

# CHAI TIMES

## **TEMPLE BETH EMET OF BURBANK**

Mark H. Sobel, Rabbi | Ira L. Goldstein, President

600 N. Buena Vista St. Burbank, CA 91505 (818) 843-4787 Fax (818) 557-7240 www.TempleBethEmet.com Office@TempleBethEmet.com

JANUARY, 2010

Rabbi Says:

"On that day, says the Lord of Hosts, everyone shall invite their neighbor under their vine and fig tree" (Zachariah 3:10)



At the end of this month it will

be Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of the Trees. In the United States we celebrate Arbor Day in September during the Harvest Season. That seems to me to be a better idea. So why is Tu B'Shvat in the middle of the winter? The teaching on it is that by planting trees in the winter we re-affirm our faith in G-d, that the trees will blossom in the spring and provide us with food, building materials and shade. Our faith is strengthened when, in fact, this happens.

When I think of Tu B'Shvat and trees. I am reminded of two complimentary concepts to the Faith in Winter, Fruit in Spring. The first deals with the story of an elderly man planting a fruit tree. A neighbor walks by and says to him, "Why are you planting that tree, you'll never see its fruit?" The older man replies, "Oh it's not for me, it's for my son and grandson." The second concept deals with the coming of the Messiah. The adage states, "If you are planting a tree and hear that the Messiah has come, finish planting the tree, then go look." The meaning of the first is that we may not see the fruit of our labors, but we must do them for the sake of our community. We may arrive no benefit, no nutrition, no joy from the fruits of our labors, but just knowing that we have left a legacy for the future is satisfaction enough for us. But sometimes when we look into the

Start 2010 off with our

Temple Young People's Service (for young people of all ages that is). The service features a more family friendly start time and length, with stories, singing and music. An Oneg Shabbat follows to help us all share the joy of the Sabbath. **7-8pm Friday, January 1** 

Tuesday, January 5 at 7:30PM Adult Education 4th in a series of classes conducted by Rabbi Mark Sobel on the *History of Jewish Women* This month's topic will be—**The Modern Period—Rebecca Gratz to Gold Meir** Come listen & participate in this fascinating series

Friday, February 5 at 7:00PM New Member Welcome & TYPS Service Warmly welcome our most recent members

Special thanks to Bruce Colton for the construction and installation of our new rooftop Hannukiyah.



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# President's message

As many of you know, my wife Diane is a professor at CSU Northridge in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. FCS is a multi-discipline field dealing with people and their environment. It includes the studies

of clothing and textiles, nutrition and dietetics, interior design, family studies, and consumer issues, among other areas. One of the growing areas of study within the various disciplines of FCS is the issue of sustainability. We as a people have become increasingly aware of our environment and ecology, how we affect it and how it in turn affects us. There is a growing awareness that we cannot use the gifts God has given us irresponsibly lest we ruin creation and doom ourselves.

At the end of January this year we celebrate Tu B'Shvat. Literally the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Shvat, it is called the New Year of the Trees. Originally a day to reckon the age of trees, it became a symbol of our reattachment to land of Israel in the early days of the Zionist movement, and the tradition of planting trees began. Today Tu B'Shvat has evolved into a sort of Jewish Earth Day.

As Jews, we are obligated to seek to repair or perfect the world. We know this as "tikkun olam." How better to repair the world than to be good stewards of its bounty -- to be mindful of how we use resources and how we dispose of what we have used. Most of us have collection containers for recyclables, and at my house, the recycle container is always more

(Continued on page 5)

#### **TEMPLE BETH EMET CONTACTS**

President	Ira Goldstein	818-843-4787
	call Temple	
•	Ruth Glick	
	call Temple	
5	Richard Emerson	
PTA		
	call Temple	
	call Temple	
•	Lisa De Luca	
	call Temple	
	Ruth Glick	
	call Temple	
	John Eisinger	
	Lisa De Luca	
	call Temple	
	Yvonne Beltzer	
,	-	

Rabbi William M. Kramer Z"L\* ..... Rabbibill.com \*May his memory be a blessing."



