

The Temple Times

2710 Genesee Street, Utica, New York 13502
TBE 315/724-4751

Kislev / Tevet 5778
Vol.9.4 December 2017

Temple Beth El Service Schedule

Services

Monday Morning	8:00 A.M.
Thursday Morning	8:00 A.M.
Friday Shabbat Evening	5:30 P.M.



Services and Kiddush Hosted by the Temple Beth El Sisterhood

Saturday Shabbat Morning	9:30 A.M.
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Dear Friends,

To help make a minyan. Please join us.

Temple Beth El Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING - 5778

December 8 th	4:08 P.M.
December 15 th	4:09 P.M.
December 22 nd	4:11 P.M.
December 29 th	4:16 P.M.



Please notify Temple of any **ADDRESS CHANGES** you may have for the **winter or summer months**, we need these address changes if we are to continue sending the bulletin – Thank You.

*A Conservative Congregation Established for
the Worship of God, the Study of Torah and the Practice of Righteous Deeds*

Temple Beth El Organization

Cantor Kalman A. Socolof

Dr. Stanley Gerstein, Rabbi Emeritus

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Temple Beth El Cantor's Message

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

- George Santayana

"History is bunk."

- Henry Ford

Perhaps you, like me, are sometimes struck by the extent to which famous quotes can contradict each other, as in the case of the above two. Santayana was speaking of the value in learning from history; about the cyclical nature of human endeavors and the opportunity to learn from those who have gone before. Ford, on the other hand, felt that history had no bearing on the present; that we have the ability to make our own destiny and we benefit by not being bound to prior expectations.

Of course, this begs the question: as Jews, which way do we lean? Towards learning from history, or ignoring it? As you probably guessed, we tend more towards history. And why not? Our history stretches back over three thousand years. It is full of nobility, treachery, happiness, tragedy and all of the other polar opposites that establish the boundaries of human experience. Jewish history provides a wealth of material for study and contemplation on the experiences of others.

That said, it is possible to be so bound to history (or, if you prefer, tradition) that one lacks the flexibility necessary to adapt. The world is a maelstrom of change, and one fixed set of rules can never be adequate to address all of the possible circumstances with which we must contend. The true genius of Judaism is its inherent capacity for modification. Torah serves as the foundation on which the edifice of *halacha* has been built, generation by generation. For millennia rabbis have studied the Torah, as well as the thoughts and pronouncements of their predecessors. They have then used these as

a way to make Judaism apply to the issues of their day. In doing so, their decisions transcend any one time or place, and meld into a continuum of Jewish living, available as source material to all Jews, everywhere, at any time. We see this in the Talmud, where the rabbinic discussions are structured so that a conversation or even an argument can be held between two rabbis who actually lived hundreds of years apart. To a large extent, our questions were their questions, and their answers can inform us.

This brings us to Chanukah. Of all of the pre-modern Jewish holidays, Chanukah joins Tisha B'Av as one of only two which originate from a verifiable historical incident. Just as we have mourned the destruction of the Temples for millennia, so have we celebrated the victory of the Maccabees and their subsequent rededication of the Temple. For century after century Jews have used their *chanukiyot*, *dreidels* and fried foods as a way of commemorating events of long ago. The *mitzvah* of Chanukah is to publicize the miracle.

But our observance of Chanukah took time to develop. There is precious little mention of it in the Mishnah. It is only later, in the Gemara, that we get details on the specifics of how, when and where to light the Chanukah lights. There are three pages of information on lighting the lights as opposed to only three lines about the events themselves. This might be an indication of the passing of Chanukah from history to canonization.

Interestingly, Chanukah is really a story of the conflict between tradition and change. As much as the Maccabees fought off the Syrian Greeks who invaded Judea and desecrated the Temple, they fought their fellow Jews who embraced Hellenistic culture. The Maccabean revolt was very much a fight to reinforce "traditional values."

(Continued on Page 7)

Temple Beth El Cantor's Message (Continued from Page 8)

When we celebrate the holiday, we are caught between the idea of holding the line and the changes that must inevitably occur to enhance and even guarantee our celebrations. This dynamic between tradition and change is the bedrock of Conservative Judaism. It is what allows us to see Chanukah not just as a celebration of mythical ancestors, but as a reminder of the challenge given to us: to adapt Torah to the modern world, to be instruments of light and to be joyful. May we all embrace those challenges, and work to meet them with all of our hearts, all of our souls and all of our might.

