TBD has received a two-year grant from the Farash Foundation that will fund several components of our operation. These components include:

1. Rides for senior congregants to temple for Shabbat services or other temple activities;
2. Meals of consolation to our grieving member families;
3. Our Boxcast broadcast, used weekly for Shabbat services in the chapel for those unable to be present in person
4. Upgrade of our operation software from Rekefet to ShulCloud, a more widely used system
5. Temple archive activities, led by Alison Helms


I am also happy to announce that we have ordered and received a pair of Torah stands for the chapel in time for the high holidays. These pieces of temple furniture were produced by a company in the Golan

Heights, Israel, Bass Synagogue Furniture. **Stan and Elaine Schaffer** have kindly donated these Torah stands. Thank you Stan and Elaine!



This year our High Holiday services will be at Temple Beth El in the chapel we use for weekly Shabbat services. This change was made because, logistically, there was a heavy lift for a small group of congregants needed to transport *Machzorim* and Torahs to Temple Sinai. There should be ample parking in the newly sealed and lined TBE parking lot. If you have a concern about space limitation or infection, we will have masks and hand sanitizer available at the door. Also note that in order to minimize disturbances during the services, entry to the chapel will be through the doors just down the hallway from our regular entry doors. There will also be a table outside the chapel to place your personal belongings.

On behalf of the Executive Board and Board of Trustees, I wish you a happy and healthy new year.



Volunteers Needed!

The Ritual Committee is looking for volunteers to serve as ushers during the High Holiday Services. Ushers are needed to guide people to the correct entrance and to help ensure the noise levels are low in the hallway just outside the chapel.

If interested please notify the Temple office and indicate which days and times you are available.



KIDDUSH NEWS

Shanah tovah u'metuka! Thanks to everyone who made Temple Beth David kiddush luncheons easy and fun in 5784 – sponsors, prep, setup and cleanup crews alike. We also enjoyed sharing kiddushim with Temple Beth El each month. Thank you to all who helped out in the TBE kitchen.

If you are planning for the High Holy Days.... start reading the High Holy Days and Sukkot schedules for September and October 5785 and mark your calendars! There will be shared Temple Beth El - Temple Beth David meals on: Rosh Hashanah Day 2 (October 4), Shabbat Shuvah (October 5), Yom Kippur Break Fast (October 12), Sukkot (October 17-19), Shemini Atzeret (October 24), and Simchat Torah (October 25).

It appears that many of us are very busy this fall. Below is my best try at a kiddush plan. Read the weekly eNewsletter for updates and details, and call or email the temple office with questions. Please offer comments via email to the office or the kiddush coordinator. Thank you!

October 26th, Parashat Bereshit. Temple Beth David kiddush.

November 2nd, Parashat Noach. Shared Temple Beth David - Temple Beth El kiddush upstairs.

November 9th, Parashat Lech-Lecha. Shared Temple Beth David - Temple Beth El kiddush upstairs.

November 16th, Parashat Vayera. Shared Temple Beth David - Temple Beth El kiddush upstairs.

November 23rd, Parashat Chayei Sara. Temple Beth David kiddush.

November 30th, Parashat Toldot. Shared Temple Beth David - Temple Beth El kiddush upstairs. Happy Thanksgiving! Feel free to bring visitors and family from out of town, but please let the office know how many additional visitors to expect.

JEWISH MOVIE CLUB

What started as a distraction during COVID is still going strong — 140 Zoom meetings later!



<p style="text-align: center; color: purple; font-weight: bold;">November 6th</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streaming for free on www.Vudu.com and app 1hr 35min 2020 </div>	<p style="text-align: center; color: purple; font-weight: bold;">November 20th</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streaming for free on www.Pluto.TV and app 1hr 12min 2012 </div>
<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">December 4th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streaming for free on www.TubiTV.com and app 1hr 34min 2011 <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">December 18th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streaming for free on www.TubiTV.com and app 1hr 31min 2010 <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

*Watch the movies whenever it suits you & discuss them on Wednesday nights at 8:00pm.

To join us for the first time, register by emailing: rabbi@tbdrochester.org

All in the Family

Birthdays

October

Daniel Saltzman	October 3
Howard Brill	October 7
Carol Schott	October 7
Stanley Gross	October 11
Ronald Schott	October 20
Laurence Kessler	October 25
Stacey Berke	October 31

November

Nadav Silbert	November 11
Cindy Halpern	November 22
Scott Franklin	November 26
Harry Gan	November 28
Edward Drexler	November 29

Anniversaries

October

Scott and Lori Davis	October 16
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November

Stanley and Michelle Gross	November 3
Daniel and Risa Saltzman	November 3
Ira Sherry M. Goldman	November 4
Ronald and Carol Schott	November 6
Howard Helen Kashtan	November 29

מזל טוב

Celebrating a special event? Have special family news?

