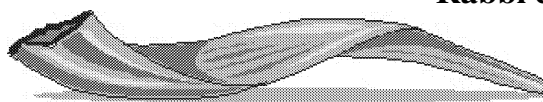


<http://tbede.org>

Temple email: [tbe@tbede.org](mailto:tbe@tbede.org)  
Rabbi email: [rabbi@tbede.org](mailto:rabbi@tbede.org)



## Tekiah

**Kayitz 5769**  
**Summer 2009**

Dear Friends,

Last month I wrote about forgiving ourselves for the past and allowing what might be perceived as mistakes, to be lessons to guide us for the future. Rather than beating ourselves for what we did wrong yesterday, we should realize that each day, we are presented with new opportunities. This month I would like to discuss that small window of time between the past and the future called today and how we can destroy it with guilt.

I have often been told by congregants that they feel ashamed that they do not attend services regularly, or that they feel guilty because they only light Shabbat candles once in a while. My answer to them is that guilt is a dead end; all it does is make us feel badly.

Rather than feeling remorse about what I am not doing, I would rather rejoice over the things that I am doing. This does not mean that I do not strive to improve, but when my focus is on the negative, it is difficult to concentrate on the positive. None of us are perfect, but we are all capable of little degrees of change.

We read in Pirke Avot that Rabbi Tarfon said,

לא עָלֶיךָ הַמְּלָאכָה לְגִמּוּר, וְלֹא אַתָּה בֶּן חוֹרֵין לְבָטֹל מִמְּנָה.

We are not required to complete the work, neither are we free to refrain from starting it. It is not important that you make every Men's Club breakfast or Sisterhood meeting. You are not expected to attend every Friday night and Saturday morning service.

There is a tradition among many rabbis to castigate the congregation on Yom Kippur for not attending on Shabbat. I believe that is a waste of time. If you can participate a little bit, I would rather look at the effort that you have put forth.

Every bar and bat mitzvah has a different service, because each one has different strengths and weaknesses. I prefer to focus on what the student has accomplished than on what the student did not do. We are not expected to be Moses or Miriam, but rather do the best which we are capable of.

In a reading called "Life is a Journey," are the words, "Life is a journey...from defeat to defeat to defeat until we see that victory lies not at some high place along the road, but in having made the journey."

There is no doubt that we love when people are active, but please do not feel that in order to be a part of our community, you must be here every day. We are an active congregation so it is easy to be overwhelmed by the number of activities that take place here. I would invite you, rather than feeling guilty or intimidated, to just come to an occasional service or event. We do not expect a commitment from you, but would love to form a connection with you.

Shalom uv'racha,

*Rabbi David B. Kaplan*

**From Our Men’s Club President:**

As my term as Men’s Club President draws to a close, I’d like to express my gratitude to everyone who made these last two years so satisfying. Particular thanks to our incoming President, Joe Despina, who arrives brimming with ideas and enthusiasm, and to whom I extend my best wishes. Joe Sontowski is the engine that powers all Men’s Club activities, organizing Breakfasts, the Mackler Run, and playing a central role in every activity we plan. I’d also like to acknowledge Scott Sweren, Marc Sheffler, Mike Cook, Ashley Pezzner, and Izak Bahar who took on key jobs coordinating Blue Rocks games, helping with Monte Carlo Night, organizing our Candlelight Dinner Theatre and Arena Football outings and participating actively in our monthly meetings.

I’ve been especially proud of our Breakfast program these last two years. Every month our speakers were particularly engaging, most memorably for me Hadas Amster, our 2008-9 Slichah who covered the events leading to the 2008 Gaza incursion from the point of view of a soldier on the ground, an experience she felt personally as the unit she had served with was one of the first in. David Amado, Stephanie

Wright, Rae Cook, Ray Didinger, John Walston, Eileen Blass, and Rabbi Howard Gorin covered topics ranging from conducting classical music through founding a synagogue in western Africa, starting USA Today, photographing the Beijing Olympics, starting an Aerospace education facility, writing about Philadelphia Sports and reading body language. Best of all, our breakfast team served a hot, fresh, delicious breakfast every month, and attendance rose steadily.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to discuss the Blue Rocks, our primary fundraising program. We cover two small concession stands at Blue Rocks games, each game is organized by a coordinator from the Men’s Club, and we need 4-6 volunteers for each date. We’ve completed three games so far, and are pleased that we have a concert back on the schedule this year, Wilco on July 10. We also have a big night on Fireworks Night, Thursday June 25 where we run a large concession stand and need 25 volunteers. Please volunteer to cover a game if you can, the Blue Rocks furnish a meal, and TBE makes \$100-200 per outing. Contact the coordinator for the games you would like to cover, or simply email me, and I’ll get you on the list.

