

As we welcome in 2023
with all its unknowns,
we remember that as
Jews, we are commanded
to welcome the
stranger.

The Shofar

Temple Beth El • Bakersfield, CA
Where Judaism Lives

January 2023 • Tevet-Shevat 5783





The President's Perspective

As we step into 2023, we are now a little more than six weeks away from celebrating the 75th anniversary of Temple Beth El. There isn't much time to catch our breaths following the preparations for The Krazy 8 Kilometers, Latke Brunch and Chanukah. But press on we shall.

The 75th is an opportunity to commemorate both the synagogue of Temple Beth El, but more importantly, the people who built and nurtured our Reform Bakersfield Jewish Community and Family. In our celebration, we acknowledge and give honor to those who enabled us to take our turn to build and nurture our current Jewish Community and Family. We also can thank each other for our collective efforts to continue to build and nurture our synagogue and community in our place, in our time.

I have been asked to edit the 75th Commemorative Booklet and I need your help. Please send me any pictures you have from events, religious school, B'nai Mitzvot, weddings, Purim schpiels, Sisterhood gatherings, etc. that can tell our story during the past 25 years. I found admiration and inspiration for our earlier members in the pictures of our 40th and 50th celebration booklets. The images rekindled the memories of joy, kindness, and dedication to each other and to their (our) Temple Family that has enabled us to stand where we are today. It is now our opportunity to leave the images of our years belonging to Temple Beth El for the future members to see how we contributed to the vitality and traditions in our time.

I am also asking you to invite your adult children to our 75th anniversary gala so they may add another memory to their years at Temple Beth El. I just purchased Joel's flight from Denver for that weekend. The experiences and foundations of Jewish living and values that we have given to our children through our membership and participation at Temple is something to be celebrated, together.

While we are also asking for sponsorships, greetings, and ads for the booklet to help in our fundraising, I believe it is the images of us, in our time, that mark our legacy into the Temple Beth El archives. Your images may even be seen by those attending the 100th Celebration.

I hope to see you at the 75th Gala Celebration, February 25, Bakersfield Country Club. Please make your reservations soon.
Shalom,

Larry Saslaw, President

Jewish family assembling garters
in their tenement apartment, 1912



The Rabbi's Reflections

A Jewish Perspective on Non-Violence

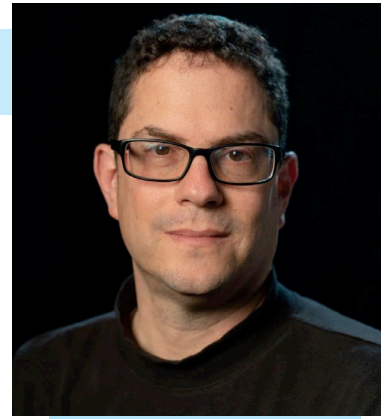
It is no surprise to me that a Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, joined Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in August, 1963 to demand an end to the bigotry that continued to poison America's conscience. Nor is it surprising that the June 1964 murder of one Black and two Jewish men in Mississippi—James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, respectively—was the response of the three of them working together to register African American voters to vote. Moments before Schwerner was murdered, his executioner asked the Jewish 24-year-old, "Are you that N_____r lover?" to which he calmly replied, "Sir, I know just how you feel." And then he was shot dead, his body discarded alongside his fellow Jewish and Black advocates for decency.

Why am I, a rabbi of a congregation with virtually no Black members (even though all people are 100% welcome to join our community), not surprised and exceedingly proud that Rabbi Prinz was side by side with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, or that Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner shared a common fate, or that American Jews have a longstanding commitment to the struggle for civil rights for all?

It's simple: Jews know that Dr. King was right when he wrote, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere" in his Open Letter from Birmingham Jail in April 1963, that as Rabbi Prinz put it a year prior, "America must not become a nation of onlookers. America must not remain silent. Not merely Black America, but all of America. It must speak up and act, from the President down to the humblest of us, and not for the sake of the Negro, not for the sake of the black community but for the sake of the image, the dream, the idea and the aspiration of America itself."