#### CHAI TIMES TempleBethEmet.com

**Chai Times** is a free, monthly newsletter delivered by mail or available on the Temple Beth Emet website.

Article submissions are welcomed and may be emailed directly to the **Chai Times** at

#### Office@TempleBethEmet.com

or by delivery to the Temple office. Articles will be published based on space available, relevant content, and at the discretion of the Editing Staff, Temple Officers and Directors.

#### **Tribute Cards**

Tribute cards are always in order for happy or sad occasions. These cards are a wonderflul way to remember or honor someone. The cost of our Tribute cards is now \$3.00 each.

If you would like to send a card, just contact our Tribute Chairperson, John Eisinger at 818-842-5439, and he will do the rest.

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can better serve our members, Temple President and the Board would like to hear from you. Call Temple office at (818) 843-4787 and leave a message.

#### Temple Beth Emet Officers and Board Members for 2009-2010

President:

Ira Goldstein Executive Vice President: Steve Abrams

#### Vice Presidents:

Ruth Glick Barry Verdi Yvonne Beltzer Roni Razankova Andrea McKinnon

**Corresponding Secretary**: Naomi Aronoff

**Recording Secretary**: Shirley Abramson

#### Treasurer:

Beth Rosen

Board of Directors:		
Jodi Gross		
Sandra Lewin		
Lucy Rafaeli		
Craig Weisman		
Rosa Zavallos		

#### Rabbi Says: (Continued from page 1)

future we dream and do not accomplish what we set out to do. That is the second situation. Always when there is something new and exciting coming our way we tend to be excited and leave the job at hand. No, finish what we have begun and then seek the 'New World'. For, if you have finished your tasks in this world, the New World will be one of Eternal peace and prosperity, but if you have unfinished business that you could have completed and did not, the New World will be one of constant strangeness and what kind of world is that anyway.

You see, we are in partnership with G-d. So, when we do acts that are meant to nourish ourselves, our families and our community having Faith in G-d, but relying on ourselves to carry out the physical parts, we assure that our present and our futures will be fruitful.

The task at hand is always foundational for the future. Start, develop and complete that foundation. Do not hesitate because someone tells you the situation is different and we don't need your help. We very much do. We all can begin to build bridges to our congregation's future, knowing full well we may not see the fruit of our labors. But your faith in the winter planting will have nourishment for all in the spring. The young ones will eat of the spiritual fruit that we have given them with our sweat, our tears, our laughter our joys. And their laughter and joy will nourish our souls throughout eternity.

B'ahavah, Rabbi Mark´

The Parents, Faculty and Students of our religious school would like to thank John Harrel, Commanding General of the California National Guard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Cyrus Harrel Commander 1<sup>st</sup> platoon Alpha Troop 18<sup>th</sup> Cavalry California National Guard and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Sam Rocker US Army Active Duty 11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Ft. Irwin, California for their stirring presentation of the Maccabees' battles against the Seleucids (Hanukkah Wars) at our Hanukkah Teach-in on December 12.

Rabbi Mark

## **January Yahrzeit Donations**

**Dianne Bender** . In loving memory of Shirley Trott Freda Swedlove Murez . In loving memory of Lillian Swedlove Leah Nudell . In loving memory of **Ben Nudell Monica Pink** In loving memory of Ann Johnson & Sylvia Rabin Evelvn Jackman . In loving memory of Hannah Davis Joyce & Bill Feinsilber . In loving memory of Sharon Shuman Allen & Fran Ravine . In loving memory of Diana Turchik **Audrey Bermack** . In loving memory of Harry Sternfeld Lois Jones . In loving memory of Fanny Sillman Herbert Murez . In loving memory of Solomon Murez Freda Swedlove . In loving memory of Annie Swedlove Sue Schohan . In loving memory of Saul Schohan **Howard Strauss** . In loving memory of Irving Strauss **Shirley Abramson** . In loving memory of Anne Abramson We acknowledge with thanks a donation from *Lois Jones* to the Rabbi's Fund for Lacy Johnson

The Hanukkah Brunch was a great success and enjoyed by all. A big thank you to everyone who attended and pitched in to make it all possible!!