Tom Felder

#	Date	Report Time	Coordinator	email
4	Sunday, May 31	11:30 AM	Joe Sontowski	ljoekool@comcast.net
5	Sunday, June 7	11:30 AM	Mike Cook	mike.cook@gorin.com
6	Monday, June 8	5:00 PM	Joe Sontowski	ljoekool@comcast.net
7	Thursday, June 18	5:00 PM	Mike Cook	mike.cook@gorin.com
8	Sunday, June 21	11:30 AM	Mike Cook	mike.cook@gorin.com
9	Thursday, June 25	5:00 PM	<b>FIREWORKS NIGHT- Joe Despina</b>	jdespina@rcn.com
10	Thursday, July 2	5:00 PM	Mike Cook	mike.cook@gorin.com
11	Sunday, July 5	11:30 AM	Marc Sheffler	marc.w.sheffler@boeing.com
	Friday, July 10	4:00 PM	<b>CONCERT- Tom Felder</b>	felderfamily@comcast.net
12	Tuesday, July 14	5:00 PM	Marc Sheffler	marc.w.sheffler@boeing.com
13	Tuesday, July 28	5:00 PM	Marc Sheffler	marc.w.sheffler@boeing.com
14	Sunday, August 2	11:30 AM	Marc Sheffler	marc.w.sheffler@boeing.com
15	Tuesday, August 11	5:00 PM	Tom Felder	felderfamily@comcast.net
16	Sunday, August 16	11:30 AM	Tom Felder	felderfamily@comcast.net
17	Monday, August 31	5:00 PM	Tom Felder	felderfamily@comcast.net
18	Wednesday, Sept 2	5:00 PM	Tom Felder	felderfamily@comcast.net

**SUMMER SERVICE  
HOURS**

Regular services at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMER OFFICE  
HOURS**

Official summer office hours beginning the week of June 15 will be Tuesday & Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **The temple building will be closed on Sundays & Mondays during the month of July.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**UPCOMING SUMMER  
B'NAI MITZVOT**

- June 20 - Marshall Freng
- June 27 - Ethan White
- August 8 - Bill Spinn & Nancy Signorielli
- August 15 - Hannah Falchuk
- August 22 - Amanda Kelman
- August 29 - Emma Halbert

\*\*\*\*\*

**CATERING HELP**

Catering is in need of volunteer bakers and workers for Bar Mitzvah's on the following dates:

- Bakers for...
  - June 27 for Ethan White
- Bakers & workers for...
  - August 7 & 8 for Bill Spinn & Nancy Signorielli
  - August 14 & 15 for Hannah Falchuk
  - August 21 & 22<sup>nd</sup> for Amanda Kelman
  - August 28 & 29 for Emma Halbert

If you can help please contact Wendy Lapointe at 369-6330 or wenron at verizon.net .

**SISTERHOOD HOSPITALITY**

Sisterhood hospitality has had a busy year between Onegs and Kiddushes, Family Services and Class services. This is my opportunity to thank the many people who have volunteered and helped to make each and every one of these events special. I would especially like to thank those of you who stepped forward to help out on Saturday mornings, holiday weekends, or last minute when I needed an extra person.

For those of you who have not participated, be sure to look in the Membership Packet to learn more about Sisterhood donor, or be sure to look for a Sisterhood representative at Registration in August to find out about the many opportunities to get involved with the Sisterhood. There are no membership dues and every woman who is a member of Temple Beth El is automatically a member of Sisterhood.

**Kitchen volunteers are needed for the following dates this summer:**

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Friday, July 3 <sup>rd</sup>     | Friday, July 10 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Saturday July 4 <sup>th</sup>    | Saturday, July 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| Friday, July 17 <sup>th</sup>    | Friday, July 24 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Saturday, July 18 <sup>th</sup>  | Saturday, July 25 <sup>th</sup> |
| Friday July 31 <sup>st</sup>     |                                 |
| Saturday, August 1 <sup>st</sup> |                                 |

**Please contact Rosalie Dior, who will be taking over the Sisterhood Hospitality position to arrange Oneg and Kiddush workers. We are delighted to have Rosalie join the Sisterhood Board.**

**You can contact her at: [rosalie.dior at redclay.K12.de.us](mailto:rosalie.dior@redclay.K12.de.us) or by phone at 302-368-0684.**

Thanks again to all the volunteers this past year. Have a great summer.

Renee Felder

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

### From Our Principal...

I would like to thank everyone for all your good wishes and kind thoughts for me as I move on to a new position. **Please join me in welcoming our new Principal, Andrea Finestrauss who will begin over the summer.**

Thank you, too, to all the Staff for my special evening and for the beautiful earrings and leaf in my honor. It has been a joy and a privilege to work with you all!

L'Shalom,  
Adina Mattes



☺ Hats off to the following students who had perfect attendance this year: Natalie Ginsberg, Jamie Gottschalk, Tess Huddleston, Elizabeth Licht, Rebecca Goldberg, Quinn Huddleston, Jared Huddleston.

