

# The Shofar

Temple Beth El Bakersfield, CA

*Where Judaism Lives*

*September, 2023*

*Elul-Tishrei 5783-5784*

***Selichot September 9***

***Rosh Hashanah September 15-17***

***Yom Kippur September 24-25***

***Sukkot September 29-October 1***





# The Rabbi's Thoughts

## What REALLY Matters?

On my way to meet a mourning family, Freyda played the voicemail from the office answering machine to me:

*Yeah, Hi Rabbi,*

*I have two Nazi swastikas on my arm. I'm an avowed Nazi. I love the leader of the Ukraine, Mister Banderas, great man just like you think. And we Nazis would love to tell you, we thank the Jewish community, for their support...for their support....*

*And everybody's welcome? Yeah, I'll be there with my Nazi swastikas, my little Ukrainian flag...you know...and I'm sure I'll be welcome, right? You F\_\_\_ing hypocrite, you liar."*

We called Bakersfield Police, the District Attorney, and the Anti-Defamation League, to ensure that they were aware, and we submitted the scant evidence in our possession of this hideous bullyish harassment from a lowlife cowardly bully hoping to scare us.

Later that same day, Chabad of Bakersfield posted pictures of their trashed facility, stolen electronics, a menacing face captured in their security cameras.

Likely a coincidence; the alleged perpetrator caught on our Jewish compatriots' security camera did not match the Neo-Nazi voice on the voicemail. And yet we cannot ignore the fact that the Jewish community is being harassed by hate-filled perpetrators that disregard the value of our traditions, our culture, our vision of justice, our disproportionate contributions to the world.

As we enter these Yamim Noraim (Days of Awe) during this month of September, overlapping the Hebrew months of Elul and Tishri, we engage in traditions such as the recitation of Psalm 27 that ask us to trust a God that will protect us:

*A-DONAI is my light and my help; whom should I fear?*

*A-DONAI is the stronghold of my life, whom should I dread?*

*When evil ones assail me to devour my flesh—*

*It is they, my foes and my enemies, who stumble and fall.*

*Should an army besiege me, my heart would have no fear;*

*Should war beset me, still would I be confident. (Ps. 27:1-3)*

As we discussed in our "Prayers of the Prayer Book" class, this psalm demands us to accept that our life will involve struggle, the world is not always peaceful, there are violences that plague us from outside (such as anti-Semitism and thuggery) and others that torment us from within (such as the eventual death of our parents, sometimes their literal abandonment of us: "*For my father and mother left me, but A-DONAI will take me in*" (v.10)."

And yet the Psalm is recited during the Yamim Noraim, I'm convinced, to remind us that we must do more than feel a sense of outrage for being wronged; our responsibility is to look beyond the failures of others and instead to ground ourselves in a self-guided journey to wholeness:

*One thing I ask of A-DONAI, only that do I seek:*

*to live in the house of A-DONAI all the days of my life,*

*to gaze upon the beauty of A-DONAI, to frequent [God's] temple.*

*In Your behalf my heart says: "Seek My face!"*

*O A-DONAI, I seek Your face.*

*Do not hide Your face from me; do not thrust aside Your servant in anger; You have ever been my help.*

*Do not forsake me, do not abandon me, O God, my deliverer. (vs. 4,8,9)*

Is it enough to express outrage toward one's opponents? Even when it feels utterly justifiable? Should we dwell in our injuries, our hardships? Or might we look beyond this suffering, while simultaneously acknowledging that it really IS hard? This psalm—recited throughout this season—demands us to **look beyond our injuries and instead ground ourselves in meaningful living despite our pain, turning our hearts to our North Star, Hakadosh Baruch Hu, the Holy One of Blessing.** We can rise above the material world (*gashmiyut*) that keeps us in a perpetual place of sadness and instead dwell in a spiritual world (*ruchaniyut*), a blessing that is available for all.

