

June 2023



# Chai Times

## Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

*"The Temple With A Heart"*

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

**"We at Temple Beth Emet feel that any parent who brings us their child is a MAJOR donor!"**  
**"I love Judaism because it gives me unlimited arguing privileges."**  
**(Thank you, Jim Mattis Z"L)**



Last month at the last session of the Confirmation class, I asked the students which they liked better, when we did text, specifically, Pirke Avot, the Talmudic book on Ethics or the more freewheeling, when they asked me questions, usually, more or less 'what does Judaism say about...' They chose the latter overwhelmingly!

I remember learning about the plan for Confirmation Programs done by the Reform movement so many years ago. While Bar/ Bat Mitzvahs are much older ceremonies, going back to when we were agrarians, their age related ceremonies leave much to be desired in this post-industrial world. We send our children out to the world as Jewish Adults as age 13, it was originally 12 for girls, and expect them to be able to do well in a world full of complexities. So, the question asked is, "Would you send your child out to the world with only a 7<sup>th</sup> grade secular education?" Of course, the answer is, a resounding, "No". However, the Jewish non-Orthodox community does just that.

Further mis-communication has led to parents believing you had to be Bar/Bat Mitzvah by 13. No, the minimum age is 13, corresponding to the child physically being an

*(Continued on page 3)*



**EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON**

<http://www.templebethemet.com/home/upcoming-events/zoom-weekly-events/>

**SHABBAT SERVICE - 7:00 PM**

Also streaming on our YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMGJ-6nbjGVT157iUgKFBgQ>

(Also on Zoom, see Page 7)

**PIZZA NIGHT**

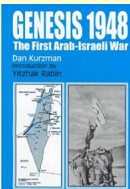
**Is on hiatus until Fall!**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTIONS**

June 6, 2023 - 7:00 PM

(Zoom link on our website)

See Notice and Nominated Slate on Page 11



**BOOK CLUB**

**Genesis 1948 by Dan Kurzman**

Wednesday, July 26, 2023 - 7:00 PM

(See page 7)

**HOLLYWOOD BOWL**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON**

**WATCH YOUR EMAIL/LISTEN TO YOUR ONE CALL!**

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### 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.

### 2022/23 Officers and Directors

#### Officers

Ira L. Goldstein, *President*  
Ken Watnick, *Vice President*  
Eileen Martin, *Treasurer*  
Melissa Potter, *Secretary*

#### Directors

Donna Diamond  
Barbara Harmon  
Herbert Murez  
Theida Salazar  
Felicia van Dyk

#### Sisterhood President

Marlene Dreyfuss

### Morris Gold Religious School Faculty

Rabbi Mark Sobel, Education Director  
Shirley Kirschenbaum K-3  
Laura Goldstein Hebrew 2-3, 4-5 Hebrew  
Sarah Emerson 4-5 Social Studies  
Robyn Kreisberg Social Studies 6-7, Music  
Olivia Goldstein 6-7 Hebrew  
Rabbi Mark 7-8 Hebrew, Bar/Bat  
Mitzvah Class  
Robyn Kreisberg, Music

### Religious School Parents Association

Cherie Rye, Liaison

### Office Staff

Administrative Assistant,  
Ralph Garland

### Committee Chairs

#### Education

David Goldstein

#### Membership

Eileen Martin

#### Ritual

Ira L. Goldstein

#### Ways and Means

Felicia Van Dyk

### Coordinators and Volunteers

#### Adult Education

David Goldstein

#### Book Club

Barbara Harmon

#### Chai Times Editor

Ira L. Goldstein

#### Children's Hospital LA Toys

Shirley Abramson

#### Home Again LA

Kathy Kreans

#### Library

Shirley Abramson

#### Marquee

Rabbi Mark Sobel

#### One Call

Diane Lewis-Goldstein

#### Public Relations and Social Media

Jennifer Larkin

#### Reach Out

Rabbi Mark Sobel

### Temple Beth Emet Office Hours

Monday - Thursday - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
Friday, 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 available at [www.TempleBethEmet.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:office@Templebethemet.com)



*(Continued from page 1)*

Adult. We, at Temple, long ago found that the 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade with all its pressures makes Bar/Bat Mitzvah training sometimes too much for the student. We have had students do both Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Confirmation studies simultaneously. The Confirmation program usually ends at age 15 or the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade, where the child is much more mature.

