

January 2026



Chai Times

Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

The Temple With A Heart™

600 N. Buena Vista St. Burbank, CA 91505
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On December 14, 2025, an ISIS inspired terrorist attack occurred at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, during a celebration of the Jewish first night of Hanukkah attended by around 1,000 people. 15 people were killed, including a ten-year-old child.

Local synagogues, including Temple Beth Emet, were contacted by the *Burbank Leader* for comment. Rabbi Bieber provided the follow statement, which appeared in part in the *Leader* article:

It is a tragedy that we Jews have been the target of hatred and vitriol for more than two thousand years. In our time today and in our very own country, "leaders," of many strips and backgrounds have decided to blame Jews in general for things they are upset about. Some people don't mind even making up lies out of whole cloth and spreading that garbage, why? Does it give them the illusion of power?

Then we have those like the father and son duo who take it upon themselves to murder innocents on Bondi Beach, Australia, who are only out for a day of fun and celebration. It is a gathering of Jews, people that these two and many more have deemed less than human and fodder for their anger dump. Imagine being so deluded that you can look at people through your gun sight and end their life as if you are in a video game and all you are shooting are targets and nothing more.

Maybe the killers never got the care they deserved as children and or immigrants. They probably bypassed the hard work of the struggle of living a meaningful life. Perhaps they didn't wrestle with issues and problems to find solutions. They only found a shortcut through vitriolic anger that turns into murder of grand mothers, children, pregnant women and men who wanted to make a connection with community and nature on a beautiful day at the beach.

How can we spread the idea of the sacredness of human life to those who lack that awareness? Why does it seem like something good to people who want to impose their feelings of hurt and violence on others? Why don't these individuals have the awareness that they will never get over or past what they have wrought on humanity with these indiscriminate acts of hatred. They have brought the most severe of curses and the blackest of stains upon their souls.

-- Rabbi Janet Bieber

SHABBAT SERVICES

FRIDAYS AT 7:00 PM EXCEPT LAST WEEKEND OF THE MONTH, THEN SATURDAY AT 10:30 AM
On Zoom and streaming on YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMGJ-6nbjGVT157iUgKFBgQ>
Zoom Meeting ID 954 3781 4440
Password: 773288

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 6, 2026 - 7:00 PM

SATURDAY SHABBAT SERVICE

JANUARY 31, 2026 - 10:30 AM
(**NO SERVICES FRIDAY, JANUARY 30**)

BAGEL BRUNCH TO FOLLOW!

ADULT BAR AND BAT MITZVAH CLASS FORMING!

Everyone welcome, no matter what your level of experience.

If you would like to be a part of this cohort, please contact the office.

USE VENMO AND PAYPAL

For DUES, TUITION, AND DONATIONS
@tbeburbank
or use the QR code!
Pay with credit cards on PayPay, No PayPal Account needed!





Religious Leadership

Rabbi Janet Bieber
Music and Choir Director,
Robyn Kreisberg

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

2025/26 Officers and Directors

Officers

Ira L. Goldstein, *President*
Ken Watnick, *Vice President*

Eileen Martin, *Treasurer*

Diane Lewis-Goldstein, *Secretary*

Directors

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Jen Levine
Tracy Martin
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Marlene Dreyfuss

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Eileen Martin

Ritual

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Social Action

Diane Lewis-Goldstein

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Chai Times Editor

Ira L. Goldstein

Home Again LA

Diane Lewis-Goldstein

Marquee

Ira Goldstein/Diane Lewis-Goldstein

One Call

Diane Lewis-Goldstein

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:

office@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?ref=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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - January 2026

Every December, one of my gifts to Diane is a calendar depicting the works of Louis Comfort Tiffany's studio. Sometimes the calendars are limited to the famous lampshades, sometimes the gorgeous windows, sometimes a mix of works. Over the years some companies have stopped producing Tiffany calendars, which is distressing after relying on a certain publisher, but there is usually an acceptable substitute from another publisher. For many years we've favored the calendars of a company called Pomegranate, which featured items in the collection of The New York Historical, (formerly the New York Historical Society) which is New York's first museum, having been founded in 1804. We once visited the museum while in the city, and not only are its holdings impressive, but so is its building on Central Park East, where it has been since 1908. Alas, Pomegranate did not issue a Tiffany calendar for 2026, so we went with the calendar from Flame Tree Studio, which is still beautiful, but we liked Pomegranate better.



An art calendar is a wonderful thing. Every month is a new gift of loveliness, a new inspiration. Every month is something to look forward to, but at the end of the month you have to move on to the next discovery. You don't really leave it behind, though. You can look back at each month's page and perhaps find some detail in the illustration you hadn't appreciated before.

