SEPTEMBER 2024

AV • ELUL 5784



JOIN RABBI KLEIN ON ZOOM IN DAILY BLOWING OF THE SHOFAR FOR THE MONTH OF ELUL. AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MONTH OF TESHUVA (FORGIVENESS) AND RETURNING TO A CLEAN STATE.

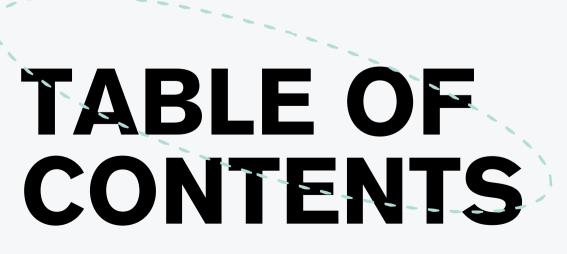
ELUL



Bring your whole self, whoever you are

HIMIN MINT

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LETTER FROM THE RABBI

A Labor Day Message for the Month of September

In 1942, the Union Prayer Book which Reform Jews used in one form or another as their Siddur (Prayer Book) for over 50 years, included the following prayer, the perfect lead for this wonderful month that includes Labor Day:

O Lord, though we are prone to seek favors for ourselves alone, yet when we come into Thy presence, we are lifted above petty thoughts of self. We become ashamed of our littleness and are made to feel that we can worship Thee in holiness only as we serve our brothers in love. How much we owe to the labors of our brothers! Day by day they dig far away from the sun that we may be warm, enlist in outposts of peril that we may be secure and brave the terrors of the unknown for truths that shed light on our way. Numberless gifts and blessings have been laid in our cradles as our birthright.

Let us then, O Lord, be just and great-hearted in our dealings with our fellowmen, sharing with them the fruit of our common labor, acknowledging before Thee that we are but stewards of whatever we possess. Help us to be among those who are willing to sacrifice that others may not hunger, who dare to be bearers of light in the dark loneliness of stricken lives, who struggle and even bleed for the triumph of righteousness among men. So may we be co-workers with Thee in the building of Thy kingdom which has been our vision and goal through the ages. **(UPB, Cincinnati, p. 45, bold added for emphasis)**

What a remarkable text! The Jewish community, overwhelmingly guided by leaders in the Northeast and far, far away from mines, identified with the struggles of hardworking coal miners who provided them with energy. What's truly remarkable about this text is the extremely low likelihood that many of these miners were even Jewish; Reform Jews stood by the principle that all human beings—whether Jewish or not, whether politically aligned or not, whether educated or not, whether wealthy or not—were inherently created B'tzelem E-lohim, in the Divine Image. It has always guided our vision of justice, to invest in all of humanity. I personally believe that the immense success that Jews have had as inventors of many disciplines—psychology, sociology, anthropology, to

name a few—stems from the bible's reminder, "Love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

This month, as we read Deuteronomy and wind down our year of Torah, the year 5784, we will read another sacred text that reminds us of our core purpose on this planet:

צֶדֶק צֶדֶק תִּרְדֹּף לְמַעַן תִּחְיֶה Justice, Justice shall you pursue, so that you may live (<u>Dt. 16:20</u>)

Again, the text does not qualify justice as only applying to Jews; justice for non-Jews, too. Dare I say that it is required of us?

It is tricky to be both a universalist and a particularist, especially in this world in which Jews are experiencing antisemitic and antizionist rhetoric at levels unseen in decades, with Israel's existence hanging in the balance. How do we embrace our Jewishness while celebrating our coexistence with all the other peoples of the planet? This is not really a parochial question; every minority in America must ask themselves a variation of this question, especially when targeted as different, as outsiders.