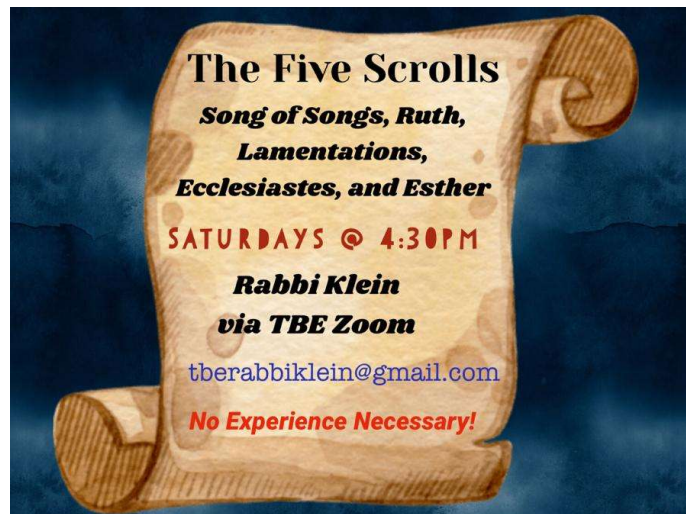
**We can live in perpetual fear of Nazi threats, or thieves and robbers trashing our Houses of Worship, or we can stick to performing our due diligence to ensure our security but then get back to the holy task of fully living our lives as journeyers on our way to self-actualization.**

Whatever challenges you face, I wish you and your loved ones the wherewithal to redirect your energies away from your anguish and fears, and instead to reclaim that inner spark that inspires your living a meaningful life.

Shanah Tovah, a Great New Year!

May You be Written (on Rosh Hashanah) and Sealed (on Yom Kippur) in the Book of Life!

Rabbi Jonathan Klein



## A Greeting from Our President

Shalom friends who are my family,

We are in the month of Elul, the final month of the year. It is a time to get ready for the new year, **הבאה עלינו לטובה** - that is bringing blessings onto us. Rosh Hashanah will begin on a Friday. This means that we have a weekend of celebration in store! A schedule of events is posted on our website, our Facebook Page, our Facebook Mishpacha page, and here in the Shofar.



Our Rabbi and the musicians are preparing an inspirational experience for us, the bakers are baking, the shofar blowers are honing their craft, Susie Simrin is leading beautification of the grounds, everywhere there is a spirit of renewal as we get ready for the “DAYS OF AWESome!” with our TBE family.

I am excited to host an open house, **Saturday Sept. 16 at 4pm**. We will visit with each other, enjoy snacks, desserts, libations and maybe a rousing game of Jewish Bingo... I am truly looking forward to seeing you as we celebrate the new year and our community together.

September also brings the Great Kern County Fair to our city. Of course the Pastrami King will reign supreme! We have been deep-cleaning the building since it was shut down due to COVID. The menu is set, the signs are getting redone, the vendors are lining up with supplies and the schedule is getting populated with volunteers. Be sure to call me (661-703-5668) with your availability. Everyone that has worked the Pastrami King in the past attests to how much fun it is. Don't miss out!

Delighted to serve us,

**שנה טובה ומתוקה**

Avital

### Selichot Service

Saturday, 9/9

- 7 pm dessert potluck
- 8 pm Havdalah

## Days of AWESome! At Temple Beth El

**rôsh  
hashanah**

Friday 9/15  
7pm Evening Service  
Oneg to follow

Saturday 9/16  
9am Children Service  
10am Morning Service  
2pm Tashlich\*  
4pm Open House\*\*

**yôm  
kippur**

Sunday 9/24  
6pm Evening Service

Monday 9/25  
9am Children Service  
10am Morning Service  
1pm Lay-led Learning  
4pm Afternoon Service  
7pm Break the Fast



All events at 9606 Loma Linda Drive, 93305  
EXCEPT:

\*Tashlich @ Mill Creek

\*\*Open House @ 201 New Stine Rd

# *Happy Anniversary!*

## **September 3**

Robert and Marcy Smith

## **September 17**

Adam and Stacy Rodriquez

# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

## **September 1**

Irin Mawhirter

Jerrold Rothberg

## **September 2**

Marianne Gartenlaub

## **September 6**

Vivian Gonzales

## **September 9**

Melanie Rudnick

## **September 12**

Janet Newbrough

## **September 18**

Terry Skinner

## **September 19**

Diane Rogers

## **September 20**

Sylvia Klein

## **September 26**

Carla Epstein

## **September 27**

Marsha Greenstein

# Temple Contributions

We would like to thank the following nadvanim:

## **Kol Nidre Donation**

Avital Anders

Leonard and Carl Epstein

Rabbi Wynne Waugaman

## **Memorials/Yahrzeit**

Brent Eastep: in the memory of Hy Davis

Timothy Fromm: in the memory of Thomas Fromm

Ronald and Laura Lauria: in the memory of Minnie Gintzler

Ronald and Laura Lauria: in memory of Pauline Shinberg

## **Tree of Life**

Andy and Ella Abrams: to honor Irvin Pike

Avital Anders: to honor Irvin Pike

Andy and Diane Andrews: to honor Irvin Pike

Helen and Tom Armistead: to honor Irvin Pike for all he does for TBE

Tricia Berman: to honor Irvin Pike

Greg and Rose Broida: to honor Irvin Pike

Héber Cruz Berber and Emma Gross: to honor Irvin Pike

Rabbi Jonathan Klein: to honor Irvin Pike

Sarah and Irin Mawhirter: to honor Irvin Pike

Pamela Elisheva: to honor Irvin Pike

Marcia Rudnick: to honor Irvin Pike

Ilene Schechter: to honor Irvin Pike

Robert and Marcy Smith: to honor Irvin Pike

Rabbi Wynne Waugaman: to honor Irvin Pike

Elaine and Douglas White: to honor Irvin Pike

William and Laura Wolfe: to honor Irvin Pike



## **Rabbi Discretionary Fund**

Avital Anders

Andy and Ella Abrams

## **Caring Committee**

Avital Anders

Sylvia Klein

Etel Lewis

Susie Simrin: Meal of Condolence for John Knight z'l

**To contribute online:**

<https://templebethelbakersfield.org/donation>

**Temple Beth El Appreciates All Contributions**

September 20  
Through  
October 1



We will serve  
world famous  
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**Spend time volunteering with friends at the fair!**  
**Please call Avital at 661-703-5668 with your**  
**availability**



## Coming in December



Our Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2K Latke Loop event will be held in person on December 10th at the Panorama Vista Preserve. A virtual option has been added where you will be able to participate anywhere during any of the eight days of Hanukkah (December 8 - December 15). Registration available at [RunSignUP](https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Bakersfield/8krazykilometers).

Our races include the following:

<u>In Person Event:</u>	<u>Virtual Event:</u>
*Race T-Shirt	*Race T-Shirt
*Participation Medal	*Participation Medal
*Swag Bag	*Swag Bag
*Chip Timing for 8K	*Team discounts
*Awards for Fastest 8K Finishers (1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> in each age group)	*Printable Custom Race Bib
*Team discounts	*Printable Certificate of Completion
*Prize for biggest team	*Able to Post Times on RunSignUp
*Costume contest	*Able to Submit Race Pictures to be included on our website and social media
*Raffle Prizes	
*Race Day Refreshments and Entertainment	

This is a fundraiser for Temple Beth El and in addition a portion of each participant's registration fee will be donated to the Kern River Parkway Foundation. This is a local non-profit organization that works to protect, preserve, and restore the natural riparian and wildlife habitat of the Kern River.

The current cost for the in-person race is \$28 for the 2K and \$32 for the 8K.  
The current cost for the virtual race is \$28 plus \$10 for postage. T-shirt, medal, and swag bag will be mailed to you. The prices will increase on September 30, 2023

Early bird registration is now open and will be ending soon. Don't delay, register today!  
You can register at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Bakersfield/8krazykilometers>  
Tell all your friends and family about our upcoming fun holiday event.

For more information about the race visit our website at [8krazykilometers.org](https://8krazykilometers.org) or visit our [Facebook page](#) or [Instagram page](#).



## SISTERHOOD CHAILIGHTS

### September 2023

#### MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

Please consider joining Sisterhood! Cost is only \$18 per year! You can pay on the TBE website under donations or send in your check made out to WOTBE and send to the temple office with Linda Hakimi's name on the envelope.

#### Upcoming Events:

Sisterhood Leadership Meeting – September 14<sup>th</sup>

General Meeting – October 15<sup>th</sup>

Sisterhood Leadership Meeting – October 26<sup>th</sup>

Book Club – New book to be announced soon

Latke Brunch – December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Rosh Hashanah Oneg – Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. We need baked goods, fruit, honey, apples, drinks, and ice. Please contact Helen or Ilene if you can help.

Please consider joining some great women. We are now on Facebook. If you would like an invite please let one of the leadership team know.