So it is with every month of every new year. Each month brings new experiences and opportunities, many of which are unique to the month or season. Along the way, we look back over the past, hopefully gaining insight from our experiences, but always having to move forward to the next month, the next stage, the next new adventure.

Right now 2026 is new, with 12 months of life to travel through. But as past years have taught us, all too soon it will be December again and we will be wondering where the year went (and ordering a new calendar!) And as past years have also taught us, there are going to be challenges and sadness mixed in with joys and successes. May the latter sustain us through the former, and may we have good company along the way so as to share the good times, and to support each other during the inevitable difficulties.

I hope that as we travel through the next 12 months we will all take the time along the way to find the beauty, much like what is contained on those pages in the art calendar. May we take inspiration and encouragement as well. From time to time we should stop and reflect on what has come before, and anticipate what lies ahead.

I'm wishing all of us a happy, healthy, successful 2026. May the journey be pleasant, enriching, and enlightening. May we travel together and continue to enjoy each other's company. May we continue to grow and build our Temple family and celebrate our holy days and festivals, and our *simchas* together.

And at the end of 2026, may we find the perfect art wall calendar for 2027!

-- IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President



Our choir leads us in Hanukkah songs at Shabbat services



Rabbi teaches, Robyn plays, everyone sings - Hanukkah at Burbank Town Center



Mark has rythem at the mall!

Photograph by Joel Lava

Marley reading Torah



Marley's Bat Mitzvah was absolutely wonderful!

Rabbi Janet and Bunni at Hanukkah in the Foothills



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.



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TOP QUALITY TALLITS FOR
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BAR & BAT MITZVAH
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All at reasonable prices.



MEMBER CHAI LIGHTS

January Birthdays

<i>Rabbi Janet Bieber</i>	<i>January 1</i>
<i>Frank Watnick</i>	<i>January 3</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>
<i>Jen Levine</i>	<i>January 27</i>



JANUARY YAHRZEITS

NAME:	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE:	NAME:	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE:
At Temple January 2, 2026			At Temple January 16, 2026 (Continued)		
William Naythons	David Naythons		January 1 Rosalind Avrashow	Eileen Martin	January 13
Joan Kramer	Congregation		January 3 Toni Mattis	Congregation	January 14
At Temple January 10, 2025			Naoma Goodman	Congregation	January 15
Joan Kramer	Congregation	January 3	Michael Liebgot	Howard Liebgot	January 16
Orven Schanzer	Lisa Gilman-Schanzer	January 5	At Temple January 23, 2026		
George Davis	Congregation	January 5 Bernice Wexler Hirsch	Joanne Serin		January 18
Sylvia Becker	Gerald Becker	January 9 Carmel Feinsilber	Barri Bucknam		January 20
Mayer Nudell	Congregation	January 9 Susan Werner	Dan & Flora Mendoja-Werner		January 20
		Miriam Everakes	Jerry Everakes		January 21
At Temple January 16, 2026			At Temple January 31, 2026 (Saturday Service)		
Edward Zimmer	Congregation	January 13	January 13 Herman Sandelman	Barri Bucknam	January 26
Rosalind Avrashow	Marlene Dreyfuss				



DONATIONS

YAHRZEIT DONATIONS

Joanne Serin in memory of Bernice Hirsch

Jodessa Bayer in memory of Bruce Bayer and Elenore Sobel

Flora & Dan Werner in memory of Susan Werner

Jerry Everakes in memory of Miriam Everakes

G&E Becker in memory of Edith Russell

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/>



JANUARY 2026 TEVET/ 5786

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 10:30 AM Shabbat Services
4	5	6 7:00 PM Board Meeting	7	8	9 7:00 PM Shabbat Services	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 7:00 PM Shabbat Services	17
18	19  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21	22	23 7:00 PM Shabbat Services	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 10:30 AM Shabbat Services

Coming in February Shabbat Services - Friday at 7:00 PM, - Tuesday, February 3 - 7:00 PM - Temple Board Meeting
Saturday, February 28 - 10:30 AM - Shabbat Service (No Friday Night Service February 27)



EDEN MEMORIAL PARK - BEST SITES

MOUNT OF OLIVES

(Sold Out Section)

Lot 1625 Spaces C and D

Lot 1725 Space H

Contact Lois Brenner

l.j.brenner13@gmail.com

310-993-4755



RALPH'S COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM

WE GET A DONATION WHEN YOU SHOP!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LINK YOUR RALPH'S REWARDS CARD TO TBE!

SPECIAL OCCASION?

HOST AND ONEG SHABBAT FRIDAY NIGHT

OR

BAGEL BRUNCH AFTER SATURDAY SHABBAT

SERVICES!

Contact the office.

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.