The American Jewish answer has always been to **lean into our uniqueness while we celebrate others' uniqueness, too.** Jews are said to vote against their own self-interest for the sake of others, over and over, more than any other group in America. I consider this remarkable, a blessing, and a gift, that we feel invested in others' wellbeing without it being a quid pro quo. Today, with a war raging in Gaza, it is harder than ever to remember this principle, that we do what is right whether others like us or not. This is very hard to do, but it is what our people have always done.

So as I celebrate **Labor Day** this month, I celebrate the blessing of being part of a community that has figured out a balance between self-interest and selflessness, in such a way that we have become an Or L'goyim, a "light unto the nations" (cf. <u>Isaiah 49:6</u>). Hillel said it famously, and I taught it to our students at religious school: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

May we continue to celebrate the blessings of every person's contributions to our planet.

May we measure our love for others not based on their similarity to us, but rather on their inherent worth.

May we Love our Neighbors as Ourselves.

And may we forever pursue justice for all.

As I have said to my children when I dropped them off at school, I now say to you: I love you. Learn a lot. Be a mensch.

Blessings,

ow -Rabbi Klein



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT Shalom friends who are family,

Hello September! Religious School started with joy and enthusiasm. I get to work with our Hebrew students. Their efforts and willingness to make the effort warm my heart. We are blessed to see our next generation of caring and engaged Jewish students. I'm already composing the comments I want to share with them at their upcoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations...

The Pastrami King is our big focus at the end of September. PLEASE sign up for a shift if you have not done so yet. This effort supports our congregation. It has a significant fiscal impact. We are looking forward to accomplishing beautification and infrastructure projects that are a long time coming. Everyone who has participated in the fun at the Pastrami King returns again and again. I promise you this uniquely Jewish Bakersfield experience is worth



the shvitzing! We are grateful to Congregation B'nai Jacob for sharing this endeavor with Temple Beth El. High holidays will commence in early October. Rabbi Klein and all of us involved in providing the spiritual content, the practical scaffoldings, the delicious food, etc. are already diligently planning.

Rock Harbor Church members are providing us with trained, armed security during services. We are grateful for their desire to protect us. Look for training classes in first aid and other safety activities for Temple members after the high holidays.

We are closing on a year since our brothers and sisters in southern Israel were so brutally attacked. Not a day goes by without my eyes searching for good news. It has been a long brutal year. We pray for the safe return of the hostages and enduring peace to finally come to us wherever we are.

Hope to see you at any, and maybe even all, the activities and opportunities to share the warmth of our Temple Beth El community,

יש תמיד סיבה למסיבה There is always a reason for celebration,

Avital Anders President

Our Contributors: thank you

Memorials/Yahrzeits

• Nancy & Arthur McCombs: in memory of Tim Fromm

Kol Nidre Donation

• Leonard & Carla Epstein



Rabbi Discretionary

- Mary Gerena
- Amy Breyer & Greg Zbylut: in appreciation for two days of petsitting

Contribute Online:

https:templebethelbakersfield.org/donation We are grateful for all contributions!



Robert & Marcy Smith Benjamin & Fermel-Sharmaine McCay Adam & Stacey Rodriguez

September 3 September 14 September 17

MOMENTS IN OUR L

- **Irin Mawhirter Jerrold Rothberg** Marianne Gartenlaub September 2 Ian Leisure Vivian Gonzales **Melanie Rudnick Elijah Ruiz**
 - September 1 September 1 September 5 September 6 September 9 September 10
- **Terry Skinner Diane Rogers** Sylvia Klein **Brad McConnell Carla Epstein** Isabela Anaya Marsha Greenstein
- September 18
- September 19
- September 20
- September 25
- September 26
- September 27
- September 27



Early Bird Registration is Closing Soon...

...for our Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2K Latke Loop. Early bird prices end on September 30, 2024. Take advantage of our discounted prices and register now at <u>RunSignUP</u> For an additional discount, you can form a team of 3 or more people. After the third member of your team registers, all participants will receive the discount. There is even a prize for the biggest team. This year all participants will receive a long-sleeved race shirt.