Submit details to the Temple Office for inclusion in our Weekly News email or the printed ***Bulletin***. Photos must be original files that are of good quality.

Happy Birthday Bernie!

Generations of the Roth family gathered in Florida to celebrate **Bernie Roth's** 100th birthday in August!



Donations

Through September 15, 2024

DAVID SOLOMON FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Eli Bauman

Ida Priceman

Scott & Lori Davis

Paul Eissenstat

David & Brenda Eissenstat

Erwin Moss

Roberta Kinel

Debbie Kinel

William & Ethel Farash

Marci Miller

Curt Fleishman

Sam Kinel

Roberta Kinel

Paul Cherkasky

Theodore & Shirley Levy

Jacob Neuberg

Fay Neuberg &

Anna Neuberg-Korus

Al Diamond

Al Newman

Maxine Newman

Burton Freedman

Ira Lurie

Daniel & Risa Saltzman

Inge Schaffer

Stanley & Elaine Schaffer

Boruch Bobkowski

Chaya Sora Bobkowski

Moshe Nechamia Bobkowski

Sora Blumert Bobkowski

Burton & Marilyn Segelin

Tillie Gross

Stanley & Michelle Gross

Richie Grieco

Lisa Klein

Evelyn Rose Servetnick

Ruth Servetnick

Marc Lande & Linda Servetnick

Samuel & Thelma Messinger

Adrienne Messinger

Judy Wolbert

Sandy Rosen

IN HONOR OF

Bernie Roth's 100th Birthday

Scott & Merrie Franklin

Lewis Rothberg & Shelby Nelson

50th Anniversary of Scott

Bauman's Bar Mitzvah

Stanley & Michelle Gross

Birth of Lily Zeta, Granddaughter

Marc Lande and Linda Servetnik

Cindy Halpern

Bill & Ethel Farash 64th

Anniversary

Roberta Kinel

David Langmann Completing a

Triathlon

Phillip & Susan Lederer

In Appreciation of Marty

Yesowitch & Scott Davis

Cemetery Clearing

Jayne Miller

In Support of Temple Beth David

David & Melanie Samuels

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

WITH THANKS

Rabbi Michael Silbert

Barbara Applebaum

Jayne Miller

IN MEMORY OF

Beatrice Goldman

Ira & Sherry M. Goldman

Phillip Haymoff

Bill & Lisa Keeley

Celia Markus

Daniel Markus

Jacob Wexler

Sidney Markus

Marsha Greenberg

Michael & Laurie Peres

RABBI AARON SOLOMON TORAH REPAIR FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Arthur Caplin

Chaya Sara Schnidman

Frank Schnidman & Kim Liberty

70TH ANNIVERSARY DONATIONS

William & Ellen Gertzog

Ira & Sherry M. Goldman

Patricia Gordon

Stanley & Michelle Gross

Hank Markowitz

Steven Meyers & Barbara Weber

Michael & Laurie Peres

Lilly Sherman

Richard & Joyce Towber

**Deadline for our
December 2024/January 2025
Bulletin is November 15.**

70th Anniversary Party Photos





October and November 2024 Yahrzeits

*The yahrzeit date that appears here is the date of observance using the secular calendar.
These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.*

OCTOBER

October 1

Isadore Gan
Arthur Goldman

October 2

Sidney Leitman

October 4

Leo Cohen
Saul Klein
Marlyn Plaut
Dr. Saar Porrath

October 7

Blanche Saltzman

October 9

Joseph Klein

October 10

Ruth Brandwein
Anna Fishman
Eleanor Miller
Chana Neuberger
Meyer Neuberger

October 12

Paul Halpern
Harry Zoghlin

October 13

Mildred Feinberg
Norman Fleissig

October 14

Anna C. Lubitow (Cohen)