Rabbi Prinz, along with Dr. King and also Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner, insisted that Black people have the same inherent, infinite worth that white people do (and they insisted, contrary to today's pundits, in the same infinite worth for all, regardless of skin color). Our response to Nazi atrocities and to segregation must be to counter unbound hatred with compassion and recognition of every human being's humanity. Rabbi Prinz during the March on Washington went on: "In the realm of the spirit, our ancestors taught us thousands of years ago that when G-d created humanity, G-d created them as everybody's neighbor. Neighbor is not a geographic term. It is a moral concept. It means our collective responsibility for the preservation of human dignity and integrity" (**Join us on February 5th at 2pm at the Fox Theater for a free screening of "I Shall Not Be Silent" followed by a discussion!**).

At times, it feels as if this vision of universal inclusion and celebration of diversity is eroding. Ruthless negative campaigning, condemnatory Tweets, elected leaders with fake credentials getting a pass for lying, social media bots from foreign states designed to enrage and disrupt our democracy, tolerance for politically-motivated or even treasonous violence, scapegoating Blacks, Latinos, Jews, Asians, Whites, men, women, transgender people—so much hatred characterizes the rhetoric on BOTH left- and right-wing websites and news



continued on page 14

Happy Anniversary!



January 17

Greg & Rose Broida

January 23

Ahron & Linda Hakimi



Prayer Book Bookplates In Honor or In Memory of...

We have new prayer books. Consider ordering a commemorative bookplate, which are available for \$54 each. To order, make check payable to Temple Beth El, "attention: Bookplates." You can also place an order on the TBE website.

Please include any special wording and the manner in which you wish your name to appear.

Questions? Call the office at (661) 322-7607 or

Support Temple Beth El

Help us sustain our robust vision for Jewish life by contributing to any of the following funds:

General Contributions:

- Tree of Life
- Prayer Book Plates
- Memorials
- Memorial Book
- Kol Nidre
- High Holy Day Seats
- Caring Committee
- TBE 75th Anniversary Celebration

Specific Funds:

- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Camperships

To contribute online:

<https://templebethelbakersfield.org/donation/>

Own Your Piece of Real Estate for Eternity

Temple Beth El maintains its own dedicated section at Greenlawn Memorial Park on River Blvd. The price of a plot is \$2,875 which can be paid in three installments over a period of two years.

For more info, contact Barry Goldner at (661) 301-9000.

Changes?

Please notify Freyda at the Temple office (661-322-7607 or tbebakersfield@gmail.com) with your membership information — addresses (including email), phone number(s), births, marriage, yahrzeits. Please help up

BASIC HEBREW READING CLASS THROUGH BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE BY ZOOM

The Hebrew language is at the root of any serious examination of biblical sources; every book of the Hebrew Bible (named "The Old Testament" by Christians) was originally written at least partly in Hebrew, then translated into Greek (the Septuagint) and then translated and popularized in the English-speaking world through the King James Version. **Want to read Hebrew?** Join us in learning to read the 22 phonetic letters and twelve vowels that comprise the Hebrew alphabet ("Alef Bet"), presented by a Rabbi. Students will need to acquire Linda Motzkin, Alef Isn't Tough: An Introduction to Hebrew for Adults, Book 1 (not Book 2).

Faculty: Rabbi Jonathan Klein, Rabbi of Temple Beth El, Bakersfield

TUESDAYS: January 17, 24, 31, February 7, (no class Feb. 14), 21, 28, March 7, (no class Mar. 14), 21, 28, April 4, (no class April 11 and 18), 25, and May 2, from 7:15-8:45 PM **Location:** ONLINE live via Zoom. **Fee:** \$60

**Don't
Forget!**

Simcha Set Luncheon **at La Costa Mariscos** **on Stockdale Hwy. and Calloway Dr.**

January 2
Lawrence Zanoft

January 5
Miriam Stull

January 8
Jenny Seibert

January 11
Maria Chavez
Pamela Elisheva
Zachary Escobedo

January 12
Gretchen Bloch

January 13
Kathleen Arnold-Chambers
Charles Rhodes

January 14
Beth Freedman

January 17
Adison Gartenlaub
Warren Wisnoff

January 19
Jon Wisnoff

January 20
Emma Goss

January 21
Nancy Brennan
Shulamit Shroder

January 22
Alexis Lukehart

January 27
Douglas White

January 28
Mark Hugo

January 29
Jay Greenstein
Jacob Sadolsky

Happy Birthday!