2024 In Person Race Medal Revealed

Sign Up and Come Join the Fun at the Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers and 2K Latke Loop Fun Run at <u>https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Bakersfield/8krazykilometers</u> In Person Event: Sunday, December 8, 2024 at the Panorama Vista Preserve Virtual Event: Sunday, December 8, 2024 at the location of your choosing

Check out the "Krazy" merchandise in our new race store! We have caps, beanies and sweatshirts for sale. Open to both registrants and non-registrants! Purchase at

https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Bakersfield/8krazykilometers



Don't forget we have a virtual option where you can walk, run, roll... anywhere and still get in on all the fun! You can register at <u>RunSignUP</u> for the virtual option.

The Hanukkah 8 Krazy Kilometers committee is also looking for sponsors, raffle prize donations, and volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please contact Stacy Davis by phone at 661-319-4069 or by email at 8krazykilometers@gmail.com

For more information about our event, you can check out our official website at <u>https://www.8krazykilometers.org/</u> or our social media sites (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>TiKTOK</u>, or <u>X</u>) Please share and invite all your friends.



Sisterhood members continue to participate in many exciting and interesting activities! All activities can be started at any time and no prior attendance is needed.

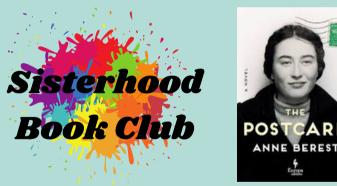
GENERAL MEETING- September 15th @ 3 pm TBE Zoom LEADERSHIP MEETING- September 15th @ 2 pm TBE Zoom BOOK CLUB- Next Book is The Postcard by Anne Berest. No date yet for review! Rosh Chodesh- September 1st 6:30pm and September 29th at 6:30 pm via TBE Zoom ROSH HASHANAH Oneg- Wednesday Night October 2nd! Helen will be sending out emails for contributions!

SISTERHOOD DUES ARE NOW DUE!! \$18 FOR THE WHOLE YEAR!! You can pay online at the TBE website or send a check made out to WOTBE with sisterhood on the envelope!!

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

All Sisterhood activities are via TBE Zoom and in person, as noted.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me, Helen Armistead- Co-Vice President/Secretary; <u>armisteadlmft@gmail.com</u>



Our next read for Sisterhood Book Club will be <u>The Postcard by Anne Berest</u>. In 2003, twentyfour-year-old Anne Berest's mother, Lélia, receives a cryptic postcard containing only the names of four relatives, who all died at Auschwitz during the Holocaust. Ten years later, Anne embarks on a mission to discover who sent it and why, and she soon discovers more about her family's history and her Jewish heritage. Aided by her chain-smoking mother, family members, friends, associates, a private detective, a graphologist, and many others, she embarks on a journey to discover the fate of the Rabinovitch family: their flight from Russia following the revolution, their journey to Latvia, Palestine, and Paris. What emerges is a moving saga that shatters long-held certainties about Anne's family, her country, and herself.

We will meet to discuss this novel in the fall; date to be determined. If you would like more information about Sisterhood Book Club, please contact Amanda Garza.