October 15

Max Forchheimer
Elaine Gallant
Winnie Olmer

October 16

Shirley A. Frank
Oscar Skopitz
Michael Wexler

October 17

Selma Eckhaus
Lillian Grashow

October 18

Sydney Miller

October 19

Marsha Fishman
Arnold Fleisher
Sydney Frank

October 20

Walter Kielar

October 21

Morton Meyers

October 22

Pearl Gallant
Yetta Moidel
Thelma Weinstein

October 24

Myron Kleinberg

October 26

Minnie Caplin
Carole Sue Jaffey Furman
Bernice Raphael

October 27

Scott Grube
Esther Mann
Tillie (Toby) Rosen

October 28

John Schnidman
Ruth Somers

NOVEMBER

November 1

Stephen E. Jaffey
Martin Shilman

November 2

Paul Lederer
Meyer Lubitow

November 3

Nathan Sanow

November 4

Mickey Schrier
Evalyn Stoler

November 5

Fannie Caplin
Rae Fleisher
Golde Millstone Hersch
Esther A. Schwartz

November 6

Sonia Lutzky

November 7

Ethel Stamler

November 8

Florence Kasanov

November 11

Selma Fleissig
Essie Schwartz

November 12

Louis Gertzog
Irving Lubitow

November 13

Rose Babin

November 14

Doris Ritter

November 15

Marvin Davis
Irwin Halpern
Louis Leitman
Jacob Rubin

November 16

Marge Gould Panitch

November 17

Max Raphael

November 18

Estelle Kaufman
Henry Toole

November 19

Mildred Gilman
Irving Roth
Frances Stark

November 20

William Isaacson
Valerie Stark

November 22

Larry Brandwein

November 23

Mark Blatt
Virginia Erlichman
Sylvia Moss

November 24

Esther Conwell Rothberg
Ruth Shechet

November 25

James Alva
David Samuel Eckhaus

November 27

Donald Gallant
Joseph A. Klein
Belle Kleinberg
Julius Narotsky

November 28

Philip Stark

November 29

Peter Manjós

November 30

Joseph Levy



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Rabbi ... Continued

(Continued from page 1)

the ghettos, encouraging them with this ancient tale of Jewish victory over malevolent persecutors who dabbled with genocidal plots.

By extension, I invite you to look with me at Rosh Hashanah this year with a sense of eager anticipation, a moment of joy that celebrates both our survival thus far and also the opportunities that lie ahead, *despite what we have recently endured. Instead of feeling too worn out – even too cynical – as Jews to celebrate, let's welcome this "crack"; this "crack in everything", because "that's how the light gets in."* How fortunate are we to merit this opportunity to start over.

My very best wishes to you and all your loved ones for a *Shanah Tovah – for a very happy year indeed, filled with blessings of joy, good health, peace and fulfillment,*

Michael

Please call the Temple Office if you or a family member is in the hospital. We want to offer comfort to congregants who are ill. Hospitals are not permitted to contact us with patient information.

Rabbi Silbert has prepared a booklet of reflections on healing and connection.

Contact Rabbi Silbert
or Temple Office for a copy.

Temple Beth David Riverside Cemetery Plots

are available to purchase at reduced Temple member and non-member rates for Jewish burials in adherence to Temple Beth David ritual requirements.

For questions regarding purchase, contact the Temple Office. For questions pertaining to Jewish burial ritual requirements, contact Rabbi Silbert.

SEND A CARD TO A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE!

Checks payable to: Temple Beth David

Minimum donation \$10, or two for \$18

Date _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

Donor Name: _____

Recipient Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

☐ Get Well Wishes _____

☐ In Memory of _____

☐ Happy Birthday _____

☐ In Honor of _____

☐ Congratulations on _____

☐ In Appreciation of _____

Note:

☐ David Solomon Operating Fund

☐ Rabbi Discretionary Fund

☐ Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund

☐ Rabbi Aaron Solomon Torah Repair Fund

☐ Mitzvah Kiddush Donation

☐ Rabbi Skopitz Fund



FOUR QUESTIONS:

An Archives Project in Honor Temple Beth David's 70TH Anniversary

The Year is 2024 (5784) and Temple Beth David is 70 years old!

In honor of this anniversary, we are gathering responses to four questions. If you attended services, classes and/or events at Temple Beth David at some point in the past, you are part of the TBD Community, and we would love to hear from you!

We welcome responses to any or all of the four questions, one at a time, or all at once. Remain anonymous if you wish. We plan to gather responses until December 31, 2024.

- ◆ Do you have a TBD memory to share?
- ◆ Have you learned something from TBD that you carry with you?
- ◆ How would you describe your relationship with Conservative Judaism?
- ◆ If we were to create a publication about the history of TBD – something like a slideshow or a book - with chronologically arranged memories, essays, stories, and pictures - would you be interested in participating in this project? What would you suggest for a title? Let us know your thoughts.

Your Name: _____

Would you like to discuss any of these questions by phone or over video chat? If “yes”, TBD’s Archivist will call or email you!

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Email or mail responses to the Temple Office

TBD Archives Project Group:

Archivist Alison Helms

President Phil Katzman

Past President Lewis Rothberg

Office Manager = Rachel



TBD memory to share:



Something learned from TBD that you carry with you:



Describe your relationship with Conservative Judaism:



Suggest a title for a publication about TBD's history:

I would like to participate in creating a publication

Name: _____

TEL: _____

Email: _____



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together

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Temple Office:

Rachel, Office Manager
585-266-3223
office@tbdrochester.org
www.tbdrochester.org

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, October 22

Tuesday, November 19

7:30 pm via Zoom.

Contact the Temple Office
for login information