# **Temple Member Chai Lights**

#### PRESENTED TO

A Rosa Salame A With heartfelt gratitude for your donation of gifts

given in November 2009 to **The Survivor Mitzvah Project** 

A humanitarian effort dedicated to helping elderly and forgotten Holocaust Survivors in Eastern Europe.

Your generous donation will provide food and medical aid to elderly Holocaust survivors in Ukraine, Lithuania, Slovakia, Moldova, Russia, Latvia or Belarus who have experienced first hand the horrors of the Holocaust and now have little money for food, heat, or medicine. They exist on what food they can grow, but now, in their 80s and 90s, are too old and sick to continue to dig the earth. Most are sole survivors of their families who were murdered by the Nazis, many are the last Jews in their town or village, some are survivors of the killing fields and concentration camps, some fought in the Russian Army or as Partisans in the forests of Belarus, and some were slaves in the Gulag long after the war ended. All are elderly and alone, and in dire need.

They will be sustained by your generosity & righteousness. Your care and concern will bring them friendship and hope. Your generous gifts will be hand delivered in

Ukraine, December 2009 and January 2010 *A The Survivor Mitzvah Project A* Who saves a life saves the world entire ···· Zane Buzby, Executive Director

The Survivor Mitzvah Project

#### www.survivormitzvah.org

2658 Griffith Park Blvd. Ste. #299, Los Angeles, CA 90039 800-905-6160 11/27/09

We extend our deepest sympathy to *Alana Beltzer* for the passing of her mother and to *Yvonne Beltzer* at the passing of her sisterin-law.

Our deepest sympathy goes to *Lisa Gilman* for the passing of her father.

#### Mitzvah of *bikkur holim*

We would like to know if you are ill, in the hospital (or being treated at home), not as an exercise in gossip, but as an opportunity for *bikkur holim*, to extend a helping hand or a word of encouragement.

Fran Bernstein was in the hospital. She is at home recovering. Yvonne Beltzer had surgery

Remember the sick with cards, calls and visits.

## Temple Beth Emet Community Needs

- Are you in need of employment?
- Are you in need of someone to employ?
- Do you need help with chores?
- Do you have housing needs, vehicle needs or miscellaneous needs?

This column was created to assist members in finding help with their needs. If you would like to place an announcement in this column, call the office and describe the need in 25 words or less, leave a suitable telephone number and your first name. We will post it in the next month's Chai Times for two issues.

> **Looking for work.** Excellent office skills: computer, research, writing, editing, projects, filing, phones, reception, mailings, producing artistic fliers and newsletters. Call Gloria Kurey, (818) 562-1339.

> **Do you have a few hours a week to spare**? If so, Temple office can use your help. If you are interested in volunteering your time, call Lucy at (818)843-4784.

#### President's Message (continued from page 2)

full than the solid waste container. I credit my son Jon with urging me to refuse plastic bags when I can and to bring reusable bags when I shop. At Trader Joe's, they even have a gift basket drawing for those who bring their reusable bags.

At Temple, we collect printer cartridges and cell phones for recycling and household batteries for responsible disposal. Leftover copies of the Jewish Journal and other paper items are recycled by Jerry Engelberg. We can also sell you those reusable grocery sacks with our Temple logo!

This year, in honor of Tu B'Shvat, consider taking another step toward sustainability. Perhaps plant something that is drought tolerant. Remember to "reduce, reuse, and recycle." Be more mindful of how you use resources. Together we can be an "or l'goyim," a light unto the nations. But let's make sure to use one of those new compact fluorescent lights, they use less electricity.