Happy Chanukah!
Cantor Socolof



Temple Beth El President's Message

It's that time again! Time to make the latkes! Lots of latkes. Together the members of Temple Beth El and Emanu-El will join to prepare for the annual Chanukah dinner on December 12th. Let's celebrate together! Please make your reservations.

Join the students of the TBE religious school at Sitrin's Community House on December 14th as they celebrate Chanukah with the residents.

Epictetus once said, "He is wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has."

Oprah Winfrey said it another way, "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."

Take a trip to the grocery store and leave the bags at the food bank for the veterans.

Care for those that have no one.

Lend a hand when needed.

Gratitude can lead to feelings of love, appreciation, generosity, and compassion, which further open our hearts and help rewire our brains to fire in more positive ways.
Melanie Greenberg, PhD.

Happy Chanukah,
Marsha



Anyone wishing to turn
in their Blue Box for JNF
can drop them off at
Temple or the JCC
where you can also obtain
an empty Blue Box.

Thank you, Marsha

HADASSAH JNF
CERTIFICATES

\$12.00

PLEASE

Call Marsha 737-7665



Temple Beth El Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends,

As I write this message for December we have observed so many holidays starting with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Simcha Torah.

We now have our Hanukkah celebration to observe again with Temple Emanu-El, with a wonderful dinner with the usual homemade latkes and much joy, with friends and family. Let us count our blessings for the good in our lives and let us always look for an opportunity to bring joy and happiness into the lives of others. As Jews we have always tried to rededicate ourselves to do the best for many – whatever the deed may be the return is always greater than the deed itself.

Do not forget to make your reservations for the Hanukkah Dinner – **NOW**.

December 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Happy Hanukah,
Mundy

Temple Beth El Memorial Boards

The long hallway where Temple Beth El's sanctuary and office are located contains our Memorial Boards. If you have a family member that you would like to memorialize, and have a memorial light lit on the week of their yahrzeit year after year you may call the office. The cost of the plaque is \$300.00.

For any questions or additional information to honor or memorialize a loved one call the office at 724 4751.

Mundy

Temple Beth El Simcha Boards

Temple Beth El has Simcha Boards to celebrate birthdays, Bat and Bar Mitzvahs, anniversaries, graduations, weddings and honors.

If there is someone in your family or a friend you would like to recognize you do so by sending all the necessary details to the office. For \$125.00 you can make someone proud and happy forever.



Temple Beth El Donations

THE VICTOR H. FLAX FUND

In Memory Of: Muriel Bartnick

- ✧ Leonard and Jane Appelle
- ✧ Marian Friedland and Sam Malin
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- ✧ John and Suzanne Shannahan
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- ✧ Doug and Brina Drobnis
- ✧ Michael and Naomi Cohen
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- ✧ Danny and Terry Cohen

In Memory Of: Alfred Sumberg

- ✧ Helen and Irving Snider
- ✧ Janice Snider
- ✧ Barbara Snider and Alan London

For the Recovery Of: Millie Rokeach

- ✧ Claire Garfinkel

CEMETERY FUND

The Yahrzeit Of: Isabel H. Manning, Dr. Robert Beede and Abraham Klein

- ✧ Chuck and Rita Manning

The Yahrzeit Of: Arthur Wasserman

- ✧ Audrey Lewis

A Message From: The Men's Club President

The year has started off well.

We had a Fall "Get Together" breakfast in October. Members from Temple Emanu-El joined us and we had great food and lively discussions.

In November we held our 89th Political Breakfast. Mr. Steve DiMeo, President of Mohawk Valley Edge, Anthony J. Picente Jr, County Executive and Robert Palmieri, Mayor of Utica came to speak to us.

Mr. DiMeo's Power Point presentation was wonderful and many interesting questions were asked. Very informative answers were given by all 3 men about the new hospital, development at Griffiss and downtown Utica Revitalization. We appreciate that all three men came to speak.

I would personally like to thank: Ernie Berkowitz, Mundy Shapiro, Mike Silverman, and Marsha Silverman for their expertise. We appreciate Eric Smith from Smith Packing for donating the eggs. We could not have had such a successful breakfast without the assistance of Cantor Socolof, Brad Sklar, Stanley Shapiro, Evgenii Samoshuk, Mark Kall, David Lowitz, Victor Pearlman, Ann Siegel, moderator Dave Goldbas, Saul Finer, Julie, and Avlim. We hope to see you all there next year for our landmark 90th Political Breakfast.