January 30
Leah Bank
Samatha Peshkin

January 31
Brent Le Drew

Welcome to Bright Beginnings Learning Center

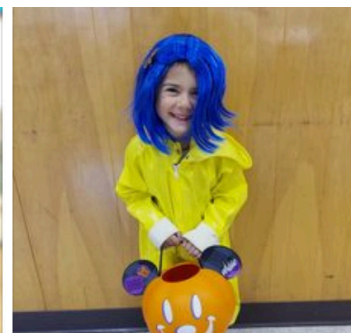
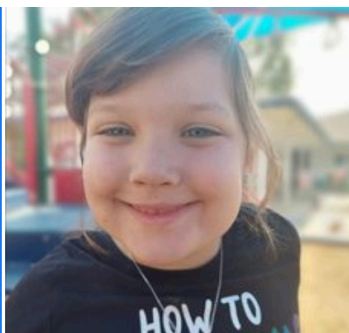
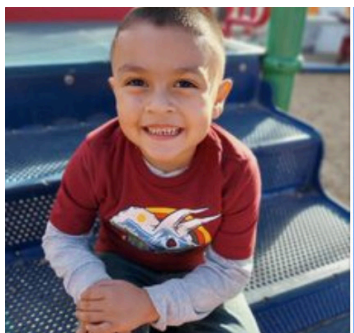
2906 Loma Linda Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305

Hours: 6:30a.m. to 6:00p.m.

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- School Age program 5-12
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- Online distance learning for school age children

For more detailed information, contact Bright Beginnings at (661) 324-1253
or email Toni Ferguson, Director, at tonibblcdirector@gmail.com.



SISTERHOOD CHAI•LIGHTS

January 2023

Sisterhood members continue to participate in many exciting and interesting activities! We continue to have activities via Zoom but please note we are now having some in-person events! All activities can be started at any time and no prior attendance is needed.

The following is a list of activities coming up in January and in the future!

Thursday January 12th at 4:30pm Leadership Meeting

Sunday January 15th at 3pm General Meeting.

Sunday January 29th at 1pm (via TBE Zoom) Book Club meeting! The book is *Unorthodox* by Deborah Feldman

Cooking Class –There is no January cooking class, HOWEVER, prepare for February when we will make Soup prior to our meeting and eat soup at the IN PERSON meeting!!

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make the Latke Brunch such a big success!! We sold over 100 meals!! The latke brunch committee included Ilene Schechter, Kathleen Chambers, Mark Schulman, Rosa Barrera, Etel Lewis, Len Epstein, Davis Anaya, Larry Saslaw, Jill Eglund and Jeff Schwartz . We could not of done it without our volunteers who includes, Alexander Anaya, Freyda Hensley, Epie Rittenberg, Dorothy Rittenberg, Irvin Pike and Tom Armistead. Special thank you to Becky and her crew who did all the clean up! If I missed anyone please let me know!

Up- Coming Events:

Sisterhood Ta/kitchen shower-
Gail and Susie will be coordinating

Please consider joining some great women!! All Sisterhood activities are via TBE Zoom and in person as noted!! We hope to see you all at future activities and meetings! If you have any questions please feel free to email me!!

Helen Armistead- Secretary;
armisteadlmft@gmail.com

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Bakersfield, California



Coming February 5th 2pm to the Fox Theater

A story of a Rabbi who stood up to the Nazis in Germany, and then stood along side his friend and colleague, Martin Luther King, at the March on Washington. **Discussion will follow.**

Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques

Temple Beth El provides a sanctuary for your sacred prayers, a social hall for special celebrations, a library to study our heritage, a school to teach our eternal values and ways to remember ones who are no longer with us. One way we honor those who helped shape our lives is by adding a made-to-order bronze Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque to the walls of the Temple foyer. Contact Andy Abrams: aabrams@bak.rr.com