-- Ira L. Goldstein, President



### HAPPY JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



LaVerne & Robert Cohen Bonnie & Stuart Friedman Diane & Alexander Linger Frances & Ron Kaden Lucy & Uri Rafaeli Chris & Victor Jacobovitz Debra & John Gilmore Herbert & Freda Murez

### Trees

I think that I shall never see A poem lovely as a tree. A tree whose hungry mouth is prest Against the sweet earth's flowing breast. A tree that looks at God all day, And lifts her leafy arms to pray. A tree that may in summer wear A nest of robins in her hair, Upon whose bosom snow has lain, Who intimately lives with rain. Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree.



eScrip: go to www.escrip.com and go to "my eScrip." and sign in using your card number. Go to "Group Election" and enter "Temple Beth Emet of Burbank" or group ID# 138932501. Cards numbers are your Pavillions, Vons, Bristol Farms, How s Market, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, Diners Club, ATM, Macy. *Ralphs:* call 1-800-443-4438 or go to www.ralphs.com and under "Services" go to "School Programs". Go to "Community Contributions". Sign in using your email address and follow the directions. Enter your Ralphs Card number (the 12 or 13 digit number is on the back of your Ralphs card beginning w ith either a 2 or 4). The organization# 80324 or under the name of "Temple Beth Emet of Burbank". *Albertsons*: call 1-800-696-6419 or go to http://www.albertsons.com/abs\_inthecommunity/. Use your Albertsons' card number and the 10 digit phone number you signed up w ith. Under Community Partners enter "Temple Beth Emet-Burbank" ID# 49000116994 and the percentage of the contribution to the temple (i.e., 100%).

2010	Ja	inuary	5770
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
3 10:00 AM Chai Society Planning meeting	4	5 7:30 PM—Adult Education #4 in series History of Jewish Women	6
10	11	12 7:30 PM Temple Board Meeting (members in good standing are welcome)	13
17 007 Havurah meeting	<b>18</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19	20
24 9:30 AM Men's Club meeting and breakfast	25	26	27
31	1	2	3

2010	January	5770
Thurs	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 PM Temple Young People's Shabbat Service (note time)	2 No Religious School
7 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	8 7:30 PM Shabbat Services Madeleine Mendell Bat Mitzvah Mendell family hosting Oneg Shabbat	9 9:00AM Religious School
<ul><li>14</li><li>6:15 PM Cribbage Club</li><li>7:30 PM Strategic Planning Meeting</li></ul>	15 7:30 PM Shabbat Services	16 9:00AM Religious School
<b>21</b> 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	22 7:30PM Shabbat Services Oneg Shabbat hosted by Shelly Dietrich in honor of her daughter	23 9:00AM Religious School
28 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	29 7:30PM Shabbat Service	30 9:00AM Religious School Tu B'Shevat Tree Planting
<b>4</b> 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	5 7:00 PM Temple Young People's Shabbat Service (note time) New Member Welcome !!	6 9:00AM Religious School

# **January Yahrzeits**

REMEMBERED BY	DATE
Nikki Larsen	Jan. 1
Phyllis Shear	Jan. 1
David Naythons	Jan. 1
Nathan Lubow	Jan. 1
Lester Pink	Jan. 1
Gail Arce	Jan. 2
Bertha Yaras	Jan. 2
Fran Bernstein	Jan. 2
Judy Robins	Jan. 2
	Nikki Larsen Phyllis Shear David Naythons Nathan Lubow Lester Pink Gail Arce Bertha Yaras Fran Bernstein

#### Jan. 8 at Temple

Bertha Shapiro	Leah Nudell	Jan. 3
Joan Kramer	Congregation	Jan. 3
Dolores Sands	Lance Sands	Jan. 3
Mayme Saiger	Sally Bachelis	Jan. 4
Pauline P. Anderle	Bonnie Bunyik	Jan. 5
Shirley Green	Adele Beckenholdt	Jan. 5
Miriam R. Taub	Lillian Blakeman	Jan. 5
Leonard Levine	Norma Resnick	Jan. 6
Margaret Buckley	Tom Kiernan	Jan. 7
Sylvia Becker	Gerald Becker	Jan. 9
Meyer Nudell	Leah Nudell	Jan. 9
Tillie Friedman	Stuart Friedman	Jan. 9

#### Jan. 15 at Temple

Ruben Reiter	Alice Strauss	Jan. 10
Nathaniel Millman	Sylvia Gross Sutton	Jan. 10
Herman C. Nacht	Naoma Goodman	Jan. 10
Anna Romotsky	Bruce Epstein	Jan. 10
Ben Zober	Maurine Zober Gold	Jan. 12
Lillian Halper	Merle Scher	Jan. 12
Edward Zimmer	Congregation	Jan. 13
Rosalind Avrashow Rosalind Avrashow	Marlene Dreyfuss Eileen Martin	Jan. 13 Jan. 13

