# "With Charity toward all and malice toward none"

(Abraham Lincoln's Inaugural address 1865)

February is a most interesting month for me both as an American and as a Jew. We remember all presidents with a holiday and two, especially, WITH OUR HEARTS, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Recently, I finished a book about President Washington which spoke about his views on religion and the Constitution, which were very different than what we view as the beliefs of the founding fathers. He sought a pivotal place for religion, all religions, in America. In fact, if you read the First Amendment to the Constitution, it reads, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion. or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," meaning we have full freedom to exercise our religion freely, wherever and whenever we want, except if it interferes with others' religion.

Abraham Lincoln showed his understanding of the First Amendment, when General Ulysses Grant, commander of the Union forces in the western theater, Vicksburg and environs, expelled the first Jewish Chaplain in the US Armed Forces, and President Lincoln overruled him and had Rabbi Jacob Frankel reinstated. But President Lincoln's assistance to our people wasn't the extent of his belief in the sacredness of all humanity. He saw how anger and revenge go hand in hand. I don't know how but he must

(Continued on page 3)



### February 7 at 6:00 PM

Tot Shabbat Service 5:30 PM Family Shabbat Service 7:00 PM

# ADULT EDUCATION CONTINUES! Jews in America

February 11 - 7:00 PM Civil rights/ From All and to All See Page 10

Plan to attend our community
MEET 'N GREET
Saturday, February 14
6:00 - 10:00 PM

Food - Drink - Silent Auction - Meet the Mayor and others See Page 5

Our first **'Thank a Member"** at Friday, January 17th Shabbat Services was a heartfelt success!

Our next "Thank a Member" will be on **Friday, February 21** at 7:30 PM, please join us!

# READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Our Temple Book Club has!

Join us February 25 at 7:00 PM When we will discuss:

The Floating Feldmans by Elyssa Friedland

See Page 10



## TEMPLE BETH EMET (House of Truth) ORGANIZATION

#### Religious Leadership

Rabbi Mark H. Sobel Music and Choir Director, Robyn Kreisberg

Rabbi Emeritus William M. Kramer Z"L\* \*His memory will always be a blessing to us.

#### 2019/20 Officers and Directors

Officers |

Ira L. Goldstein. President Ken Watnick. Vice President Eileen Martin, Treasurer Marlene Dreyfuss, Secretary

Directors

Dan Gura Mary Gura Barbara Harmon

Fran Bourne Johnson

Herbert Murez Theida Salazar

Sisterhood President

Marlene Dreyfuss

Morris Gold Religious School Faculty

Rabbi Mark Sobel, Education Director Shirley Kirschenbaum K-1 Laura Goldstein- Hebrew 2-3,4-5 Hayley Wood Social Studies 2-3.4-5

Robyn Kreisberg Social Studies 6-7, Music Joshua Sobel Confirmation 8-10,

Hebrew 6-7

Rabbi Mark Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class Robyn Kreisberg, Music

#### **Religious School Parents Association**

Cherie Rye, President

#### Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten

Hayley Wood, Director

#### Office Staff

Office Manager/Secretary, Victoria Gaffney

### **Committee Chairs**

Calendar and Usage Victoria Gaffney Education David Goldstein Membership Barbara Bolter Ritual Ira L. Goldstein Ways and Means

Jay Geisenheimer **Building and Maintenance** 

Billy Berman

#### **Coordinators and Volunteers**

Adult Education David Goldstein Chai Times Editor Ira L. Goldstein Children's Hospital LA Toys Shirley Abramson Havurahs Ruth Glick, (818) 780-9134 Library Shirley Abramson <u>Marquee</u> Craig Weisman/Rabbi Mark Sobel

One Call Victoria Gaffney

Reach Out

Craig Weisman/Rabbi Mark Sobel

#### **Temple Beth Emet Office Hours**

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Saturday & Sunday - closed

#### The office is closed in observance of the following holidays:

New Year's Day, President's Day, First day of Pesach, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Thanksgiving Call the Temple office at (818) 843-4787 to contact Temple Staff/Volunteers. Your message will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

#### **CHAI TIMES**

Chai Times is the free, monthly newsletter of Temple Beth Emet of Burbank, delivered by email to members and available at www.TempleBethEmet.com.

Mailed hardcopies are available for an annual TBE donation payable through the Office.