Other students who received attendance awards were: Julie Koval, Aiden Mahar, Nathan Meyers, Eva Shay, Jacob Bosler, Ally Migdol, Dana Ogden, Drew Seitzman, Alanna Mahar, Evan Miller, Seth Miller, Olivia Scheiner, David Geller, Sam Koval, Ryan Lapointe, Ethan Sachs, Julien Sachs-Hunt, Ryan Walsh, Hannah Bieber, Rachel Collison, Natalie Freedman, Shayna Iaconi, Rebecca Migdol, Rachel Widom, Abby Katz, Bill Sweren, Alex Weiner, Lauren Collison, Gianni Giannotti, Dylan Munson, Ethan Norton, Josh Sweren, Haley Bosler, Jake Carfagno, Hannah Geller, Jared Grier, Joshua Miller, Morgan Walsh, Nathan Widom, Rebecca Wortmann, Morgan Cohen, Ben Kraines, Kory Pringle, Ethan White.

☺ Congratulations to all of those students who attended enough Shabbat Services to join the Shabbat Club. These students enjoyed a night of fun at a Blue

Rocks game. Nathan Dight, Teshler Freng, David Geller, Talia Greenblatt, Ryan Lapointe, Elizabeth Licht, Jakob Wolf, Rachel Collison, Natalie Freedman, Rebecca Goldberg, Shayna Iaconi, Rachel Widom, Abby Katz, Brian Otto, Matthew Seitzman, Bill Sweren, Quinn Huddleston, Gianni Giannotti, Cameron Ogden, Regan Osofsky, Josh Sweren, Hannah Geller, Jared Huddleston, Mara Tazartus, Nathan Widom, Rebecca Wortmann, Johanna Chajes, Emily Fisher, Emma Halbert, Sam Kaufman, Rebecca Tousman.

☺ Mazel tov to Ethan White for winning the Rabbi Krinsky Award for Outstanding Hai Graduate for 2009.

☺ Our Keren Ami collection, "Fund for our People" successfully raised over \$850.00. Thanks to all of our students & parents who remembered to bring "tzedakah" every Sunday. A committee of class representatives voted to donate our money to: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, World Wildlife Fund and the SPCA.

☺ **Do you have a kindergartener? Please call the office to pre-register for our K class which meets on Sunday mornings.**

We would like to know our numbers to plan for the fall. Also, if you know of a family who has a kindergartner and is interested, please tell them to call the Temple office.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Day of Religious School Tuesday, September 8th**

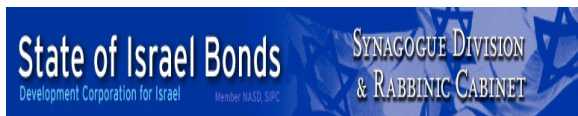
### **DISCOVERY GROUP**

Meets for 1 hour on Sundays, 10:30 – 11:30, once a month.

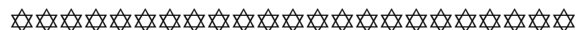
Fun and Jewish Learning, all rolled into one! For 3 – 4 year olds.

Open to the community – you do not have to be a member to attend.

Call the office to sign up for next year.

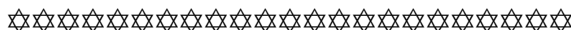


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**Purchase a leaf on Temple Beth El's Tree of Life**

*You can honor someone for a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, marriage, birth, graduation or any happy event in someone's life by purchasing a leaf to add to our Tree of Life in the temple lobby...only \$72.00.*



**Interested in advertizing your business in the TBE Shofar?**

- Business Card...\$25.00**
- 1/4 Page.....\$50.00**
- 1/2 Page.....\$75.00**
- Full Page.....\$125.00**



**2009-10 BBYO BOARD**

- G'dol /President** Christian Taub  
thetaubman at comcast.net
- N'siah / President** Sara Twist  
cannotouchthisx3 at aim.com
- S'gan / Vice Pres.** Sam Bagel  
narutosamb at comcast.net
- Mazkir / Secretary** Jonathan Dior  
Johnnygoalie at hotmail.com
- Gizbor / Treasurer** Matt Munson  
mattswim555 at comcast.net
- Gizborit / Treasurer** Sarah Mattes  
meekosis at gmail.com
- Shlichah / Comm. Serv.** Isabel Glasman  
isielee at aol.com
- Morah / Recruitment** Carlee Tousman  
xxocarlee at aim.com

**TEMPLE BETH EL ENDOWMENT**

Thank you to the Caine family, Arnie, Diana, Rachel and Marlee who have made a contribution to the Temple Beth El Endowment. Earnings from the endowment are used for temple projects or charitable giving. Those wishing additional information on making contributions should contact Robert Temko at 737-0706 or rtenko at comcast.net.

**TEMPLE &  
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
REGISTRATION  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup>  
&  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup>**