Another thing that makes us unique along with our small Hebrew 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes and small group tutoring is we don't set a date for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs until the child completes the packet of prayers that constitute 90% of the religious service they are going to lead. It is presented to them when they enter 6<sup>th</sup> grade. When they read the prayers in the packet fluently, not quickly, but smoothly, we then ask for a minimum of 6 months to prepare the melodies, the Torah portion and the Speech. Two months before the date, I meet with them additionally, once a week in the Sanctuary so they feel 'at home' there.

Some people find this problematic, what with travel arrangements, caterers, etc. But my aim in the Child's knowledge that the Temple has his/her best interests at heart.

Let me relate an incident from before I came to Temple Beth Emet. The other synagogue where I taught had a policy that when you registered the child they gave you a Bar/ Bat Mitzvah date. Being they required a 5 year commitment, it was 5 years in the future. I had a student in my 7<sup>th</sup> grade religious school class who was called in by the Cantor. It was 6 months before his Bar mitzvah and the Cantor wanted to know how his Hebrew reading was. In a word it was terrible! So, the Cantor told the parents, who were very involved with their Temple, that their son would need strenuous tutoring. The parents, of course, agreed and the tutoring began. The son did well at his Bar Mitzvah, but what he told his parents greatly affected me.

He said, "I did this (the Bar Mitzvah training) because I am a loyal son and I love you both, BUT I AM NEVER GOING BACK TO THAT CRAZY PLACE".

I have taken his comment to heart. We all should

Also!

That is why we don't set a date for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service when the parents first register in the school. Most importantly, that is why we encourage the students to go at their own pace. Part of the Confirmation program is tutoring the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders. Over the years many of our former students come back to us as teachers. This year we had three. Unfortunately for us, two are leaving. Good-bye, Josh and Olivia! We will truly miss you and your efforts with our students.

Please remember, we are playing for our children's whole life! We want them to feel that this is their house, a house of Truth. We must continue to do so, or else the Truth is we will lose the next generation.

B'Ahava,

Rabbi Mark





### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - June 2023

June is Pride Month, celebrating LGBTQ+ peoples, their culture, communities, contributions, and history. Originating as a commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 in New York, it has grown to a world-wide assertion and celebration of human rights and an opportunity for those outside the LGBTQ+ community to support, observe, listen, and be educated, as well as to celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of all peoples.



Over the years, the visibility of Pride has grown. Until recently we might assume that the celebration of Pride was becoming more mainstreamed and accepted, as recognition of Pride grew wider in state and local governments, and major corporations even incorporated Pride into marketing and merchandising. Is there any better indication of acceptance than when a celebration becomes a cause for a sale?

But recently Pride has become a target of the “anti-woke movement.” Ignorance and fear, stirred up by those who profess to support parental rights and so-called “traditional values” have manifested in boycotts and protests against corporations and confrontation at schools. In some states oppressive legislation aimed at tamping down not only acceptance and understanding of the LGBTQ+ community, but also that of minorities, immigrants, and religions that are not what they consider “mainstream Christianity.”

One of the tropes the anti-Pride protesters use is “don’t indoctrinate our children.” The professed fear is that gay people seek to recruit children who would not otherwise be gay to become gay. This is a throwback to the hateful charge by Anita Bryant in the 1970s that “Homosexuals can’t reproduce, so they have to recruit.” Let’s be clear, homosexuals don’t recruit children, pedophiles recruit children. Sexual orientation has nothing to do with it.

Let’s be clear about another thing, children of same-sex couples are under no inherent disadvantage in their psychological or academic development. There are and have been same-sex couple families in our congregation (and single parent families with straight and gay parents) and they and their children are well-adjusted, high achieving, loving, and great people.

The ignorance-fueled hate that drives “don’t say gay” also fuels the fear of teaching our children uncomfortable facts of our history, the fear of people of different ethnicities, the fear of people of different religions, and the fear that people are coming to “replace” them.

I believe all people, regardless of ethnicity, sexuality, religion, culture, or color, want the same thing for themselves and their children. We want to be safe in our homes, have enough to feed and clothes our families, and to give our kids the best opportunities we can. We also want to be pretty much left alone to be who we are. If we expect these things for ourselves, we have to be willing to respect the desire for these things by others. We also have to be willing to feel a little uncomfortable until we learn, accept, and even celebrate our differences. We can take pride in ourselves while protecting the right of others to take pride in themselves and we can all take pride in our diversity and the appreciation of the value of what we bring to each other.

-- IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President



June Birthdays

Jon Goldstein	June 9
Robert Feldman	June 11
Aaron Werner	June 16
Neil Margolin	June 19
Rabbi Mark Sobel	June 22
Kyllo Sparks	June 30

June Anniversaries

Ron & Merry Dacher	June 1
Gerald & Harriet Winnick	June 1
Samantha & John Brody	June 16
Rabbi Mark & Mina Sobel	June 25



Shop at Ralphs? Register your reward card at [ralphs.com](http://ralphs.com) and add TBE as your organization.

We will receive a donation when you shop!



**Temple Beth Emet of Burbank**  
*sisterhood*

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 TREASURER - Eileen Martin**

Our big book sale on May 7, 20223 was a rousing success. We worked hard and made a lot of money. I want to thank the following people for all their help: Joanne Serin, Felicia Van Dyke and Vincent, Cheryl Rye and Joey, Jennifer Larkin, Jennifer Levine, Barbara Harmon, Marlene Dreyfuss and of course Rabbi Mark Sobel who helped with setting it up and tearing it down.



I also want to thank Felicia Van Dyk for providing more Krispy Kreme donuts, always a winner and we sold quite a few.

And, I want to thank the following people for their generous donations which added to our total: Jennifer Levine (we hope a new member), Barbara Harmon and Robin Kreisberg. Every bit helped and we thank you.

***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. 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.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**PREFERRED PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_



# Temple Beth Emet Book Club



**Conducted by Barbara Harmon.**

Book Club was founded by Fran Bourne Johnson Z"L\*

\*Her memory will always be a blessing to us.

**Where:** Blum Hall at Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

**July 26, 2023 - 7:00PM to 8:30 PM at Temple and on Zoom**

**When:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88422348913?pwd=V1OrY1ZYV05VYzdNejJoK0VCcHUxZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 2234 8913 Passcode: 388498

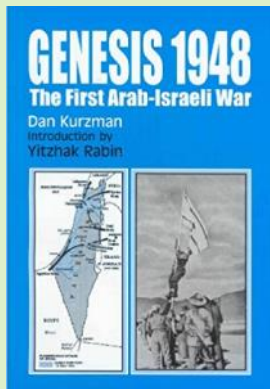
Dial in Phone Numbers:

(669) 900-6833 US (San Jose) (346) 248-7799 US (Houston)

**What book will we be reading?**

**Genesis 1948, by Dan Kurzman**

**Synopsis:**



This book tells the full story of the first Arab-Israeli war and the birth of the State of Israel. Based largely on some 1000 interviews with participants of all nations, it describes the important military and diplomatic events of that epic war - from the struggle between Truman and Dean Rusk to the fall of Jerusalem's Jewish Quarter; from the Irgun-Stern Gang massacre at Deir Yassin to the ambush of a Hadassah hospital convoy; from the clandestine operations of the Jewish underground in the US to the secret negotiations between Jordan's King Abdullah and Moshe Dayan. Here are anecdotes and glimpses of great figures such as Weizmann, Ben-Gurion, Dayan, Abba Eban, Abdullah, Glubb Pasha, Ralph Bunche, and Nasser, and of the ordinary people who did the fighting; concentration-camp survivors, Sabras, foreign volunteers, and Arabs from throughout the Middle East. Here are all the major and minor participants and events of the great conflict that set the stage for and is crucial to the understanding of the present-day Israeli nation. Book is available from Amazon and others in both print and e-book formats.

## *Zoom Information for Shabbat Services*

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88306033879?pwd=dFMxWlBIY09SNUVqSzAycUp0RjZRdz09>

Meeting ID: 883 0603 3879

Passcode: 144071

Dial in: (669) 900 6833 US (San Jose)(408) 638 0968 US (San Jose)





## **SAVE THE DATE!**

Sunday, July 2, 2023, 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM  
Temple Beth Emet of Burbank  
600 Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91505



I was born July 2, 1923 and it will be the one hundredth anniversary of my birth. While I am not a friend of ceremonies, my family feels that the occasion should be observed. Accordingly, we plan on a reception at my temple which is Temple Beth Emet of Burbank, as noted above. We plan on light refreshments including non-alcoholic beverages (You need to drive there and back) and we will ask Rabbi Sobel to bless me and all those who attend and wish me well for my further life's journey.

**NO GIFTS PLEASE!** If you are so inclined, feel free to make a donation to the temple. It will indeed be a good deed (and tax deductible too)!