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Temple Contributions

We would like to thank the following nadvanim:

Kol Nidre Donation

Larry Elman
Mary Gerena: "Happy Hanukkah"
Irvin Pike & Pamela Elisheva
Beth Spiegel & Becky Reifenshtal

Memorials/Yahrzeits

Bob & Heidi Allison: in memory of Arthur Sachs
Bob & Heidi Allison: in memory of Irma Sachs Adler
Kathleen Arnold-Chambers: in memory of Celia Fingerhoff Aronson
Timothy Fromm: in memory of Rita Fromm
Nancy & Arthur McCombs: in memory of Linnie Pearl McCombs,
Alexa Rose McDowell, F.A. Rippee

Tree of Life

Timothy Fromm: in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Tziphora Escobedo
Catherine Mahan: in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Tzipporah Escobedo
Marsha Parr: in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Tzipporah Escobedo
Irvin Pike & Pamela Elisheva: in honor of the Bat Mitzvah Tzipporah Escobedo
Miriam Stull: in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Tzipporah Escobedo

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Andy & Ella Abrams
Leonard & Carla Epstein
Melanie Rudnick
Robert & Marcy Smith: in memory of Marilyn Smith,
Faith Parris
Anonymous

Social Justice Committee

Esther & Rogers Brandon: in memory of Joseph Felsenfeld & Dorothy Ernest
Larry Saslaw: Giving Tuesday
Ilene Schechter: Giving Tuesday



Ancient tzedakah box, undated.

January 2023 Yahrzeits

Dec 30 Shabbat Services	
+Marjorie Joan Atencio , mother of Susie Simrin and Amy Knight z”l	12/31
Milton Gintzler , great uncle of Laura Lauria	1/1
Thomas Lauria , father of Ronald Lauria; great-great uncle of Amanda Garza	1/1
Gerald Lewis , husband of Etel Lewis	1/1
Ruth Schnneider , aunt of Helen Armistead and Jeff Schwartz; sister-in-law of Norma Schwartz z”l	1/1
Bernice Black , mother of Diane Andrews	1/2
+David Davis , remembered by Temple Beth El	1/3
Morris Gintzler , great-uncle of Laura Lauria; great-great uncle of Amanda Garza	1/5, Tevet 12
Ruth Morales , mother of Linda Morales	1/5
Samantha Nicole Sacks , grand-niece of Mary Speare	1/5
Esther Siegel , mother of Leon Siegel; grandmother of Sharon Rhodes	1/5
January 6 Shabbat Services	
Herman Schneider , brother of Norma Schwartz z”l; uncle of Helen Armistead and Jeff Schwartz	1/8, Tevet 15
Nathan J. Goldman , father of Freyda Hensley; uncle of Marsha Parr	1/9
Debbie Friedman , friend of Lisa Levine	1/11
Bernard Levy , brother-in-law of William Wolfe	1/11
Celia Fingeroff Aronson , grandmother of Kathleen Arnold-Chambers	1/12, Tevet 19
+Allen Harris , brother-in-law of Arline Pike z”l; uncle of Irvin Pike	1/12
+Danny Benjamin Lipco , brother of Lisa Levine and Sharon Lipco z”l	1/12, Tevet 19
Claude Denis Neuman , son of Maxwell Newman z”l; step brother of Heidi Allison	1/12
January 13 Shabbat Services	
Fishel Lekht , father of Etel Lewis	1/13
Richard Allen Rudnick , brother of Libby Mahan	1/13
Ilene Levy , sister of William Wolfe	1/14
Rebecca Noble , aunt of Lisa Levine	1/14
Richard Schulman , father of Marc Schulman	1/15
Mildred Solomon , aunt of Jackie Rudnick z”l	1/15
Harriett Wolfe , mother of William Wolfe	1/16
Raymond Zanoft , father of Larry Zanoft	1/16
William Adler , uncle of Heidi Allison; brother of Shirley Ann Newman z”l	1/17, Tevet 24
George Carl Shattenburg , uncle of Pamela Elisheva	1/17
Margaret Anne Christenson , mother of Bob Christenson z”l	1/18
+Lillian Teplitz , sister of Mary Speare	1/18