NAME
Jan. 15 at Temple
Ethyle Greenberg

Toni Mattis
Shirley Wolf
Stella Shear
Maurice Rosenthal
Abraham Kogan
Moshe Marco
Naoma Goodman
Ray Stein
Bernard Shenkman

#### Jan. 22 at Temple

Helen	Minelli
Rose	Ockene
Baruc	h Vismonsky
Philip	Skolnik
Lena	Immerman
Carm	el Feinsilber
Walte	r Schuster
Erika	Sperber
Euger	ne Gallay
Leono	ore Cohen
Doris	Lee Byron
Mirian	n Zahler
Mirian	n Everakes
Julius	D. Sloves

#### Jan. 29 at Temple

Anna Sobel
Ray Stein
Ruth Frank
Matthew Fogelman
Louis Bigley
Herman Sandelman
Theodore Liebowitz
Theodore Liebowitz
Theodore J. Kall
Larry Jones

Elaine Fishman	Jan. 14
Congregation	Jan. 14
Congregation	Jan. 14
Alan Shear	Jan. 15
Gail Arce	Jan. 15
Nilda Benmaor	Jan. 15
M/M Jerry Dash	Jan. 15
Norman Goodman	Jan. 16
Bernice Dacher	Jan. 16
Sandra Shenkman	Jan. 16

DATE

REMEMBERED BY

Leah Nudell	Jan. 17
M/M Mitch Fogelman	Jan. 18
Tsipi Yaffee	Jan. 19
Carl Skolnik	Jan. 19
Erwin Immerman	Jan. 19
William Feinsilber	Jan. 19
Sylvia Schuster	Jan. 21
Elisa Gallay	Jan. 21
Elisa Gallay	Jan. 21
Ruth Prinz	Jan. 22
Steve Byron	Jan. 22
Adrienne Zahler	Jan. 22
Jerry Everakes	Jan. 23
Myra Sloves	Jan. 23

Rabbi Mark H. Sobel	Jan. 24
Bernice Dacher	Jan. 24
David Frank	Jan. 25
Mitch Fogelman	Jan. 26
Bruce Bigley	Jan. 26
Joyce Feinsilber	Jan. 26
Geraldine Liebowitz	Jan. 29
Norman Goodman	Jan. 29
Sandra Phillips	Jan. 30
Doris Jones	Jan. 30

November	16,	2009
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To the Caring Congregants of Temple Beth Emet.

On behalf of L.A. Family Housing and the families we serve I would like to thank all of you very much for another wonderful donation of backpacks from your Mitzvah Day event. We were able to start distributing them shortly after they were delivered. We are very grateful that you continue to support our school aged children each year.

LAFH has served approximately 100,000 people since 1983 through an integrated system of temporary shelter, affordable housing development and comprehensive social services. Over the years, LAFH has grown from one facility with 40 beds in the San Fernando Valley to 21 facilities with nearly 2,000 beds throughout Los Angeles. We have developed 439 units of affordable housing, and assisted in the development of 316 additional units.

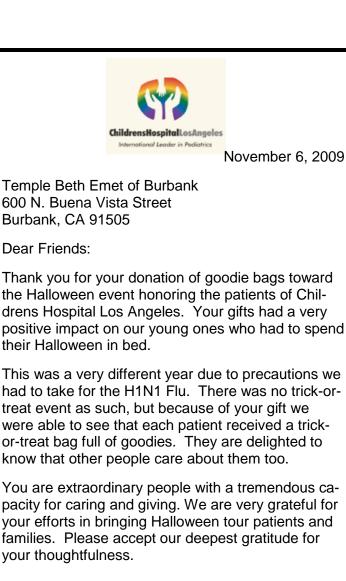
In addition to shelter, LAFH provides a wide array of supportive services to help families and individuals remain self-sufficient. These include case management, employment assistance, medical and mental health services, parenting classes, money management assistance, and a mandatory savings program in preparation for securing independent housing.

