

HILLEL HAPPENINGS

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



We Have Been Shaped By our Wanderings

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This summer month of July may see you ensconced in your air-conditioned home, enjoying summer reading, or bingeing series if you're not working. For those who work full time, this month foretells cooler morning commutes, at least compared to the scorching temperatures at 5 p.m.! A thunderstorm or two to diffuse the boring weather pattern every week, but nothing we can't get handle, right? It turns out that heat and humidity can be deadly, even here in New England. TBH is a well-insulated refuge from the heat, why not consider it if you are a remote worker in the area?

July and August, which correspond this year to the Hebrew months of Tammuz and Av, are devoid of Jewish celebrations, other than Shabbat. They each contain a fast day, and the overall tone of mourning is reflected in the Torah readings these months. All of the book of Numbers sees us wandering in the desert, ostensibly on the way to Canaan. The faith of the people in this goal is shaky at best, and nearly every week we read 'the people wept bitterly and 'complained to God'... If it's not lack of water, it's lack of meat, or fresh vegetables. It's possible to see the "generation of the desert" as short-sighted, but they were in the desert, in an impossibly precarious situation. I can't imagine living as a nomad, even if there was manna every morning to eat. The amount of uncertainty must have been staggering on a psychological level. It seems less surprising that there was so much complaining when one factors that in.

How horrible was the desert? It turned out to be a crucible, where only those who had known nothing but the desert survived, and that metaphor has characterized much of Jewish history and heritage. Living is a struggle and is very precarious at times was the conclusion reached by generations of rabbi who, like Moses, often led groups of complainers. The message of surviving despite the odds, has left little energy it seems, for the possibility of not only surviving, but thriving.

As the fiscal year begins, we have a good opportunity to consider seriously the role of TBH in our overall well-being. The support of your local synagogue is one expression of a proud Jewish identity, something which is particularly challenging to maintain today. If TBH is a place that helps you feel connected to others and part of the larger Jewish community I hope you will follow that up with payment of dues. The strength of a congregation rests in its members and the resources they share with others, both financial and personal. Without the dedicated volunteers on the Board of Directors, it would be impossible to search and hire clergy, coordinate the religious activities of the community, teach the younger generation, or support organizations and causes that lift up some who are downtrodden, not to mention all the socializing that goes on.

RABBI'S STUDY CONTINUED...

As all of us look at a long, hot summer, let us reflect on what desert we are currently navigating, and what manna will greet us every morning. We can focus on the hardships of the journey, which will serve to make it seem much longer, or we can look around at the others who walk together with us, and take heart in facing the challenges to come with them.

Rabbi Leah Benamy

President's Corner

Hello TBH Family,

Welcome (officially) to summer! This time of year is hot for a few reasons.

First, the weather is a lot warmer, so I am hoping you all are doing fun and relaxing things to stay cool in these warm months. Personally, my family and I are excited for our vacation coming up at the end of the month where we are camping in Canada for 2 weeks. It is a much needed vacation for my family and I hope you are doing the same!

Second, we have a new Board of Trustees beginning their journey this month. Please join me in welcoming our new Board of Trustee members! I personally want to thank these dedicated people who are joining as well as the ones who continue to serve in leadership here at TBH to keep us running as smoothly as possible. I would be remiss if I did not remind you all that we need your help as well. There are many great committees here at TBH that need your voice! Please consider joining one of them so that your voice can be heard. The time commitment is minimal and I can tell you that you will get a great feeling when you help contribute to what makes TBH so special. One committee we are spinning back up and are looking for people to volunteer to join is our Art Committee. If you are interested, please reach out to me for more information.

Lastly, it is hot because there is so much going on at Temple. We are currently planning our big fundraiser for September 8th and Helena is still looking for some help with coordinating this event as it is going to have a lot of moving parts. Please consider reaching out to her at Helena.friedman@gmail.com if you can help in the planning or execution of this very important event. Even if you cannot help with it, please mark your calendars for Sunday, September 8th from noon to 4 p.m. to plan on being there for a fun time! We also are re-opening our Rabbi Search, and if you were at the Annual Meeting, I spoke about how we are going to submit applications to both the CCAR as well as the ACC this year. Our goal is to find our next seated clergy and if you are interested in joining the search committee, please reach out to me and I can give you all the information about what the commitment looks like to be on this committee. I want to take the opportunity one last time to thank the members of the committee that have been working so diligently for the past year and continue to work for us all.

As always, please feel free to reach out to myself or a member of the Board with any questions or comments, and I look forward to seeing you soon!