Editable article submissions. photos and feedback are encouraged and due by the 15th of the month and may be emailed to:

chaitimes@TempleBethEmet.com or delivered to the Temple office. Submissions will be published based on space available, relevant content, and at the discretion of the Editor, Temple Officers and Directors.

#### Follow Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

"Like" our Facebook Page at

https://www.facebook.com/ TempleBethEmet?fref=ts



If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can better serve our members, please call the office or email us at:

office@Templebethemet.com





(Continued from page 1)

have been aware of the teachings of the MI Camokha in the Midrash where G-d tells our people that we are not to be gleeful over the deaths the Egyptians at the Reed Sea but to only be grateful for G-d to have saved us and given us freedom.

President Lincoln knew how the anger and despair of the War Between the States would tear not only states and the country in general but also, whole families. Therefore in his inauguration he wrote those words

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, ...to care for him who shall have borne the battle... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves."

We are engaged in battle every day with external forces who strive to wipe us out and internal forces who seek to destroy the community we have built.

We need to keep combatting both those adversaries while striving for peace with all.

Let us use the meaning of Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of Trees, as a guide for our behaviors, with each other and for our community. At Tu B'Shvat we plant seeds that will bear fruit. I am reminded of two anecdotes that express Judaism's belief in the power of planting seeds. "Once an old man was planting a fig tree. Fig trees have a long gestation period. Another man came by and said. 'Why are you bothering to plant the tree, you will never see its fruit?' The planter replied. 'The tree is not for me, it is for my grandchildren!'"

We plant now for the future, the works we do as a community together will bear fruit in the future. Also, it matters NOT who does the planting of seeds or ideas, as long as we all volunteer to nurture and care for the seedlings. Bringing life into the world is a communal activity. No bosses, no servants just people giving what they can give to give life!

The second merely states, 'If you are planting a tree and someone tells you the Messiah has come (heralding G-d's time on Earth) continue planting the tree'. Interesting, our faith leaders have decreed that the planting and caring for trees is more important than fulfilling G-d's promise.

How could that be? Perhaps they understood that when you take part in the creating of life you then can lay claim to the purest form of divinity, Creation, because G-d's first acts were to create living entities on this earth, and you are imitating G-d's first and primary actions. Remember, only G-d knows what is in G-d's image! Certainly not us mere mortals. So keep creating with your friends, relatives and significant others.

B'ahava, and with Tzadakah for all,

Rabbi Mark



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - February 2020

Who has the next great idea for Temple Beth Emet? This month we are trying something new with a "Meet 'N Greet" organized by Jay Geisenheimer, our Ways and Means Chair. The event will be Saturday, February 15 from 6:00 to 10:00 PM. It will feature finger food, some beer



and wine, a silent auction, and an opportunity to meet notable of our city government, neighbors, and other Temple Members. I hope many of you plan on attending and bringing friends to discover our Temple. We hope to raise some money, but we also hope to raise awareness in the community of who we are and what we have to offer. Please let Victoria in the office know if you will be joining us so we can make sure to have enough food and drink.

We have not done something like this before. It is a new idea, and some board members are rather skeptical about it, while others are enthusiastic. Still others were not sure, but were willing to try something new.

That is always the way it is with new ideas. It is never clear that something we are going to do will benefit the Temple and find favor with its membership. When we decided to start the preschool, some were sure we would be getting in over our head. It has turned out to be a great success and has developed a terrific reputation. When Barbara Bolter suggested Pizza Night I thought it was a crazy idea, but it turned out to be a great way to bring together the younger and more tenured members of the Temple family. Last month we instituted a monthly honor-a-member Shabbat, and it looks like another success.

On the other hand, some of the things we have tried have not worked. When we came into a large number of Conservative High Holiday prayer books, we thought it might be a way to provide a more complete understanding of the liturgy. Our community, quite frankly, hated it and let us know. We found a new home for those books. Some events we have tried have drawn little interest, or even none at all!

Sometimes someone will suggest something that had been tried before and were not successful or practical. Our Passover Community Seder is such an event. When it was first proposed, some on the board pointed out that we used to have a Passover Seder, but it had become too expensive and people stopped coming. Even the preschool had a couple of false starts. Just because we tried something before and it did not work out does not mean we should not take another look at the idea.

