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"We shall not tarry in keeping your Torah of Truth and when we are (or do) wrong PROMPTLY admit it." (Psalm of Serenity, verse 10)



The news from Gaza was just about the worst it could be. Three hostages were killed by the Israel Defense Forces. Forgive me, but what ran through my mind was, "Now our enemies have much to talk about!"

That we value human life above all else, Deuteronomy 30:19: "*I (God) have set before you Life and Death, Blessing and Curse; therefore choose Life, that both You and your offspring may live*"; is well known to the terror organizations and their financial backers as well as anti-Semites throughout the world. We are commanded to do almost anything to save lives! It is called Pikuach Nefesh (literally, to save a soul).

With great grief for us, the false narrative of the IDF killing our own on October 7, echoed proudly at the Oakland City Council meeting and expressed over and over, loudly by others, now had facts.

As I read and watched every report I could find over the incident, descriptions of 3 young men shirtless waving a white flag seemed fairly consistent until I spoke to Joshua in Jerusalem. He said, quoting Haaretz, the Israeli New York

(Continued on page 3)

Zoom Information For Recurring Events (See Page 12)



EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON

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

SHABBAT SERVICES - 7:00 PM

Also streaming on our YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMGJ-6nbjGVT157iUgKFBqQ>

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 - 7:00 PM
(Also on Zoom - See Page 12)

PIZZA NIGHT!

Friday, January 5, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Shabbat Services - 7:00 PM



2023-24 ADULT EDUCATION JEWS OF THE WEST

January 9, 2024 - 7:00 PM

The Alamo and Peddlers of Texas - Stephen Austin, Anthony Wolf, Galba Fuqua and Israel Zangwill

(See Page 10, Zoom information Page 12))



BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024 - 7:00 PM

Going Infinite: The Rise and Fall of a New Tycoon, by Michael Lewis

(See Page 9, Zoom Information Page 12))

SAVE THE DATE:

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023 - 7:00PM

**A Night of Songs By Jewish Composers
From Broadway and Beyond**



USE VENMO AND PAYPAL FOR DUES, TUITION, AND DONATIONS @tbeurbank or use the QR code!





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.

2023/24 Officers and Directors

Officers

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

Directors

Donna Diamond
Barbara Harmon
Tracy Martin
Theida Salazar
Felicia van Dyk

Sisterhood President

Marlene Dreyfuss

Morris Gold Religious School Faculty

Rabbi Mark Sobel, Education Director
Shirley Kirschenbaum K - 1
Sarah Emerson 2 - 3
Jennifer Larkin 4 - 5
Robyn Kreisberg, 6 - 7, Music
Rabbi Mark 7-8 Hebrew, Bar/Bat
Mitzvah Class
Robyn Kreisberg, Music
Joseph Tanner - Teachers' Assistant

Office Staff

Administrative Assistant,
Ralph Garland

Committee Chairs

Education

David Goldstein

Membership

Eileen Martin

Ritual

Ira L. Goldstein

Social Action

Diane Lewis-Goldstrein

Ways and Means

Felicia Van Dyk

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Adult Education

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Chai Times Editor

Ira L. Goldstein

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Shirley Abramson

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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.

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

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TempleBethEmet?fref=ts](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



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Times, something that gave me pause,” Pop, the three men ran toward the soldiers!”

Most people, if not all, released from capture, coming upon soldiers, tend not to run at them. They usually, put up their hands and walk very slowly, waiting for commands from the soldier in charge.

When I was discussing this scenario with Mina and my concerns, she reminded me that several hostages have testified that they were drugged by the terrorists while in captivity.

The use of Hashish by radical fighters in Medieval Iran before going into battle gave rise to the term, “Hashishin” (Assassins in English) the name, first, of a group of Shi’ite fanatics and now, political killers. Hashish a mind altering drug, produces in its taker the feelings of invulnerability.

We are all trying to deal with this tragedy in our own way! The above is my way of handling the deaths of those three men.