Temple Beth Emet is an institution close to my heart. It is not a large congregation, nor is it a wealthy one. The social hall is comfortable, but not ornate. There is no ostentation. My late wife Freda and I found a sense of community there in its very simple focus on what we feel really matters. Rabbi Sobel as its spiritual guide promotes and reinforces this focus. I am also indebted to the late Sylvia Sutton, then the Temple Secretary and general doer of good deeds. Through her, I met Hilda Fogelson who became my very best friend; she and her family make my otherwise lonely life fulfilling and enjoyable.

When we get closer to the occasion, a further invitation will go out with an RSVP to let us know who will come and how many there will be in your party. My daughter-in-law Karen Grenier is the mistress of ceremonies and she will see to it that the occasion is dignified and enjoyable.

If someone does not get the further invitation, it is due to slip-ups and my general unfamiliarity with the digital medium. I am a digital Neandertaler, having grown up with a manual typewriter, and carbon paper and onionskin for copies.

**HERBERT MUREZ**





# Yahrzeits - Honoring the Memory of Loved Ones

## JUNE YAHRZEITS

NAME:	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE:	NAME:	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE:
<b>At Temple June 2, 2023</b>			<b>At Temple June 23, 2023</b>		
Bertha Yaras	Fran Bernstein	June 1	Edward A. Goldsmith	Gary Goldsmith	June 18
Susie Ferran	The Schaffer Family	June 1	Dorothy Copalowitz	The Congregation	June 18
			Stephen Kayser	Bennett Kayser	June 19
			Belle Klivans	Barbara Klivans	June 21
			Aleck Hoffman	Jack & Linda Kranz	June 21
			James Pollard	Cindy Adkins	June 23
<b>At Temple June 9, 2023</b>			<b>At Temple June 30, 2023</b>		
Selma Kaden	Ron Kaden	June 5	Irwin Nord	Rabbi Mark Sobel	June 25
Joseph Frischman	William Frischman	June 6	Henry Kapson	Pat & Bruce Bigley	June 25
Mollie Steinmetz	Susan Levin	June 7	Henry Kapson	Bob Bigley	June 25
Edith Liebgot	Howard Liebgot	June 7	Sidney J. Epstein	Adrienne Everakes	June 27
Rabbi William Kramer	The Congregation	June 8	Charles Kayser	Bennett Kayser	June 29
Sylvia Schuster	Linda Mazur	June 8			
<b>At Temple June 16, 2023</b>					
Maggie Montalbano	Bea Satmary	June 11			
Cecilia Feldman	Pamela Franklin	June 12			
Samuel Polakoff	Fran Bernstein	June 15			
Regina Glatzer	Flo Mazzei	June 16			



## Yahrzeit Donations

### Yahrzeit Donations

*Herbert Murez, in memory of Morris Swedlove*

*Neil & Vicki Margolin, in memory of Adele and Ernest Abdo*

*Cheryl Mundon, in memory of Esther Shagan Klein*

*Lisa Schanzer-Gilman in memory of Orven & Esther*

### 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/>



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 7:00PM Shabbat Services	3
4	5	6 7:00 PM Annual Membership Meeting and Elections  	17 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	8	9 7:00PM Shabbat Services	10
11	12	13	14 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom   Flag Day	15  	16 7:00PM Shabbat Services	17
18   Father's Day	19	20	21 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom   Summer Begins	22	23 7:00PM Shabbat Services	24
25	26	27	28 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	29	30	

**Coming in July: Lunch With the Rabbi - Every Wednesday at Noon via Zoom - Shababt Services - Every Friday at 7:00 PM. Friday, July 7 - 7:00 PM - Installation Shabbat - Wednesday- July 26 - 7:00 PM - Book Club**



### NoHo Mailboxes

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All at reasonable prices.



## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Please take notice that in accordance with the By-Laws of Temple Beth Emet of Burbank, the Annual Meeting of the membership will take place on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Temple.

***All members are encouraged to attend.***  
**Nominated Slate of Officers for 2023—2024 Term**

The Nominating Committee has recommended the following slate of Officers and Directors of Temple Beth Emet for the July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 term:

- |                        |                |                   |                 |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>President:</b>      | Ira Goldstein  | <b>Directors:</b> | Donna Diamond   |
| <b>Vice President:</b> | Ken Watnick    |                   | Barbara Harmon  |
| <b>Secretary:</b>      | Melissa Potter |                   | Herbert Murez   |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>      | Eileen Martin  |                   | Theda Salazar   |
|                        |                |                   | Felicia Van Dyk |

Additional nominations will be taken from the floor, however any person nominated must be available either in attendance or by phone to accept nomination. Members may nominate themselves. All members in good standing are entitled to vote at the election of Officers and Directors.