(Continued on page 6)



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JAY: 818.469.5473

OFFICE@TEMPLEBETHEMET.COM

SUNNYDAYFARM@EARTHLINK.NET



(Continued from page 4)

The point is, we need to keep trying new things because you never know what the next great idea will be. You never know where the next great idea will come from, either, but usually it does not come from the board or staff. It comes from you, the Temple community. It comes from your inspiration and vision. It comes from your observation of something done somewhere else. It even comes from your exasperation. Once, someone came to a board meeting to say he was leaving the Temple because we were not meeting the memberships' needs. "You do not even have a singles group! You need a singles group for all ages!" We told him he could be in charge of forming one, and he did! He stayed, even served as Temple President. He met someone in the group and got married.

We need to keep trying new things. We need your ideas. We need you to tell us what our Temple is missing, how we can get our Temple family more involved, how we can attract more people to our family.

We might just fall in love with your idea. We might need some convincing. We might even need you to take charge of your idea. But we need your idea. You can come to a board meeting or send an email to the office.

How about this -- come to the Meet 'N Greet on February 15. Let's get together and talk about your "next great idea" for Temple Beth Emet.

-- IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President

Sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat is a wonderful way to honor or celebrate an event-Bar Mitzvahs, anniversaries, remembrance, simcha, or simply because its
Shabbat! We try not to make this process complicated, so if you would like to
sponsor an oneg, call the Temple office at (818) 843-4787!



# EDUCATION MATTERS - RSPA President, CHERIE RYE

Religious School is back in session after Winter Break. Lots of learning goes on Sunday mornings at TBE!



























This past month our littlest learners have thoroughly enjoyed the fruits (and vegetables) of their labor. Our garden is in full bloom and the children have had the opportunity to try various crops in a salad, smoothie and just as they come! Our master gardener comes weekly to inspire our preschoolers to learn all about the wonderful world of gardening. Through music, games, and hands-on exploration, the children love every moment of this amazing program!



We have a few spots left in the preschool for this year, so if you know anyone looking...send them our way! :)

~Hayley Wood Preschool Director Temple Beth Emet Preschool <u>www.templebethemetpreschool.com</u> (818) 861-7660























The Temple Beth Emet Sisterhood focus on serving the Temple and the community. Membership in Sisterhood means making a commitment to living Jewish. By being a member, you become an active link in the history of our people. You serve as a role model for Jewish values. Each member blossoms in their own individual way as they experience the camaraderie of Sisterhood and share in service to the Jewish community.

### From the Sisterhood President

The next sisterhood meeting will be on Sunday February 2 at 10:30. Please try to attend. We will be discussing future endeavors. Hope to see as many people as we can.

Marlene			

This Is Your Personal Invitation to Join Temple Beth Emet's Sisterhood

Sisterhood is a group of friends who work together for our Temple, our children, and our community, in a very tangible way. Our President,

We meet the first Sunday of every month at 10:00 AM in Blum Hall. Please join us. Dues are only \$15 per year (commencing September of every year). Please fill out this form, cut it out and send it with your payment to: TBE Sisterhood, c/o TEMPLE BETH EMET, 600 N. Buena Vista Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505; or just leave it with the Temple Office.



## **Temple Beth Emet Book Club**



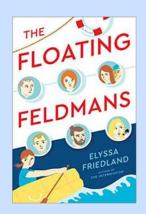
**Conducted by Fran Bourne-Johnson** 

Where: Blum Hall at Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

When: February 25, 2020 — 7:00PM to 8:30 PM

What is the book we will read and discuss:

The Floating Feldmans by Elyssa Friedland



Sink or swim

Too bad her kids didn't get the memo.

Between the troublesome family secrets, old sibling rivalries, and her two teenage grandkids, Annette's birthday vacation is looking more and more like the perfect storm. Adrift together on the open seas, the Feldmans will each face the truths they've been ignoring—and learn that the people they once thought most likely to sink them are actually the ones who help them stay afloat.

**Where to get the book:** The book is available at Amazon.com and other retailers. Please read the book and be prepared to discuss it.

Cost of Participating: Free!

<sup>\*</sup> Synopsis courtesy of Goodreads.com



# ADULT EDUCATION SERIES - Presented by Rabbi Sobel

## TEMPLE BETH EMET ADULT EDUCATION SERIES 2019-2020

Presented by RABBI MARK H. SOBEL

For the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the end of World War II, we will be examining in depth five areas of concern for

# JEWS IN AMERICA

February 11, 2020 - Civil rights/ From All and to All March 10, 2020 - Religiosity/ Where is G-d when we need Her?