	Av El	v• ul	e plei	nee		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 ^{28 Av} No Religious School	2 Labor Day 11:30 am Simcha Set @Village Grill	3 9-9:30 am Prayers of our Siddur (by Zoom) 6:30 pm (Zoom) Religious Practices Committee 7:00 pm Board Meeting	4 1 Elul Rosh Chodesh Online Hebrew Reading Class*	5	6 6pm First Friday Shabbat Family Services	7 Shoftim 4:30-5:30 pm Class on Ecclesiastes (by Zoom)
8 9:30-12:30 Religious School 6 pm Sisterhood Challah Bake	9 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	9-9:30 am Prayers of our Siddur (by Zoom)	11 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	12	13 6pm Chardonnay Shabbat. Potluck Dinner in Social Hall	 14 Ki Teitzei 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service w Cong Bnai Jacob 4:30-5:30 pm Ecclesiastes Class (Zoom)
15 9:30-12:30 Religious School 2:00 pm SH Lead Meet 3:00 pm SH Gen. Meet	16 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	17 9-9:30 am Prayers of our Siddur (by Zoom)	18 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	19	20 7pm Shabbat Service	21 <i>Ki Tavo</i> 4:30-5:30 pm Class on Ecclesiastes (by Zoom)
22 9:15-12:30 Religious School Resumes	23 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	9-9:30 am Prayers of our Siddur (by Zoom)	25 Online Hebrew Reading Class*	26	27 7pm Shabbat Unplugged/ Shiur Shabbat	28 Nitzavim- Vayelech 4:30-5:30 pm Class on Ecclesiastes (by Zoom) 7pm Havdalah & Selichot Services
29 9:30-12:30 Religious School 10	30 Online Hebrew Reading Class* *Contact Rabbi Klein for Registration	Services, open house 10/11 @ 6 PM Kol Nic 10/12 @ 9 AM Yom K afternoon discussion 10/16 @?? Erev Sukk 10/18 @ 6 PM Potluc	ashanah Children's Se e after service in the S dre ippur Children Service n, @ 4:30 PM Yizkor/Ne ot	rvices, @ 10 AM Ro ocial Hall, then Tas es @ 10 AM Yom Ki eilah, @ 7:00 PM Bi	osh Hashanah shlikh in the park Le ppur Services, s reak the Fast P	Services Religious School Adult Education adership Meetings ommunity Events Sister Hood Event arsha of the Week Jewish Holidays Jewish Date

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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JOIN US ON SEPTEMBER 6TH AT 6 PM WITH YOUR ANIMAL FAMILY MEMBERS FOR A VERY SPECIAL FAMILY SHABBAT!

Blessings of

ANIMALS

THE



Challah Bake

Sunday, September 8 6 pm @ TBE

Join us to make challah for Friday nights and Rosh Hashanah. Participants can take one home! We'll use Norma Schwartz's recipe. If you have a recipe, contact Helen Armistead to ensure we have the ingredients.

Hope to see you all there! Helen and Ilene



SEPTEMBER

28 • 7 pm: Shabbat Selichot

OCTOBER

• 7 pm: Erev Rosh Hashanh

- 9 am: Children Services 9 unit Children Services
 10 am: Rosh Hashanah Services
 Following Services: Open House in social hall Followed by: Tashlikh in the park
- 6 pm: Kol Nidre
- 9 am: Children Services
- 10 am: Yom Kippur Services
 Afternoon Discussion
- 4:30 pm: Yizkor/Neilah
 7:00 pm: Break the Fast

Erev Sukkot

• 6 pm: Potluck in the Sukkah with Sukkot Services

 6 pm: Simchat Torah – Dance with Torahs, Finish & Start the Torah, Consecration of our Children

CELEBRATION WEAR



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 tshirts 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

ALWAYS A REASON TO CELEBRATE

יש תמיד סיבה למסיבה!!