Thank you again for the wonderful donation of backpacks. We would love to have you come and participate in a volunteer event at our Sydney M. Irmas Transitional Living Center here in North Hollywood so you can meet some of the children you so generously assist. If this is of interest, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Amanda Batts at (818)982-4091 x 129. We would love to expand our involvement with your congregation.

Best Regards,

Ruth Devine	Stephanie Klasky-Gamer
Donations Coordinator	President and CEO

The McKinnon family would like to thank Lisa DeLuca and Stacie Barlow for their extraordinary and priceless help with Sam's Bar Mitzvah. You both truly went above and beyond and we are so thankful for your amazing efforts! You exemplify the meaning of "the temple with a heart." With gratitude and love, Andrea & Brian (Ian, Sam & Jack, too)

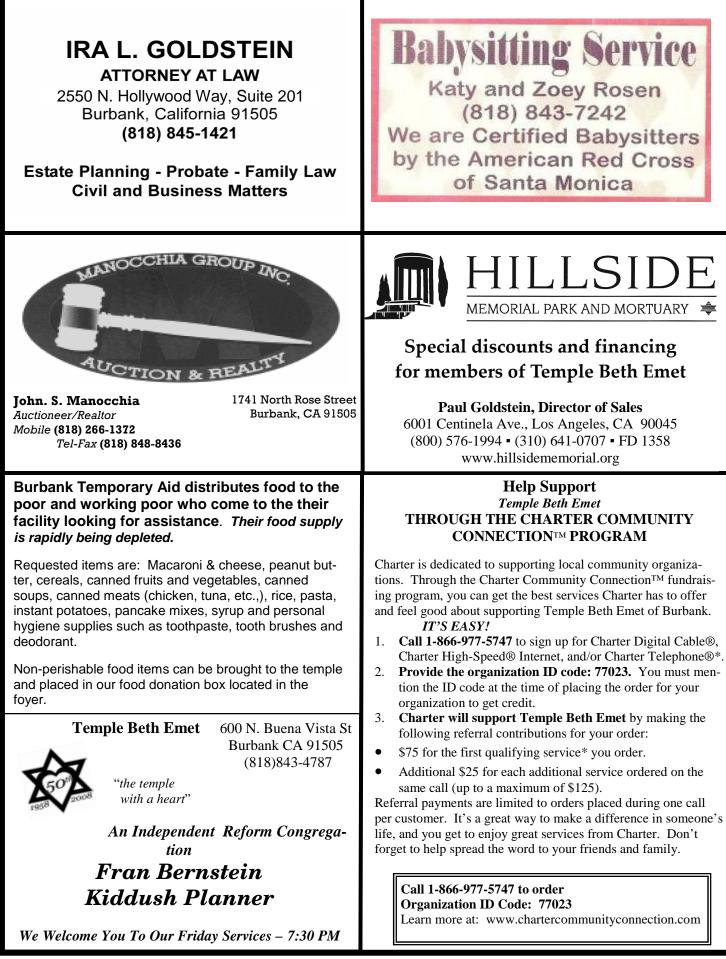


Sincerely, Wendi Kellaris Manager, Volunteer Resources

#### Celebrate Nature's Bounty Tu B'Shvat The birthday of trees

#### THE TEN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMANDMENTS

- 1. This is the only Earth you have
- 2. Honor your Mother Earth so that your days shall be long
- 3. Thou shalt not waste water
- 4. Thou shalt carpool
- 5. Purchase your goods in recyclable packaging
- 6. Use native plants in your garden
- 7. Thou shalt not use syrofoam or aerosols
- 8. Properly dispose of household cleaners, pesticides, paints, cell phones and batteries
- 9. Set your home heater at 68° and use air conditioning sparingly
- 10. Thou shalt recycle cans, bottles and paper





### Chai Times

Temple Beth Emet of Burbank 600 North Buena Vista Street Burbank, California 91505



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# CHAI TIMES



# TEMPLE BETH EMET OF BURBANK

Mark H. Sobel, Rabbi Ira L. Goldstein, President

# THE TEMPLE WITH A HEART!