L'Shalom, Jeff Levin <u>ilevin@tbhsw.org</u> President Temple Beth Hillel



Friends of TBH will meet for a meal on Wednesday, July 10 at 5:30 p.m. at Olive Garden 1550 Pleasant Valley Rd, Manchester

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Dues and Abatements

July 1, 2024 marks the start of Temple Beth Hillel's new fiscal year and, as you have seen from previous newsletters and heard at our annual meeting, the Board of Trustees is working diligently to ensure the financial viability of our wonderful temple.

Members of TBH will start receiving dues invoices which reflect obligations for the various categories (Family, Sr. Single, etc.) plus any outstanding balances owing from the previous fiscal year. Income raised from membership dues, fees and High Holy Days pledges pay for essential costs which include insurance, utilities, maintenance, security, and staff salaries.

We understand that some may be managing challenges at home and might benefit from a temporary abatement of your dues. Please be aware that, per the temple by-laws, **only dues are eligible for abatement** – Religious school, building fund and security fees cannot be included in any abatement agreements.

Dues and fees may be paid on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis. Options include paying by cash/check, credit card or automatic transfers from your bank account.

If you wish to request an abatement of dues, please reach out to a member of the Abatement Committee below and we will contact you to discuss a plan.

All conversations regarding abatement requests are confidential.

We count on your membership throughout the year and are grateful for your support of our community.

Temple Beth Hillel Abatement Committee

Karen Donn	(860) 948-0688	kdonn@tbhsw.com
Laura Soll-Broxterman	(860) 833-4466	<u>Lsoll@tbhsw.com</u>
Jess Patterson	(860) 268-5706	jesspattersonoils@gmail.com
Sally Goodman	(860) 648-1654	<u>bubbesally@aol.com</u>

We count on your membership throughout the year and are grateful for your support of our community.

Karen Donn Chair, Abatement Committee

Saturday Morning Shabbat Services Update

On Saturday mornings at Temple Beth Hillel, when there is not a minyan, i.e. 10 Jews over the age of 13 physically present, no group Kaddish is recited nor is Torah read from the scroll. Shabbat morning services without these elements are brief, about 20 minutes. TBH now has Torah study beginning at 9 a.m. and, if there is a minyan, a full Shabbat morning service at 10:15 a.m.

Special scheduled Shabbat morning services including Family Discussion Shabbats and B'Mitzvah ceremonies will continue as previously scheduled, beginning at 9 a.m.

The Religious Practices Committee will continue to discuss designating one Shabbat morning service a month, in consideration of those who would like to come to say Kaddish with a minyan, or simply pray in the morning.

TBH Social Action Happenings

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A SUMMER VACATION!

Temple Beth Hillel's Summer Push to Boost Food Collections Includes a Tuesday, August 6th Drive-Through Event

Organizations that help hungry residents are suffering this summer as donations of nonperishable food items have dramatically decreased due to historically high food prices and the expiration of many pandemic-era programs.

We thank the TBH members and guests who bring food to our lobby's baskets.
Our collections supply our Little Food Pantry outside the Temple;
help Archbishop's Burke's neighborhood in Hartford's North End; and
support Manchester's MACC Charities Emergency Food Pantry.

However, our recent collections barely fill our own Little Food Pantry...

THAT'S WHY TBH invites you to an easy and quick way to help fill our bins.

Next month on TUESDAY, AUGUST 6th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Social Action will host a SUMMER FOOD DRIVE-THROUGH EVENT to Boost our Supply of Nonperishable Food!

Simply drive up to the front of the Temple with whatever food you want to donate and volunteers will help unload whatever you bring.

S COMING IN SEPTEMBER, A TBH ENVIRONMENTALISM EVENT

We've reported on TBH's Social Action efforts to educate TBH members and the public about sustainability and how we can have an impact on our environment.

Plans are for a Temple Can & Bottle Collection Event on Sunday, September 8th as part of the Temple's Tag Sale Fundraiser.

Proceeds from the public event will benefit a TBH Social Action initiative as well as support general Temple funds.

If you want to support our drive, but don't want to keep bottles and cans piled in your garage, consider recycling them yourself and hold onto the cash that you receive and donate those funds to our environmental effort.

Stay tuned for details...

HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Laura Soll-Broxterman at Lsoll@tbhsw.org or 860-833-4466 and Marla Adelsberger at marlaLadelsberger@gmail.com

Religious School Registration

The time has come to enroll your student(s) for religious school for the 2024-25 school year! https://forms.gle/MeiEG4FYktWXvB9A6



Join the Religious School Committee

The TBH Religious School Committee meets regularly, and would welcome the help and input of additional congregants. It is not a large time commitment. If you are interested in being a committee member or would like to hear more about our committee, please reach out to Sarah Kaprove at rsc@tbhsw.org

Please Help Temple Beth Hillel with Our Brand New Fundraiser!!! <u>Date</u>: Sunday, September 8th, 2024, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

We are planning a brand new Temple fundraiser to generate funds to help TBH meet our expenses AND to build our community's mutual support and cohesiveness.

There will be several components: a tag sale, an event with vendors and crafters, raffles, a bake sale and snack sale – all to take place on the same day or on different days.

Everyone in the congregation will be able to help in big and small ways!

Helena Friedman, Development Committee Chair, will lead the overall Organization of the events, and Julie need a lot of assistance to make it successful.

For the Tag Sale, please gather clean, gently used items to donate. Items that you donate can be stored in the Cantor's former office. If more room is needed, we can store items in the coat closet.

All items will be for TBH to sell for the benefit of TBH. We won't be "selling" tag sale tables. We will need many, many people to sort, organize and price tag the items BEFORE the day of the event AND people to breakdown/ clean up AFTER the event. At the event, we will need people to collect money, help customers get items to their cars, and assist in locating items customers are looking to buy.

For a Raffle or Teacup Auction, Everyone can participate by soliciting, purchasing or donating items to be prizes for the raffle.

These can include a stay at a timeshare or a vacation home (if you have one), or a fun boat ride and a picnic. If you have a skill to teach, you could offer a free lesson. Tickets to Connecticut or Broadway theater, Hartford Yard Goats, Wolf Pack, UConn basketball, Travelers golf tournament, or other activities are great, as are handmade items such as pottery, jewelry, needle crafts, quilts, painting and wood carving. You could even host a meal, donate a cake or casserole, or make a gift basket. And, of course, gift cards to local restaurants are always popular. In addition to collecting or donating items, we will need workers to organize and set up the raffle in advance and collect the money and distribute items on event day.

For the Craft & Vendor Tables, please let us know if you or a friend, relative, or acquaintance sell items at fairs! If you know someone who does, let us know. We would sell space to crafters and vendors. We will also need people to staff the event, to assure that the vendors have everything that they need. We will be selling space at the fundraiser for \$40 per table plus the donation of one of the crafter's/vendor's items to be part of the raffle.

For the Bake and Snack Sale, we are seeking home baked goods AND packaged items (such as chips, candy bars, snacks, soft drinks, etc.) to sell. We will need people to staff the bake and snack sale table. We will also need water, chips, candy bars, granola bars, etc. AND people willing to purchase and pick up the snacks to be sold and to coordinate the baked item donation. Ideally, it would be profitable for members to donate cases of water, chips, candy bars, granola bars, etc.

Overall, we need TBH members to serve on our Development Committee to come up and implement these or other ideas. Please help spread the word! Soon, there will be a flyer that you can post on your social media pages!

The first development committee meeting took place on Sunday, June 23. If you are interested, but could not make the meeting, please contact Helena by email, she will send you the meeting minutes and invite you to the next meeting.

If you're able or willing to help in any capacity, please contact Helena Friedman at <u>Helena.friedman@gmail.com</u> or text 860-478-6188. Questions? Let's arrange a phone call!

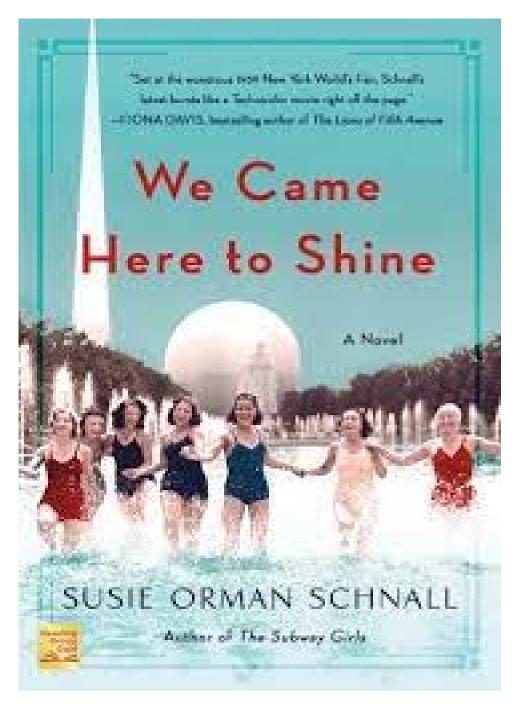
By working together, we can all make this event fun and financially successful for TBH!