YAHRZEITS September 2024

+Memorialized on the Yahrzeit plaques on the wall in the foyer

AUGUST 30 SHABBAT SERVICES YAHRZEITS

Paul Adamy: father of Rosemarie Azgour ז"ל August 30 ז"ל Tom Fromm: father of Tim Fromm August 30 Fannie Goldberg: mother of Risha Grosberg August 30; Av 26 Roberta Rudnick Parson: sister of Libbie Mahan August 30 Jackie Rudnick: wife of Phil Rudnick; mother of Daniel Rudnick; aunt of August 30 Joshua Rudnick & Libbie Mahan; sister-in-law of Diane Rudnick & Miriam Stull ז"ל Mose Nick Bizieff: husband of Billie Bizieff August 31 Malia Ziser: sister of Etel Lewis August 31 +Eva Lipcowitz: remembered by TBE August 31 Louis Rosenfeld: grandfather of Andrew Levine September 1 Theodore Tobias: husband of Miriam Tann September 1 ז"ל Milton Younger: uncle of Susan Cohn September 1 Edward Bard: uncle of Marc Schulman September 2 September 2 Martin Black: father of Diane Andrews & grandfather of Becka Ruiz Victor Eugene Hansford: father of Scott Hansford September 2 Peter Pickens: father of Pamela Elisheva September 2 Elizabeth Miriam Hoffmeyer: mother of Gail Lipton September 3; Av 30 Pauline Shinberg: remembered by Laura Lauria & Amanda Garza September 3; Av 30 Mozelle Epstein: mother of Leonard Epstein September 4 **Elizabeth Holt**: daughter of Catherine Holt ז"ל September 4 Jonathan McCombs: son of Arthur and Nancy McCombs September 4 +David H. Roth: remembered by TBE September 5

SEPTEMBER 6 SHABBAT SERVICES YAHRZEITS

Lillian Pacht: mother of Terri Stanton	September 6
Leon Siegel: father of Sharon Rhodes; husband of Betty Siegel	September 6
Sharon Madson: friend of Peggie Soltis	September 7
Eddie Cherry: uncle of Helen Armistead & Jeff Schwartz; brother-in-law of	September 9; Elul 6
Stan ז"ל Norma Schwartz ז"ל זיל א Norma Schwartz	
Milton Fixel: brother-in-law of Pearl Davis ז"ל	September 9
Eva Lipcowitz : great-aunt of Lisa Levine & Sharon Lipco ז"ל	September 9; Elul 6
Michelle Christine Munoz: niece of Steven & Gail Magnus; cousin of Elliott	September 9
Magnus	
Sadye Burns: mother of Rosalyn Collier	September 10
Minnie Gintzler: great-aunt of Laura Lauria; great-great-aunt of Amanda	September 10; Elul 7
Garza	
Anna Berman : grandmother of Lisa Levine & Sharon Lipco ז"ל	September 11; Elul 8

SEPTEMBER 13 SHABBAT SERVICES YAHRZEITS

Nannie Parr: mother-in-law of Marsha Parr	September 13
Terry O'Sullivan: uncle of Kathleen Arnold-Chambers	September 15
Benjamin Hass: grandfather of Glenn Singer	September 16
+Yetta Shilkrout: remembered by TBE	September 16
+Leonard Simrin: remembered by TBE	September 16
+Sallee Slepyan: remembered by TBE	September 16
Charles Schwartz : father of Stan Schwartz ז"ל; grandfather of Helen Armistead	September 17; Elul 14
& Jeff Schwartz	
Candace Goldwater: friend of Kathleen Arnold-Chambers	September 18
Karyn Serros : niece of Phil Rudnick, Miriam Stull, Marcus Rudnick ז"ל, & Milton	September 18
Rudnick ז"ל; cousin of Daniel Rudnick, Joshua Rudnick, & Libbie Mahan	
+Sonia Simrin : mother of Susie Simrin; wife of Stan Simrin ז"ל; aunt of Marty	September 18
Weinberg; grandmother of Echo Kniffen; great-aunt of Adam Rodriquez	
+Oscar Shapiro: remembered by TBE	September 18
Jeanette Berman: aunt of Lisa Levine	September 19
Donna Lee Carpenter: friend of Irvin Pike & Pamela Elisheva	September 19
Stuart Bernard Elman: father of Larry Elman	September 19
Laura Ann Humphrey: mother of Karlyn Farber & Laura Reyes; grandmother of	September 19
Kari Aguilar	
Renee Kupferstein : mother of John Fried ז"ל	September 19
Tenna Olson : sister of Denisev Turner ז"ל	September 19
Etta Robin: remembered by TBE	September 19
+Jules Greenberg: remembered by TBE	September 19
+Rose Cohen Seide: remembered by TBE	September 19