Craig Rich , nephew of Al z"l and Charlotte Abrams; cousin of Andy Abrams	1/19
Mary Jewel Yates , mother of Alpha Anders	1/19
January 20 Shabbat Services	
Michele Kleiman , sister of Etta Robin	1/20
John Gruber , husband of Drina Fried	1/21
Louis Schwalbendorf , grandfather of Larry Fish	1/21
+Nathan Strauss , grandfather of Judy Strauss	1/21, Tevet 28
Jay J. Arnold , father of Kathleen Arnold-Chambers	1/22
Henry Black , uncle of Diane Andrews	1/22
+Bonnie K. Johnson , sister of Marsha Parr; cousin of Freyda Hensley	1/23
+Hulda Magnus , mother of Steven Magnus; grandmother of Elliott Magnus	1/23
Leonard Mansky , brother-in-law of Pearl Davis	1/25
Patricia Thorley , sister of Ann Peterson-Saslaw z"l	1/25
Irving Steelman , uncle of Terry Skinner	1/26
January 27 Shabbat Services	
Melvin Wallace , grandfather of Eytan Wallace	1/27
Stanley Witer , stepfather of Elaine White	1/27
Lois Schulman , mother of Marc Schulman	1/28, Shevat 6
Aaron "Harry" Somkin , grandfather of Ilene Schechter	1/30
Harvey Abarbanell , father of Ross Abarbanell	2/1
Lillian Bridges , aunt of Karen Briefer	2/1
Francisco Reyes , father of Ricardo Reyes; remembered by Michael and Karlyn Farber	2/2
Ira Schenkman , father of Richard Schenkman	2/2

Judaism requires those comforting mourners to provide meals following their loved one's funeral. Temple Beth El's Caring Committee provides these Meals of Condolence, Se'udot Havra'ah.

Please donate to the Caring Committee so that we may continue to support our mourners in their time of need.

<https://templebethelbakersfield.org/donation/>



TEMPLE BETH EL'S

75th ANNIVERSARY

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 7 PM

TEMPLE BETH EL
INSTALLATION OF
RABBI JONATHAN KLEIN

Diamond Jubilee Celebration

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 5 PM

BAKERSFIELD COUNTRY CLUB
4200 COUNTRY CLUB DR



Temple Beth El
Bakersfield, California

The Religious School is collecting tzedakah for the **Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry**, an organization that helps owners continue caring for their family pets despite economic hardship.

Did You Know?

A record number of dogs and cats are taken to shelters or abandoned because their owners can no longer afford to feed them.



“Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry knows that our strength lies not only in the words we stand by, but most importantly through the actions of our initiatives.”

Making A Difference

“We started in April of 2009, donating pet food to folks who were receiving food from a local church and soup kitchen in Oildale. Quickly we saw a need far broader in this town than imagined. Bakersfield has a high unemployment rate along with overcrowded animal shelters.

“Many community members don’t have enough money to feed their beloved four-legged companions. They often have to make a choice between feeding themselves or their pet.

“To date, over 700,000 pounds of pet food has come through our pantry to be given to those in need. Hardship continues for many in our community and the need seems to grow each year.

“We get calls everyday from desperate pet owners asking for help. Many of our pet food recipients frequent food banks themselves. We are solely dependent on public support of monetary contributions, pet food, and volunteer work.

“Our goal is no family pet goes hungry.”

Please donate! Go online to templebethelbakersfield.org/donate



About this month's cover art:
This piece was created as a part of the
“Welcoming the Stranger”
art exhibit in West Hartford,
Connecticut.



Hanukkah 2022





The Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2K Latke Loop

A good time was had by everyone who attended the Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2k Latke Loop. The rain stopped just in time for the event to begin. The festivities started with our costume contest. It was nice to see so many people entered in the Hanukkah category. Next, there were opening remarks by our own Rabbi Klein and Bakersfield Mayor Goh. After that, it was time for our warm up with Bree who got all the participants pumped and ready to go. The 8k runners took to the starting line and were followed by the 2K group. Tom from RTS kept track of all the participants' times and P.J. Wonderly welcomed the participants as they crossed the finish line and they received their race medals.