We have more exciting things planned for the coming year.

Respectfully,
Steve Rosenfeld



Cemetery News

ATTENTION

All Plot owners of

- ☆ Temple Beth El Cemetery
- ☆ House of Israel Cemetery
- ☆ Jonathan Lodge Cemetery
- ☆ Mason Road Cemetery
- ☆ Shaarei Tefillah Cemetery

Are invited to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Temple Beth El Cemetery Corporation will be held at Temple Beth El.

**Monday
December 4, 2017
4:00 P.M.**

The Cemetery Committee

I found the following article touching, sad and may be a positive step for the future of the Middle East. I thank Victor Pearlman for sharing this with us.



GOOD NEWS FROM ISRAEL

Dozens of Syrian civilians have written letters of gratitude to Israel and the IDF for establishing field hospitals on its northern border which have provided, and continue to provide, medical care to numerous victims wounded in the country's violent ongoing civil war.

One 27-year-old Syrian woman, identifiable as "G" made her way to the Israeli side of the border of the Golan Heights seeking medical care for her son who had been wounded in the fighting.

After the IDF treated her son, G wrote a letter of appreciation to Israel lamenting the "tragic situation in Syria" and expressing her yearning for peace and the prevention of further bloodshed.

"Syria was the most beautiful country of all Arab countries. We thought that Israel was our enemy, but we realized that it's good to us. I want to thank the hospitals in Israel and the Israeli army for all its help to the ... Syrian children," she wrote.

While Israeli field hospitals have existed for years, an operation was launched in June 2016 by the 210th division of the Northern Command dubbed "Operation Good Neighbor" aimed at providing relief to civilians lacking any alternative, whose medical services and infrastructure have been almost entirely obliterated by the carnage.

Since 2011, around half a million Syrians have been killed in the civil war. Another two million have been wounded and some six million have been made homeless. (Article from Ynet News, October 9, 2017).



PLEASE JOIN US AS WE PRESENT

Chanukah

LIGHTING OF THE MENORAH
AND SING-A-LONG

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th
5:30 PM

AT THE
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

ALL ARE WELCOME!

THEN JOIN US FOR
CHANUKAH DINNER AT TEMPLE

(Please RSVP to Rita at 315-724-4177
if you are joining us for dinner)

Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood, Temple Beth El Sisterhood and the JCC invite you to a

Chanukah Dinner

Tuesday, December 12th

6:00 P.M.



Menu

Salad / Vegetable / Kosher Brisket
Homemade Latkes with Applesauce
Chanukah Dessert / Soda / Coffee / Tea

(Vegetarian Entrée by Request)

Catered by A Moveable Feast



Adults: \$15.00 Children: 5-12 \$6.00 Children Under 5: Free

New members are free, but MUST make reservations!

The meals are prepaid and your check will be your reservation.

You can use the coupon below or reserve with

Rita - Temple Emanu-El 315-724-4177 or

Mundy - Temple Beth El 315-724-4751

Everyone should remember to bring along menorahs and matches.

Lighting the menorah is a mitzvah.

Seating will be limited; therefore NO WALK-INS will be accepted.

Reservations will be accepted as space allows. Reserve ASAP!!

Reserved tables will be available for parties of 8 or more only.

Please RSVP NO LATER than Tuesday, December 5th.

Name _____

Vegetarian Entrée Request No. of Adult _____ No. of Children _____

Brisket Entrée No. of Adult _____ @ \$15.00 each = _____

No. of Children (5-12) _____ @ \$6.00 each = _____

No. of Children under 5 (Free) _____

Total = \$ _____



**The Men from Temple Beth El
are welcome to join**

**Temple Emanu-El
Men's Club Monthly Lunch**

No agenda, just friendly conversation

**Monday, December 18th
12:30PM**

**Sammy's
Campion Road and Genesee Street
New Hartford**



and



will pay Temple Beth El
for you to buy your groceries!!

Fill out the coupon below
with your check payable to Temple Beth El
and mail it to 2710 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13502

We will send you a gift card for the same amount!

You have not spent an extra penny and in return
Temple Beth El received a percentage from
PriceChopper and Hannford.