The Simcha Set Luncheon: Monday, September 4 at 11:30am

Tahoe Joe's at the Marketplace, 9000 Ming Avenue

Contact Ilene Schechter for information

## September 2023 Calendar

PLEASE NOTE: All Temple activities will be conducted using an onsite/ZOOM hybrid model unless otherwise stated

# September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 pm - Family Service	2 4:30 pm (Zoom) - Scrolls Class: Book of Ruth
3	4 11:30 am - Simcha Set Tahoe Joe's on Ming  Labor Day	5 9:00 am (Zoom) - Prayers of our Prayer book 6:30 PM (Zoom) - Religious practices meeting	6	7	8 6:00 pm - Chardonnay Shabbat Service 7:00 pm - Potluck	9 4:30 pm (Zoom) - Scrolls Class: Book of Ruth Selichot 7:00 pm Dessert potluck 8:00 pm Havdalah and Service
10 9:30 am - 1:00 pm Religious School Begins	11	12 9:00 am (Zoom) - Prayers of our Prayer Book 7 PM (Zoom) – Temple Board Meeting	13	14 4:30 pm - Sisterhood Leadership Meeting	15 7:00 pm - Services Erev Rosh Hashanah	16 9:00 am - Rosh Hashanah Children's service 10:00 am - Morning Service 2:00 pm - Tashlich @ Mill Creek Park 4:00 pm - Open House
17 Rosh Hashanah	18	19 9:00 am (Zoom) - Prayers of our Prayer Book	20 Pastrami King@ KC Fair 9/20-10/1	21	22 7:00 pm - Shabbat Services	23 4:30pm (Zoom) - Scrolls Class: Book of Ruth
24 6:00 pm - Yom Kippur Evening Service – Kol Nidre	25 Yom Kippur 9:00 am - Children's Service 10:00 am - Service 1:00 pm – Lay-led learning 4:00 pm - Afternoon Service 7:30 pm - Break the fast	26 9:00 am (Zoom) - Prayers of our Prayer Book	27	28	29 5:30 pm - Sukkot Service and Sukkah Potluck in Sukkot	30 4:30 pm (Zoom) - Scrolls Class: Book of Ruth

## CELEBRATION WEAR



ALWAYS A REASON TO CELEBRATE! Temple Beth El is always ready to celebrate! You can now show everyone that you are ready to celebrate with us and help support TBE at the same time! We have t-shirts for the hot summer weather and sweatshirts for the cooler winter weather! Please go to the TBE website to order yours today! We have both youth and adult sizing!!

If you would like to order by check please call or email Helen Armistead so she can help you! She can be reached at 661.472-1758 or [armisteadlmft@gmail.com](mailto:armisteadlmft@gmail.com)!

## September, 2023 Yahrzeits

<b>9/1 Shabbat Services Yahrzeits</b> + Memorialized on the Yahrzeit plaques on the wall in the foyer	
<b>Louis Rosenfeld</b> , grandfather of Andrew Levine	9/1
<b>Edward Bard</b> , uncle of Marc Schulman	9/2
<b>Martin Black</b> , father of Diane Andrews	9/2
<b>Peter Pickens</b> , father of Pamela Elisheva	9/2
<b>Minnie Gltzler</b> , great aunt of Lauria; great-great aunt of Amanda Garza	9/3, Elul 17
<b>Mozelle Epstein</b> , mother of Leonard Epstein	9/4
<b>+David H. Roth</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/5
<b>Lillian Pacht</b> , mother of Terri Stanton	9/6
<b>Chaya Schneider</b> , aunt of Norma Schwartz z'l, great aunt of Helen Armistead and Jeff Schwartz	9/6, Elul 20
<b>Leon Siegel</b> , husband of Betty Siegel; father of Sharon Rhodes	9/6
<b>Sharon Madsen</b> , friend of Connie Wellman z'l and Peggie Soltis-McGraw	9/7
<b>Bertha Beeber</b> , mother of Stan Schwartz z'l; grandmother of Helen Armistead and Jeff Schwartz	9/7, Elul 21
<b>9/8 Shabbat Services Yahrzeits</b>	
<b>Milton Fixel</b> , brother-in-law of Pearl Davis z'l	9/9
<b>Michelle Christine Munoz</b> , niece of Steve and Gail magnus, cousin of Elliott Magnus	9/9
<b>Bea Shilkraut</b> , aunt of Judy Strauss	9/10, Elul 24
<b>Sidney Karren</b> , father of Janet Newbrough	9/12
<b>Nannie Parr</b> , Mother-in-law of Marsha Parr	9/13
<b>9/15 Yahrzeits (Rosh Hashanah)</b>	