Everyone enjoyed the refreshments from Krispy Kreme Doughnut, bagels and coffee from Panera, bananas from Trader Joes, carrots from Grimmway Farms, water from Sparkletts, pistachios from the Wonderful Company, oat and almond milk from Califia, and energy drinks from Bang. Participants enjoyed



listening to the lively music as they took pictures with the Hanukkah decorations and enjoyed the beauty of the Panorama Vista Preserve. Eventually, participants made it over to the raffle booth to see if they won one of the over 100 prizes. (Go to our website to see all the wonderful businesses that donated to our race at 8krazykilometers.org)



The biggest team award went to the Kinder Wins with 43 members and they each received a custom mini backpack. When the last racer had crossed the finish line, Veronica Morley from Channel 23 news announced the fastest 8k runners in each age group and Andy the Aardvark from Texas Roadhouse restaurant handed out the Trophies.



refreshments and raffle prizes added to the excitement. We want to thank the over 200 people who registered and participated in our event. Because of your efforts, our event was a success.

The Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2k Latke Loop committee would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported our fifth annual event. The race would not have been possible without you. The volunteers were helpful both at packet pick up and on race day. The sponsors made it possible to put on the event. The many businesses that donated



—Stacy Davis

KITCHEN NEWS

REMINDER from Sisterhood Leadership

When using the Kitchen please make sure it is left the way it was found!! This is a shared space!! Please be courteous of others!! Please clean up after use as we do not have janitors for this service. Please take home any leftover items and DO NOT leave them in the refrigerator!! We thank you for your cooperation!!



continued from page 3

outlets. It has made a mockery of Rev. King's and Rabbi Prinz's vision for America, replacing a culture of universal worth with one of deflection, rejecting all responsibility for what we say, morphing our commonplace rhetoric into commonplace screeds built upon distrust of all. Instead of Kingian nonviolence to bring about change, far too many of us have opted for rhetorical and physical violence instead.

Mohandas K. Gandhi, whose methods of nonviolence were shared with Dr. King by my friend Rev. James Lawson, famously taught us to "be the change we wish to see in the world." Have we abandoned this vision? In the face of hatred and evil, do we, in the words of 24-year-old grad student Michael Schwerner, say to those opposing us, "Sir, I know just how you feel?" Or do we opt for a continuation of despicable rhetoric that only further erodes our hallowed American institutions?

May each of us this King Month rekindle the vision of our holiday's namesake, one not only of justice and equality but also one of nonviolence, tolerance, heaping blessings upon one another, recognizing that all of us are made in the divine image.

Rabbi Jonathan Klein

Help address homelessness in our community. Sign-up to volunteer for the **2023 Point in Time Count** on January 25, 2023.

On January 25, 2023, from 4:30 AM – 9 AM PST, volunteers across Kern County will come together to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in our communities. The Point in Time (PIT) Count provides a snapshot view of homelessness in our cities and county. We depend on an accurate PIT Count to receive adequate funding and ensure proper allocation of resources and energy to address homelessness.

Volunteers are the lynchpin of the PIT Count. We depend on hundreds of everyday citizen volunteers to canvass our communities and make sure every one of our neighbors experiencing homelessness is counted. Click [HERE](#) to sign up. Questions? Contact Jill Egland: jegland@gmail.com

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January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 6:00pm Religious Practices (via zoom)	4	5	6 6:00pm Family Services	7
8 9:30am Religious School	9 11:30am Simcha Set at La Costa Mariscos	10 9:00am Prayer Book Study (via zoom) 7:00pm Board Meeting	11	12	13 6:00pm Chardonnay Shabbat (Services begin at 6:30pm)	14
15 NO Religious School	16 Martin Luther King Day	17 9:00am Prayer Book Study (via zoom) 7:15pm Hebrew Language Class via zoom	18	19 4:30pm Sisterhood leadership meeting	20 7:00pm Shabbat Services	21
22 9:30am Religious School	23	24 9:00am Prayer Book Study (via zoom) 7:15pm Hebrew Language Class via zoom	25	26	27 7:00pm Shabbat Services	28
29 NO Religious School - Faculty in-service training event	30	31 9:00am Prayer Book Study (via zoom) 7:15pm Hebrew Language Class via zoo	PLEASE NOTE: All temple activities will be conducted using an on-site/ZOOM hybrid model, unless otherwise stated.			