Name _____

Address _____

PriceChopper ☐ \$25. ☐ \$50. ☐ \$100

Hannaford ☐ \$25. ☐ \$50. ☐ \$100

Thank You!!!

Honey Bites - Chanukah Treats

12 Servings

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup unsalted butter (1 stick)
- 1 cup water
- 1 tbsp sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 large eggs
- Oil for frying
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup honey
- 1 tbsp rosewater or orange blossom water (in the baking aisle)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp ground cardamom



1. In a medium saucepan, combine the butter, water, sugar and salt. Bring the mixture to a boil, stirring occasionally to melt the butter. Remove from heat and stir in the flour. Return the mixture to medium heat and cook, stirring constantly, until it pulls away from the sides of the pan and forms a ball of dough.
2. Transfer the hot mixture to a large bowl, Using an electric mixer on low speed, beat for 1 minute to cool slightly. Beat in the eggs one at a time (the dough will be smooth and shiny). Transfer the mixture to a pastry bag with a large star tip.
3. Heat 2 inches of oil in a medium pot to 350 degrees. In a microwave safe cup or bowl combine the honey, orange blossom water and cardamom. Microwave for 30 seconds. Transfer to larger bowl.
4. Working in 4 batches, squeeze 1 inch long pieces of dough into the hot oil. Use a knife or scissors to help cut off the piece of dough. Fry until puffed and golden brown - 4 to 5 minutes. Transfer to a baking rack to cool. Finish frying the dough.
5. Once the bites are cooled, transfer to the bowl with the syrup and toss to coat.

Temple Beth El Simcha Grams

January 2018

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS	Date	JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES	Date
Ellen Orkin	5 th		
Vicki Socolof	9 th		
Alan Rosenblum	12 th		
Joanne Hirshfeld	13 th		
Logan Oster	14 th		
Kathy Smith	17 th		
Debbie Nathan	26 th		
Brian Jonas	31 st		

Enclosed is \$1.50 per name that I have indicated. I have enclosed a check made out to the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El for \$_____ for _____ (#) of Simcha Grams

Mail to:

**Rae Rosenfeld
3008 Oneida Street
Sauquoit, NY 13456**

Due by the 15th of the month

I have printed my name and date as I wish it to appear on the Simcha Gram.

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Please call the Temple Office 724-4751, if you wish to add any names to the list

Temple Beth El December 2017/5778 Yahrzeit Records

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 2 to 8, 2017
14 to 20 Kislev 5778

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 1, 2017

Henry Buff*	Jacob Fink*	Lena Herzog*	Moe J. Silverman*
Milton H. Betrkowitz*	Sarah O. Goldstone*	Barney Kopel*	Clara Sitrin
Hannah Caplan*	Samuel M. Grossman*	Hannah Kaplan*	Morris Schneider*
Rhonda B. Cohen*	Edward Galinn*	Fannie H. Kowalsky*	Beatrice Samuels
Mollie C. Cramer	Morris Goldberg*	Roxy Pollack*	Jacob (Jack) Samuels
Harry Cummins*	Leah S. Gilbert*	David E. Rothstein*	Flora Wineberg*
Joseph Dantzig*	Mary Hillson	William D. Ribyat*	Jennie Wineberg*
Max Dumain*	Eva Sugarman Hoffman	Sadie Small*	Jacob Wishman*
Victor H. Flax*	Harold Hillson	Anna Savett*	S.Sgt. Marshall Yorra*
A. Meyer Friedman*			

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 9 to 15, 2017:
21 to 27 Kislev 5778

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 8, 2017

Jack Abrams*	Ethel Goldberg	Jean Mason	Harris Solomon*
Sarah Albert	Rose Goldstein*	Daniel B. Myers	Yuda & Yenta Gittle
Theodore Berkeley	Marian S. Hoffman*	Helen Meyer*	Szmulewski*
Joseph D. Braverman*	John Stewart Havem*	Anna Newman	Nathan D. Savett*
Rose Berkowitz*	Solomon Harris*	Benjamin Philipson*	Lena Silverstein*
Mary Ettel Chait*	Leopold & Rose Illfelder Family*	Israel Rosen*	Esther Simons*
Minna Cramer*	Keile Jackowitz	Ida Rosenthal*	Chema Saltzburg*
David Cramer*	Rose. W. Jacobson*	Frieda Rosenblum*	Murray Schor*
Mayer Cohen*	Philip Jacobson	Rose R. Rizika*	Ruben VanLeeuwen
Hyman Feldman*	Clara Kennedy*	Ruth Treister Schwartz*	Mary Wasserman*
Lenore Kowalsky Greene*	Anna Krohn*	Abraham Schneider	Ida C. Wolfe*
Casper Goldberg*	Sidney Lacher*	Helen Sperling*	Lila P. Weinstein
Yetta Grinbaum			William Weiss*