Dan Jacobs, a TV commentator for News Nation took a different tack. He acknowledged that the IDF immediately admitted the error and took responsibility for the men’s death. He reminded his audience that during the current conflict the other side has not admitted to causing the deaths of hostages but instead blames the Israelis .In fact, as the news of the incident has come to light, deaths of these innocent men has caused many people to see the soldiers responsible disciplined. How different are the photos of members of Hamas cheering the deaths of Concert goers and Kibbutz members!

At the end of this month, we will celebrate Tu B’shvat, the New Year of the Trees. I am reminded of a classic vignette from our folklore.

“An old man was planting a sapling and a younger man came by. The young man said to the older man, ‘Why are you planting that sapling? You will never see it grow up.’

The Old man replied, “I am not planting it for me. I am planting it for my children and grandchildren.”

In the midst of this great horror, full scale war, the Israel Defense Force has spoken to the future generations with its honesty and admission of errors, especially when it comes to human life.

I ask, I beg, I plead with our adversaries, wherever they are in this world, to do the same, speak truthfully to your children and grandchildren so they will remember you as honest and responsible caretakers of your heritage.

And may we, through our efforts, create blossoms of truth which will, in turn, produce the fruits of honesty, which is Shalom!

B’ahava,

Rabbi Mark



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - January 2024



One of the things that makes Temple Beth Emet unique and something we have always be proud of is that we have never had a mandatory building fund assessment. Our friends at Burbank Temple Emanu El have a \$360.00 annual building/safety assessment. Temple Sinai in Glendale has an assessment for new members of \$300.00 for the first three years and an additional \$400.00 security assessment. Valley Beth Shalom has a \$3,500.00 building fund assessment paid over ten years and \$610.00 security assessment annually.

The founding families of Temple Beth Emet did not find it necessary to impose a mandatory building fund and back then no one even thought about a security assessment. They relied on their own sense of responsibility and dedication to the Temple to assure the purchase, improvement, and maintenance of the Temple.

Somewhere along the way, we seem to have forgotten the need to provide for the physical upkeep of our Temple. The building fund we had years ago has long since been spent on repairs and occasional updating. Yet the building and its systems continue to age. Recently we had quite a scare when the furnace in the sanctuary, which is original to our late 1970s building, stopped working. We were fortunate that our HVAC experts at Chuck Doidge Heating (courtesy plug) were able to get it working again, but every time they come out they remind us to start saving money for replacement. Unfortunately, we have barely been able to meet our current expenses every month, and there is nothing left to put away.

Our congregation has the advantage of owning our synagogue campus free and clear, but our campus needs repair, and that is the responsibility of each of us.

We have never had a mandatory building fund assessment and we do not want to start now. Instead, we are asking everyone to take on a voluntary assessment to re-establish a building fund to provide for the maintenance and improvement of our Temple. We are suggesting a minimum of \$180.00 per year, or \$15.00 per month. Some of us are not able to commit to that assessment, and any contribution is welcome. Others of us can go well beyond that amount. As always, we will rely on own individual sense of responsibility and dedication to our Temple.

Our Board of Directors has decided to name this fund the Herb Murez Building Fund to recognize the dedication Herb had to Temple Beth Emet and his constant concern for its welfare.

As we turn our attention to providing the funds to maintain our Temple, we also need to look at our other resources for maintenance -- the members of our community. Some of us are handy with home repairs or have access to people willing to contribute materials and effort to the upkeep of the building. We need these non-monetary contributions as well and there is no better way to "take ownership" in our Temple community than to put physical effort into its home. Just contact the office and let Ralph know what your talent or resource is.

Thank you in advance for your commitment and support of our Temple With a Heart. With everyone's help, we can assure our Temple is strong, secure, safe, and inviting.

-- IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President



January Birthdays

<i>Frank Watnick</i>	<i>January 3</i>
<i>Brooklyn Bigley</i>	<i>January 14</i>
<i>Elyse Sokol</i>	<i>January 22</i>
<i>Vicki Margolin</i>	<i>January 24</i>
<i>Rebecca Tanner</i>	<i>January 24</i>

We have no record of anniversaries in January.