Religious School Update

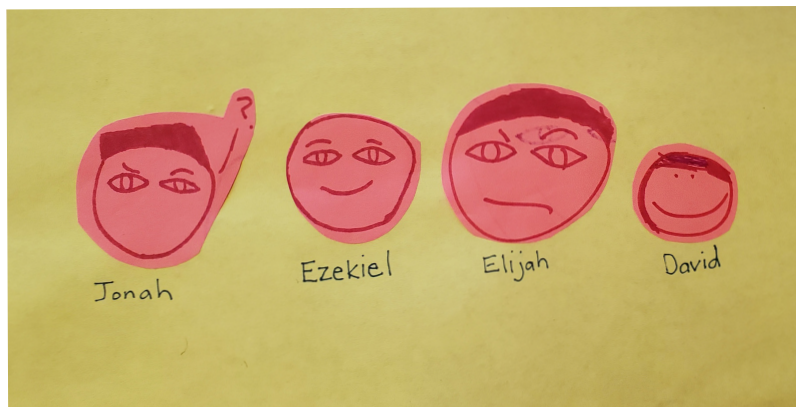


We had two big projects this past month that thoroughly engaged everyone at Religious School: One was preparing for Hanukkah. The second was making a multimedia want-ad for a modern day prophet.

A big part of our Hanukkah preparation revolved around choosing a local nonprofit to receive our tzedakah. We decided on the **Bakersfield Pet Food Pantry**—an organization dedicated to helping homeless people keep their pets healthy and safe. If you want to donate, you still can. Just go to the Temple Beth El website and click on Donations. Indicate you are participating in the Religious School Tzedaka project. We plan on having a field trip to the pantry this spring and presenting them with a check.

BOoTY students took the helm on our movie. The working title is “In Search of a Prophet.” It features students talking about what’s important to them. We got the whole gamut—both the sincere and the silly. As soon as I get the sound levels balanced, it will be available for all of you to see.

Jill Egland, Principal



Hunter provided the art work. BOoTY conducted the in-depth analysis to determine which prophet belonged to which portrait.



The big kids worked in small groups mentoring the little kids in the art of Dreidel. Once everyone was clear about the rules, we had a school-wide tournament. It's hard to say who won, because whenever someone ran out of pennies, everyone pitched in to provide them with more! Maybe we invented something new: Cooperative Dreidel.



Do you read the Shofar? Email
"yes" to jegland@gmail.com.



Asher came up with the script. Hunter was the Camera Guy. And Eli gave one of the sweetest interviews ever!

Click [HERE](#) to view a comprehensive list of issues that the Religious Action Center advocates for:



An Update from RAC-CA

Save the Date: Regional Gatherings!

The upcoming **Regional Gatherings** will include time to connect and share questions, ideas and successes (and flops!) in the work of organizing for justice in our congregations, as well as training and resources specific to the RAC-CA Climate Tzedek Campaign, and updates on the campaign and how our congregation can be involved.

Our Regional Gathering is in Los Angeles – Sunday, Jan. 29, 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at Temple Israel of Hollywood

These gatherings will be in-person, with a virtual option for parts of the program. Please let Larry Saslaw or Jill Egland know if you are interested in participating. It would be great to have a strong contingent of Kern County Jews!

For more information about URJ programs, including the Religious Action Center (RAC), contact Larry Saslaw or Jill Egland, co-chairs, Social Justice Committee.

The Tent

“Looking up, Abraham saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them and, bowing to the group, he said “My lords, if it please you, do not go past your servant.” Genesis 18:2-3



E-mail Shofar submissions to tbebakersfield@gmail.com

Deadline for the February Shofar is January 15, 2023

Our monthly Shofar is published by:

TEMPLE BETH EL

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Bakersfield, CA 93305

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Freyda Hensley, Office Administrator

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