TBH BOOK CLUB

The next TBH Book Club meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9 at 1 p.m. at Temple.

We will be reviewing
We Came Here to Shine
by Susie Orman Schnall.

Come join us! All are welcome



<u>Upcoming</u> Meetings

7/1 Adult Education Meeting 11am

7/3 & 7/31
Exec Committee
Meeting
7 pm

7/8
Finance Committee
Meeting
7 pm

7/10 RPC Meeting 7 pm

7/11 Board of Trustees Meeting 7 pm

7/18 Membership Committee Meeting 7 pm

For additional meetings, please go to www.tbhsw.org



Save the date!!

Shabbat Under the Stars on July 26 at 7:30 p.m.- If you prefer your own chair, feel free to bring one!



Love to cook? Love to eat?

The Adult Ed Committee is planning to offer an updated TBH cookbook filled with new delicious recipes and some golden oldies. Send your own favorites to the TBH office at admin@tbhsw.org. Please, no recipes containing pork, shellfish or meat/dairy combos.

We'd love to hear from you!



NEEDED for our TBH Art Committee!



Artistic skill not required. Committee members should have a knowledge of and interest in visual arts by experience, training, education, occupation or avocation.

The Art Committee is consulted by the Board of Trustees for new art placement as well as redecoration within the TBH building.

This is a standing committee that is in need of additional members. Please email president@tbhsw.org if you are interested in participating, or hearing more about the committee!

DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Phyllis Green In memory of Irving Goldstein, Father of Phyllis Green
Phyllis Green In memory of Ray Schor, Grandmother of Phyllis Green
Nancy Gordon In memory of Esther Gerlis, Grandmother of Nancy Gordon
Nancy Gordon In memory of Jonathan Gerlis, Uncle of Nancy Gordon

HOSPITALITY FUND

Marcia Heneson In memory of Adolf Laudon, Grandfather of Marcia Heneson

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Judy Fogg In memory of Howard Kanner, Brother of Judy Fogg

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Arnold Joseph In memory of Samuel Joseph, Father of Arnold

The Kaprove Family In honor of Emma's Bat Mitzvah

RETIRE THE MORTGAGE FUND

Rosalind Cooper In memory of Theodore Cooper, Husband of Rosalind

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Jon Mitnick In memory of Regina Mitnick, Mother of Jon

MUSIC FUND

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

BUILDING FUND



YAHRZEIT DATES

On July 5, we observe the yahrzeit of:

Georgine Samsky Mother of Meryl Sloate

Joyce Goodwin Widofsky Mother of Eddie Widofsky

Albert Manna, Sr Grandfather of Stephen Brouillard

Adolf Anschul Laudon Grandfather of Marcia Heneson &

Great Grandfather of Alissa Heneson

Samuel Joseph Father of Arnold Joseph &

Father of Rose Rychling

On July 12, we observe the yahrzeit of:

Howard Kanner Brother of Judith Fogg

Harry Blutt Grandfather of Mitchell Blutt

Elizabeth Cohen Mother of Libby Wallace

Samuel Katz Father-in-law of Joyce Katz

Obbie Cobbs Father of Emily Cobbs

George Bettigole Father of Scott Bettigole

On July 19, we observe the yahrzeit of:

Helen Crume Mother of Angelica Hoffman

Mortimer Tuber Grandfather of Emily Breither

Esther Gerlis Grandmother of Nancy Gordon

Milton Koppel Uncle of Bob Rodner

On July 26, we observe the yahrzeit of:

Myrtle Hart Mother of Carol Hart

Daniel Pagano Grandfather of Ryan Levin

Ted Cooper Husband of Roz Cooper

Sylvia Ruchin Snyder Mother of Gary Ruchin

Jonathan Gerlis Uncle of Nancy Gordon

Joseph Goldberg Father of Carol Guttman

Rose Goldberg Mother of Carol Guttman

Jacob Guttman Father of Richard Guttman

Herbert Liebman Father of Howard Liebman

Mabel Scharr Mother of Terry Kurtzman

Regina Mitnick Mother of Jonathan Mitnick

SIMCHAS

BIRTHDAYS

Marla Adelsberger	7/2	Carole Guttman	7/10	Judith Bogatz	7/19
Brenda Williams	7/2	Marcia Heneson	7/11	Joanna Skelskie	7/19
Mrs. Ceil Gersten	7/4	Carol Baron	7/14	Alexander Lassman	7/24
Mrs. Barbara Brezel	7/6	Larry Andrus	7/16	Stephen Brouillard	7/28
Mr. Michael C. Skott	7/7	Terry Kurtzman	7/18	Judy Lombard	7/29
				Harriet Mindlin	7/31