Zoom Information for Shabbat Services

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88306033879?pwd=dFMxWIBIY09SNUVqSzAycUp0RjZRdz09>

Meeting ID: 883 0603 3879 Passcode: 144071

Dial in: (669) 900 6833 US (San Jose)

(408) 638 0968 US (San Jose)





Yahrzeit Donations

Jodessa Bayer in memory of Bruce Bayer and Eleanor Sobel

Lisa Gilman Schanzer in memory of Orven Schanzer and Ruth Schanzer Gilman

Marlene Dreyfuss in memory of Rosalind Avrashow

Adrienne & Jerry Everakes in memory of Miriam Everakes

Marva & Peter Felchlin in memory of Albert Lassoff

James P Levin in memory of Joseph Steinmetz

G&E Becker in memory of Edith Russell

Beatrice Satmary in memory of Olga and Szerena Weber

IN MEMORIAM DONATION

Theida Salazar in memory of Herb Murez



Purchasing a leaf on the **June Beck Tree of Life** in our Temple foyer is a wonderful way to give thanks when celebrating the birth of a child or grandchild, a milestone birthday or anniversary, a wedding, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, Confirmation, or any other simcha!

CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR ORDERING INFORMATION AND PRICING.



Shop at Ralphs?

Register your reward card at 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

Although our Boutique Sale was great, we still have more "treasures" and at our next meeting, we will go over what is left and decide what we can keep for another sale and the rest we will haul to a thrift store. Of course, we will plan a lunch afterward. Happy New Year to all our "Sisters" and thank you for your work this year.

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 _____



JANUARY YAHRZEITS

NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE	NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE
At Temple January 5, 2024			At Temple January 19, 2024		
William Naythons	David Naythons	January 1	Toni Mattis	Congregation	January 14
Sol (Sheik) Rosenthal	Gail Arce	January 2	Freda Murez	Congregation	January 14
Morris Yaras	Fran Bernstein	January 2	Maurice Rosenthal	Gail Arce	January 15
Joan Kramer	Congregation	January 3	Naoma Goodman	Congregation	January 15
Orven Schanzer	Lisa Gilman-Schanzer	January 5	Shirley Wolf	Congregation	January 14
Joan Kramer	Congregation	January 3	Maurice Rosenthal	Betty Canter & Gail Arce	January 15
George Davis	Congregation	January 5	Michael Liebgot	Howard Liebgot	January 16
			Carmel Feinsilber	Barri Bucknam	January 20
			Susan Werner	Dan & Flora Mendoza-Werner	January 20
At Temple January 12, 2024			At Temple January 26, 2024		
Sylvia Becker	Gerald Becker	January 9			
Mayer Nudell	Congregation	January 9			
Tillie Friedman	Bonnie & Stuart Friedman	January 9	Miriam Everakes	Jerry Everakes	January 21
Edward Zimmer	Congregation	January 13	Anna Sobel	Rabbi Mark and Mina Sobel	January 24
Rosalind Avrashow	Marlene Dreyfuss	January 13	Louis Bigley	Bruce Bigley	January 26
Rosalind Avrashow	Eileen Martin	January 13	Herman Sandelman	Barri Bucknam	January 26
			Lena Rosenthal	Gail Arce	January 28

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/>



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

When: **Wednesday, January 31, 2024**
7:00PM to 8:30 PM at Temple and on Zoom

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

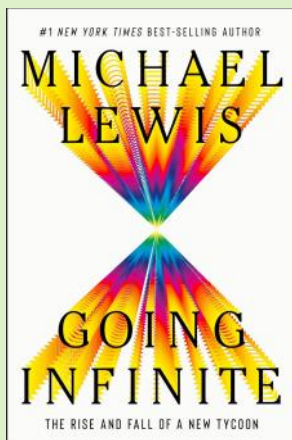
Meeting ID: 884 2234 8913 Passcode: 388498

Dial in Phone Numbers:

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

What book will we be reading?