<b>Patricia Bell</b> , friend of Ron and Laura Lauria and Pamela Elisheva and Irvin Pike	9/15
<b>+ Leonard Simrin</b> , father of Stan Simrin z'l; grandfather of Susie Simrin	9/16
<b>Benjamin Hass</b> , grandfather of Glenn Singer	9/16
<b>Saul Lande</b> , father of Rose Blatt z'l; grandfather of Barara Kessler; great grandfather of David Kessler	9/16, Tishrei 1, 5784
<b>+Sally Stepyan</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/16
<b>+Yetta Shilkraut</b> , grandmother of Judy Strauss	9/16
<b>Candace Goldwater</b> , friend of Kathleen Arnold-Chambers	9/18
<b>Ludwig Oppenheimer</b> , father of Judy Feldman	9/18, Thisrei 3
<b>Karyn Serros</b> , niece of Milton Rudnick z'l, Marcus Rudnick z'l, Miriam Stull, and Phil Rudnick; cousin of Libbie Mahan, Joshua Rudnick, and Daniel Rudnick	9/18
<b>+Sonia Simrin</b> , wife of Stan Simrin z'l mother of Susie Simrin; grandmother of Echo Kniffen; aunt of Marty Weinber; great-aunt of Adam Rodriguez	9/18
<b>+Oscar Shapiro</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/18
<b>Jeanette Berman</b> , aunt of Lisa Levine	9/19
<b>Donna Lee Carpenter</b> , friend of Irvin Pike and Pamela Elisheva	9/19
<b>Stuart Bernard Elman</b> , father of Larry Elman	9/19
<b>Laura Ann Humphrey</b> , mother of Karlyn Farber and Laura Reyes	9/19
<b>Renee Kupferstein</b> , father of John Fried z'l	9/19
<b>+Jules Greenberg</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/19
<b>+Rose Cohen Seide</b> , membered by Temple Beth El	9/19
<b>+Blanche Pearlmutter</b> , remembered by Temple beth El	
<b>Jerry Stein</b> , brother of Beth Freedman	9/21
<b>9/22 Shabbat Services Yahrzeits</b>	
<b>Frances Singer Elliott</b> , aunt of Glenn Singer	9/22

<b>+Oscar Rudnick</b> , father of Marcus Rudnick z'l, Milton Rudnick z'l, Miriam Stull and Phil Rudnick; grandfather of Libbie Mahan, Joshua Rudnick, and Daniel Rudnick	9/23
<b>Morris Rothberg</b> , father of Jerry Rothberg	9/24
<b>+Marcia Goldberg</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/24
<b>+Joseph R. Polland</b> , grandfather of Laura Lauria; great-grandfather of Amanda Garza	9/24
<b>John Carnahan</b> , father of Donna Schwartz	9/25
<b>+Emilio Gonzalez</b> , brother of Rose Broida	9/25
<b>Joyce Jacobson</b> , grandmother of Christopher Jacobson	9/25
<b>Julia Morantz</b> , sister of Arline Pike z'l and Muriel Vekas z'l; aunt of Irvin Pike	9/25
<b>+Louis Rosen</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/25
<b>+Else Bachenheimer</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/27
<b>+Sandra Laibman</b> , aunt of Larry Fish	9/28
<b>+Hyla Rith Goldman</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	
<b>9/29 Shabbat Services Yahrzeits</b>	
<b>+Irving Pevar</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/29
<b>+Ida Gintzler</b> , great-grandmother of Laura Lauria; great-great grandmother of Amanda Garza	9/29
<b>+Marvin E. Lipco</b> , father of Lisa Levine and Sharon Lipco z'l	9/30
<b>+Rebecca Schwartz Rosen</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/30
<b>+Benjamin Klein</b> , remembered by Temple Beth El	9/30
<b>Shirley Polland</b> , grandmother of Laura Lauria; great-grandmother of Amanda Pollard	10/1





## Welcome to Bright Beginnings Learning Center


2906 Lbma Linda Drive, Bakersfield CA 93305

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

We are a safe, respectful and loving State Licensed Preschool with a qualified staff offering the following:

- Preschool program, 2-5
- School Age program 5-12
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- Sibling Discounts
- CCCC accepted
- All meals included
- Play-based program
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For more detailed information, contact Bright Beginnings at (661) 324-1253 or email Toni Ferguson, Director, at [tonibblcdirector@gmail.com](mailto:tonibblcdirector@gmail.com).



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---Jeff Schwartz

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