SEPTEMBER 20 SHABBAT SERVICES YAHRZEITS

 +Blanche Pearlmutter: remembered by TBE Yetta Shilkrout: grandmother of Judy Strauss Jerry Stein: brother of Beth Freedman Frances Singer Elliott: aunt of Glenn Singer Frederick H. Speare: father of Daniel Speare ל"ז +Oscar Rudnick: father of Phil Rudnick, Miriam Stull, Marcus Rudnick ל"ז, & Milton Rudnick ל"ז; grandfather of Daniel Rudnick, Joshua Rudnick, & Libbie Mahan 	September 20 September 21; Elul 18 September 21 September 22 September 22 September 23
Chaya Schneider : aunt of Norma Schwartz ז"ל; great-aunt of Helen Armistead & Jeff Schwartz	September 23; Elul 20
Bertha Beeber: mother of Stan Schwartz ז"ל; grandmother of Helen Armistead &	September 24; Elul 21
Jeff Schwartz Morris Rothberg: father of Jerry Rothberg +Marcia Golgberg: remembered by TBE	September 24 September 24
+Joseph R. Polland: remembered by TBE John Carnahan: father of Donna Schwartz	September 24 September 25
+Emilio Gonzalez : brother of Rose Broida Joyce Jacobson: grandmother of Christopher Jacobson Julia Morantz: sister of Arline Pike ז"ל & Muriel Vekas ז"ל; aunt of Irvin Pike +Louis Meyers : remembered by TBE	September 25 September 25 September 25 September 25

SEPTEMBER 27 SHABBAT SERVICES YAHRZEITS

Bea Shilkrout: aunt of Judy Strauss September 27; Elul 24 +Else Bachenheimer: remembered by TBE September 27 Barbara Gose: remembered by TBE September 28 +Sandra Laibman: aunt of Larry Fish September 28 Rosellynn Witer: mother of Elaine White September 28 +Hyla Ruth Goldman: remembered by TBE September 28 +Ida Gintzler: remembered by TBE September 29 +Irving Pevar: remembered by TBE September 29 +Benjamin Klein: remembered by TBE September 30 +Marvin E. Lipco: remembered by TBE September 30 +Rebecca Schwartz Rosen: remembered by TBE September 30 +David Pacht: father of Terri Stanton October 1 Vickie Hugo: wife of Mark Hugo October 2 +Max Greenberg: remembered by TBE October 2; 21 Tishrei James Ray Jr. Williams: remembered by TBE October 2 George Brugmann: remembered by TBE October 3 Saul Lande: father of Rose Blatt; grandfather of Barbara Kessler; great-October 3; Tishrei 1 grandfather of David Kessler Jewell Potter: step-mother of Alexander Potter ז"ל October 3 +Florence Makoff: remembered by TBE October 3; Teshrei 20

K WELCOME TO BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

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

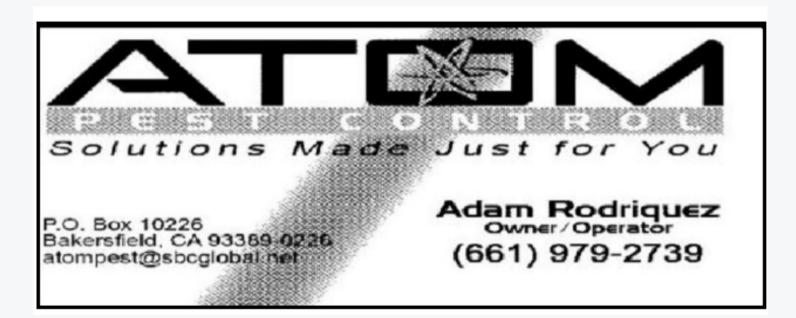
Preschool Program, 2-5

- School age program, 5-12
- Full-time and Part-time care
- Sibling discounts

- CCC accepted
- All meals included
- Play-based program
- Online distance learning for school-age children

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