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 16 to 22, 2017
28 Kislev to 4 Tevet 5778

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 15, 2017

Bessie Arlen*	William R. Goldbas*	Meyer Philipson	Abraham B. Singer*
Samuel Berman*	Sadie Goldstone*	Sylvia G. Philipson*	Miriam Smith*
Nathan Brooks*	Dorothy Goldstone*	Irving S. Rokeach*	Hannah D. Sitrin*
Daniel J. Blaugrund	Harris Goldstein*	Jerry Rosenblum*	Lily Socofsky
Moses A. Cohen*	Harry L. Freeman*	Sadie Rogow*	Harry Weiss*
Meyer J. Cohen*	Sylvia Hymes*	Sarah Rockford*	Dr. Joseph Wolhandler*
Sidney I. Friedlander*	Ruth B. Klein	Gerald Leonard Richelson*	Anna W. Weiss*
Ruth Feldman*	Andrew W. Kates*	Dorothy Weitzman Seely*	Morris Zavotsky
Eli Freeman*	Rachel Lewis*	Herman Sonneborne*	

Temple Beth El December 2017/5778 Yahrzeit Records

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 23 to 29, 2017
5 to 11 Tevet 5778

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 22, 2017

Meir Abelow Family*	Harriet Goldberg*	Barney Krohn*	A. Philip Rosen*
Augusta Abelow*	Abraham S. Goldman*	Harris Lazarus*	Samuel Silverman*
Sarah Boyer*	Joseph Galinsky*	Leopold Lewus*	Harold Schecter*
Max W. Caplan*	Helen K. Jacobs*	Hannah Leah Lyons*	Sol Schneider*
Sylvia M. Cone*	Eunice G. Kahn*	Robert Markson	Dorothy E. Smith*
Jacob H. Ekstein*	Sarah R. Kowalsky*	Esther Myers	Anne Whitestone*
Rebecca C Friedlander*	Ethel S. Kowalsky*	Faye Norwalk*	David Whitestone*
Howard Feiner	Sina Kowalsky	Max Nozik	Raymond Wolfe*
Jennie Goldstone*	Bella Kohn*	Sylvia B. Philipson*	

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 30, 2017 to January 5, 2018
12 to 18 Tevet 5778

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 29, 2017

Barney Abelson*	Mendel Golding	Pearl G. Nathan*	Hyman Sitrin*
Reba Abelow*	Minnie Gusoff*	Esther R. Ornest*	Enid Savett
Arthur S. Bonnett*	Hyman Fialko*	Eva Pollicove	Sarah Danzig*
Hattie Bloom	Irving Seldin*	David M. Philipson*	Benjamin Targer*
Samuel Cohen*	Edward F. Jacobson*	Morris Rothenburg*	Barnet Trolin*
Louis Cramer*	Hyman L. Jacobson*	Rabbi S. Jacobs*	Lawrence A. Tumposky*
Else Elias	Bertha Glick Krohngold*	Rabbi A H. Dolgoff*	Arline (Osna) Trapanick*
Robert Ellis*	Betty Kowalsky*	Harry Schnier*	Florence Weitzman*
Dorothy Friedlander*	Israel Levinson*	Jeanette Weiss Schwartz*	Julia Yust*
Stuart Greene*			Bertha Yetra*





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Ads in the Bulletin

If you are interested in placing an ad in The Temple Times, now is the time to do it. Since last September, the bulletin is being sent to approximately 350 households. This gives you great exposure. Your ad will be in each monthly bulletin for the next year at the following prices:

Business Card Size	\$125.00
Quarter Page	\$150.00
Half Page	\$175.00
Full Page	\$200.00

If you are interested, please contact either Mundy Shapiro (Temple Beth El) 724-4751 or Rita Davan (Temple Emanu-El) 724-4177.

Office Hours By Appointment
Telephone: (315) 725-9762

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