All sessions begin at 7:00 PM—Open to the public. There is no charge for this series, donations accepted.



### **FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS**

NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE	NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE
At Tenple January 31, 2020			At Temple February 14, 2020 (Continued)		
Beatrice Miliman	Debbie Zelman	February 1	Jay Featherman	Francis Bourne-Johnson	February 14
Ilse Korant Schindlbe	Congregation	February 1	June Beck	Scott Beck	February 14
Martha Ham	Kyle Orlemann	February 1	June Beck	Russell & Barbara Beck	February 14
Robert Sutton	Cogregation	February 1	Maxwell Feinstein	Joel Feinstein	February 14
			Helen Louise Naythons	David Naythons	February 15
At Temp	ole February 7, 2020				
Philip Brown	Margery Brown	February 3	At Temple February 21, 2020		
Amelia Kapson	Bruce & Pat Bigley	February 3	Beatrice Kess	Rhonda Kess	February 16
Stella Pollack	Congregation	February 4	Florence Katz	Linda M. Kiernan	February 18
Morris Glatzer	Flo Mazzei	February 5	Nathan H. Rose	Beverly Genereux	February 18
Freida Slavin	Lois Jones	February 6	Dick Fishman	Scott Fishman	February 19
Anne Hernandez	Elizabeth Postal	February 6	Irving Schredder	Bonnie Friedman	February 19
Lee Segal	Naomi Aronoff	February 7	Samuel Gramowitz	Martin Bibicoff	February 20
Bertha Segel Friedman	Neal Friedman	February 7	Lillian Schredder	Bonnie Friedman	February 22
Alfred Jackman	Marcia Jackman	February 7			
			At Te	emple February 28, 2020	
At Temple February 14, 2020			Howard Segal	Naomi Aronoff	February 24
Florence Hoffman	Jack & Linda Kranz	February 10	Ester Kapson	Patricia Bigley	February 24
Solomon Shimmel	Cliff Rayman	February 11	Hyman Adelstein	Ilysha Buss	February 25
Dr, Anne Esau	Congregation	February 12	Harriet Simpkins	Cathy Louise Zitnick	February 25
Mary Beth Naythons	David Naythons	February 13	Susan L. Merrill	Congregation	February 25
			Ida Kushner	Herbert Murez	February 27

### CREATE A LASTING LEGACY

Planned Giving is a wonderful and loving way to ensure the legacy of Temple Beth Emet of Burbank and future generations. Planned Giving can be as simple as a bequest or a more complex financial arrangement which can provide many options and possible tax deductions for the donor.

Speak with your legal and financial advisors as to the best way to structure your wills and estate planning to include the Temple in your current and future plans.

Information on Planned Giving can also be found on our website at:

http://www.templebethemet.com/social-action/donations/



# February Birthdays

Pat Bigley	February 1
Delilah Church	February 1
Elliot Whitecotten	February 3
Isabelle Hoffman	February 4
Arlene Dorfman	February 6
Benny Berman	February 11
Evan Robert Feldman	February 12
William Berman	February 14
Stuart Friedman	February 14
Aleesa F Aronoff	February 15
Eric Franklin	February 17
Marlene Bobrowsky	February 20
Aliyah White	February 20
Aiden Solomons	February 23
Barbara Bolter	February 25
Demetri Buss	February 25
Walter Polan	February 26
Camryn Bigley	February 27
Jet Duncan	February 27

#### SHIVAT/ADAR 5780 FEBRUARY 2020 **FRIDAY** SUNDAY **MONDAY** TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY SATURDAY 3 5 8 Religious School 5:30 PM Tot 9:00 AM - Noon Shabbat 9:00 AM -7:00 PM Family Religious School Service Parents Assoc. Meeting 10:00 AM -Sisterhood Meeting 12 13 14 15 10 11 Religious School 7:00 PM - Adult 7:30 PM 6:00 - 10:00 PM 9:00 AM - Noon Shabbat Musical Education - Jews Temple Meet & in America -Greet Service Session 4 **Chai Times** Valentine's Dav Tu Bishvat 16 19 20 21 22 No Religious School 7:00 PM 7:30 PM Temple Board Shabbat Service Meeting Presidents' Day 26 27 29 24 28 Religious School 7:00 PM 7:30 PM 9:00 AM - Noon **Book Club** Shabbat Service

Coming in March: Sun. March 1 - Sisterhood Meeting, 10:00AM. Tues. March 3 - Temple Board Meeting, 7:00 PM. Fri. March 6 - Tot Shabbat, 5:30 PM, Family Shabbat Service, 7:00 PM. Mon. March 9 - Purim Megillah reading. Tues. March 10 - Adult Education, 7:00 PM. Tues. March 24 - Book Club.