Anniversaries

Stella & Marty Seefer	7/2	Mark & Meryl Sloate	7/24
Michael & Sherry Skott	7/6	Kevin & Angelica Hoffman	7/28
William & Kristen Keegan	7/13	Dr. Michael Wernick	7/30

TORAH PORTIONS

Parashat Korach Numbers 16:1-18:32, 28:9-15 Parashat Korach recounts the rebellion of Korach (a cousin of Moses and Aaron), Dathan, Abiram, and 250 of their followers. Some rebels are swallowed by the ground, while others are consumed by a fire from God and others die in a plague. The portion ends by describing gifts given to priests and Levites.

Parashat Chukat Numbers 19:1-22:1 Chukat ("Law Of") opens by describing the process of burning the red heifer and using its ashes for purification. It also tells the stories of the deaths of Miriam and Aaron, Moses' striking of a rock to bring forth water, a plague of venomous snakes, and battles against the Emorite kings Sihon and Og.

Parashat Balak <u>Numbers 22:2-25:9</u> Balak tells the story of the Moabite king Balak, who hires Balaam to curse the Israelites. Balaam's donkey speaks along the way, and Balaam ends up blessing the Israelites. The portion ends with a story about Israelite men sinning with Moabite women and the stabbing of an Israelite and a Midianite.

Parashat Pinchas <u>Numbers 25:10-30:1</u> Pinchas opens with God's promise of a "covenant of peace" for the zealot Pinchas, followed by a census. The daughters of Tzelofchad request and receive new laws regarding inheritance. God instructs Moses to prepare Joshua for leadership, and God describes sacrifices brought daily and on special occasions.

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From Generation to Generation.





TBH INFORMATION

Rabbi: Leah Benamy, RabbiLeah@tbhsw.org

Temple Administrator: Sam Cain, admin@tbhsw.org

Membership: Donna Gittleman, <u>donnagittleman37@gmail.com</u> Board of Trustees President: Jeff Levin, <u>jlevin@tbhsw.org</u>

Rabbi Emeritus: Jeff Glickman, rabbi@tbhsw.org

OFFICE HOURS

You can reach the TBH Office at 860 282-8466 or <u>admin@tbhsw.org</u>. Office hours are 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

In an emergency and you are in need of Clergy, please contact Rabbi Leah by Temple Office phone or her cell phone 203-390-1384, or by email rabbileah@tbhsw.org In the event the Rabbi cannot be reached, contact Rabbi Emeritus Jeff Glickman at 860-655-0353 or e-mail rabbi@tbhsw.org. Always feel free to reach out to the Temple office

Rabbi has made arrangements with several of the other Rabbis in the area in the event that the Rabbi is not available. These Rabbis will treat TBH Members as if they were members of their congregations. Please contact these Rabbis in the following order:

- 1. Rabbi Kari Tuling of Kol Haverim in Glastonbury (860-633-3966)
- 2. Rabbi Randall J. Konigsburg of BSBI in Manchester (860-643-9563)

 ${\it If these Rabbis are not available, the following Rabbis are available for a fee:}$

Rabbi Michael Pincus of CBI in West Hartford (860-233-8215)

Rabbi Richard Plavin retired from BSBI in Manchester (860-643-9564)

The deadline for the next Bulletin is <u>July 24, 2024</u> Please forward all e-mailed materials to <u>Admin@tbhsw.org</u> AND to the entire Communications Committee at <u>communications@tbhsw.org</u>:

ONLINE SERVICE INFORMATION:

If you are unable to attend in person, you can "join in" our on-line services and events and stay in touch in several ways. Friday Evening Services begin at 7 p.m. and Saturday Morning Torah Study starts at 9 a.m., Services start at 10:15 a.m.

To watch...

- ► Go to the Temple's website: www.TBHSW.org and scroll down.
- ► Go to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/TBHSW

Advertising Rates for Hillel Happenings

\$36.00 for a 1/4 page single issue \$60.00 for 1/2 page single issue \$100.00 for full page single issue \$100.00 for business card size ad for all 12 monthly issues

Please contact the Temple to make arrangements. Admin@tbhsw.org