Going Infinite: The Rise and Fall of a New Tycoon,
by Michael Lewis



Synopsis:

When Michael Lewis first met him, Sam Bankman-Fried was the world's youngest billionaire and crypto's Gatsby. CEOs, celebrities, and leaders of small countries all vied for his time and cash after he catapulted, practically overnight, onto the Forbes billionaire list. Who was this ruffled guy in cargo shorts and limp white socks, whose eyes twitched across Zoom meetings as he played video games on the side?

In *Going Infinite* Lewis sets out to answer this question, taking readers into the mind of Bankman-Fried, whose rise and fall offers an education in high-frequency trading, cryptocurrencies, philanthropy, bankruptcy, and the justice system. Both psychological portrait and financial roller-coaster ride, *Going Infinite* is Michael Lewis at the top of his game, tracing the mind-bending trajectory of a character who never liked the rules and was allowed to live by his own—until it all came undone.



ADULT EDUCATION SERIES 2023-2024

Presented by RABBI MARK H. SOBEL



JEWES OF THE WEST

JANUARY 9, 2024 - THE ALAMO AND PEDDLERS OF TEXAS

**STEPHEN AUSTIN, ANTHONY WOLF, GALBA FUQUA AND
ISRAEL ZANGWILL**

FEBRUARY 13, 2024 - THE CIVIL WAR





CAN WE GET THERE SOONER, MORRIE?

MARCH 12, 2024 - CALIFORNIA

THE GOLDENEH MEDINA?

**All sessions begin at 7:00 PM—Open to the public.
There is no charge for this series, donations accepted.
Also available via ZOOM, meeting information on our website.**



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 7:00 PM Temple Board Meeting	3	4	5 6:00 PM Pizza Night 7:00 PM Shabbat Services 	6
7 9:00 AM Religious School Regular Session 11:00 AM Sisterhood Meeting	8	9 7:00 PM Adult Education	10 12:00 Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	11	12 7:00 PM Shabbat Services	13
14 9:00 AM Religious School Special Schedule Tu B'Shvat	15  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Chai Times Submissions Due</div>	16	17 12:00 Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	18	19 7:00 PM Shabbat Services	20
21 9:00 AM Religious School Regular Session	22	23	24 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	25  Tu B'Shvat	26 7:00PM Shabbat Services	27
28 9:00 AM Religious School Regular Session	29	30	31 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom 7:00PM - Book Club 			

Coming in February: Lunch With the Rabbi - Every Wednesday at Noon via Zoom. Shabbat Services - Every Friday at 7:00 PM. Fri., Feb.2 - 6:00 PM - Pizza Night, 7:00 PM - Shabbat Services - Tues. Feb. 6 - 7:00 PM - Temple Board Meeting Sun. Feb. 11 - 7:00 PM - A Night of Songs By Jewish Composers From Broadway and Beyond Tues. Feb. 13 - 7:00 PM - Adult Education - Jews of the West - Wed. Feb. 28 - 7:00 PM - Book Club.



NoHo Mailboxes

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kipot.
All at reasonable prices.**



ZOOM INFORMATION FOR RECURRING EVENTS

Lunch With The Rabbi – Wednesdays 12:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86873080719?pwd=cjlzcWNZNnNFSXJSTGNTRWJIS0pOdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 7308 0719 - Password: 410358

Shabbat Services Every Friday at 7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88306033879?pwd=dFMxWIBIY09SNUVqSzAycUp0RjZRdz09>

Meeting ID: 883 0603 3879 - Passcode: 144071

Temple Board Meeting/Annual Membership Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85673588260?pwd=MzcvSEpqdVJ0b2VETHBCUkISaVROdz09>

Meeting ID: 856 7358 8260 - Passcode: 558930

Adult Education Sessions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82466952111?pwd=akJnaHN1eFdQajNBVmNSNXNBMzhxdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 6695 2111 - Passcode: 907136

Book Club

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88422348913?pwd=V1QrY1ZYV05VYzdNejJoK0VCcHUxZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 2234 8913 Passcode: 388498

Dial in numbers (Use Meeting ID and Passcodes Above)

(669) 900-6833 US (San Jose) - (408) 638-0968 US (San Jose)