### YAHRZEIT DONATIONS - HONORING THE MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

### YAHRZEIT DONATIONS

Freda Murez, remembered by Herb Murez

Albert Lassoff, remembered by Marva & Peter Felchlin

Gloria Glatzer & Barbara Glatzer, remembered by Florence Mazzei

Edward Bernstein, remembered by Francine Bernstein

My Grandmother, Ida Polakoff, remembered by Francine Bernstein

Rosalind Avrashow, remembered by Marlene Dreyfuss

Miriam Everakes remembered by Adrienne & Jerry Everakes

# Visit the Helen Pappert Gift Shoppe

The Sisterhood Gift Shop is filled with products for all your Judaic needs. All items are reasonably priced and wonderfully thoughtful gifts for birthdays, bar and bat mitzvot, anniversaries, or just to say, "I love you."

Remember the sick, recovering and bereaved with cards, calls and visits.

Please say prayers of Refuah Sh'leimah for:

Fran Bourne Johnson

**Bailey Harrison** 

Orven Schanzer has been ill for some time now, may G-d grant him comfort and complete recovery.

Stuart Friedman has been ill. Let's join together in prayer for his improved and continued good health.

We pray for Maya Lee & wish her good health

Please call the Temple Office at (818) 843-4787 if a Temple Member is sick, recovering or hospitalized.



# Havurah Happenings <a href="Havurah Simcha L'Chaim">Havurah Simcha L'Chaim</a>

Havurah Simcha L'Chaim members are mainly retired people. If you would like to join, please let me know. If you would like to be in a new Havurah, please let me know and we can try to get a new group started.

Please call me to discuss it.

Ruth Glick 818 780 9134



### TBE House of Gathering and Education

### Do You Have a Son and/or Daughter In College?



Temple Beth Emet has started a program to connect with our students attending a College. We would like to help them to continue their Jewish way of life and offer them additional support. This way, they will always have an open line of communication with our Rabbi, should they have questions or need direction; and we will remind them of their link to Israel and to keep connected to the Jewish Community. After college, we hope to have them join our Temple, as an adult.

Please send an e-mail to office@templebethemet.com and give the following information:

The name of the Student;

Class Level;

Address;

Name of the University, and;

If the Student is a member of any organization or club on campus.

The Temple will send a care-package for each holiday, as a gift to the Student with a calendar of events at the Temple for each month. The Student will be invited to all events sponsored by the Temple. We would like to encourage the Student to return to the Temple as often as they wish; as the Temple would like to offer itself as a second home and place of Jewish learning. We look forward hearing from you!



You can support Temple Beth Emet with a contribution to our ongoing gofundme<sup>™</sup> campaign.

Your generosity will help us maintain and improve our facilities and help with our outreach and membership development programs.

Simply click here online!

### **Tribute Cards**

Tribute cards are always in order for happy or sad occasions. These cards are a wonderful way to remember or honor someone.

Did you know that you can get on an automatic mailing to those in need of well wishes by contacting the office?

A card will automatically be sent from you in your name to those in need of healing and an amount of \$10 will be added to your bill each time a card is sent in your name.

Contact the Temple Office at: 818 843-4787



Shop at Ralphs? Register your reward card at <u>ralphs.com</u> and add TBE as your organization. We will receive a donation when you shop!



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### Lunch & Learn Wednesday, March 4th · 11:30am



Join us for a complimentary lunch and learn more about the engaging lifestyle offered at The Heights. To RSVP, please call 818.732.8450.

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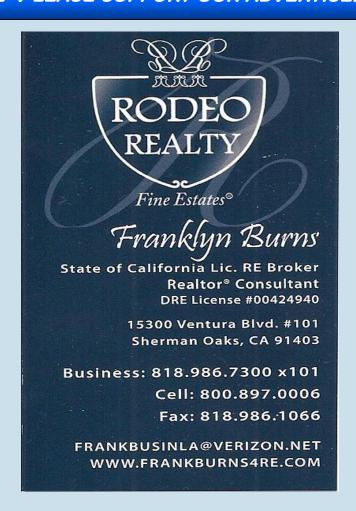


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