TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM STANDS WITH TREE OF LIFE SYNAGOGUE

Photos © The Catholic Voice
WHAT’S HAPPENING

YOUTH SERVICES
Shabbat is a wonderful time for families to unwind together. Join us for our youth services every month for age appropriate services and great opportunities to connect with other parents. We have Shabbat Mishpacha for families with pre-school age children and T’fillat Y’ladim for children (accompanied by an adult) in Kindergarten through 2nd grades. Both services start at 10:15 a.m. For children in 3rd through 6th grades we have Junior Congregation, also starting at 10:15 a.m. All services are wonderful for imparting our connection to Jewish practice and reinforcing what your children are learning in pre-school and religious school/day school programs. Join us – it is a wonderful community of regulars and we want to include you.

MISHPACHA & T’FILLAT Y’LADIM DATES:
2018: November 3, December 1
2019: January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4

JUNIOR CONGREGATION DATES:
2018: November 10, December 8
2019: January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20

ADULT EDUCATION
JEWSH ROYALTY WITH NITZHIA SHAKED
Join us for eight weeks of learning with Nitzhia Shaked started on Sunday, October 14. Classes start at 10 a.m. in the Chapel. Nitzhia’s topic will be Jewish Royalty, exploring two kings, David and Solomon, examining their shortcomings and successes and their impact on Israel. $15 per class.
To sign up and for more information contact Susan at: Susan@tbaoakland.org

IMPORTANT - First Aid Supplies
There are two backpacks with medical supplies available in our main building. We have one with an AED (automated external defibrillator) in the alcove off the Rabbi’s side of the Bima, and the other is in the custodial closet in the kitchen.

MORNING MINYAN - Mondays & Thursdays
Minyan service, starts at 8:00 a.m., lasts about an hour, and is really a great way to start the day. As an added bonus, breakfast is served immediately afterwards.

Sponsored by:
Women of TBA & Oakland Ruach Hadassah

ROSH CHODESH: NOVEMBER 12
Monthly meetings on the Monday closest to Rosh Chodesh and are facilitated by group members.
Questions? Amy Tessler at abtessler@comcast.net or (510) 482-1218 for the upcoming meeting locations.
FREE. All East Bay women are invited to join.

FOR MORE UPCOMING EVENTS WITH WOMEN OF TBA SEE PAGE 7.

It’s time to join WTBA Membership. Watch your email for sign-up info or contact Bella Gordon, Membership Chair: 2bellagabriella@gmail.com or (510) 499-6325.

MAH JONGG
Join a game on the second Shabbat of each month as we gather in the Chapel after Kiddush. For beginners and experienced players.
November 10, December 8

Use Amazon and TBA will receive a percentage
Go to this link and enjoy your shopping!:
http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1375793
Remarks at Interfaith Memorial Service
By Rabbi Mark Bloom

We opened by singing the words from Proverbs 3:18, “it is a tree of life for them that hold fast to it.” The tree of life refers to our Torah, which sustains our lives, but tragically, it also refers to the deaths of 11 people in the Pittsburgh congregation Tree of Life, who, along with the two other congregations who meet there each Shabbat, New Light and Dor Chadash, were the victims of one of the greatest tragedies in American Jewish history. We honor the victims of Tree of Life congregation today. And we honor our Torah when we honor their memory and when we create a better world in their memory.

The fact that this act of anti-Semitic terrorism happened because they were Jewish, the fact that it happened at a Conservative synagogue, not so dissimilar to our own makes this even more painful, more stressful, more surreal. But we gather here together today at the last minute, for three important reasons.

The first is you, the members of our congregation, know that we are not alone. Neighbors delivered flowers to us. Members of the general community, and in particular a number of my colleagues in the Christian community, reached out to us to let us know that they were with us and that they were here for us. Thank you especially to the Reverend Harold Mayberry and the members of the First AME Church of Oakland, who were the first people to call, and who truly understood, having a similar tragedy happen to their sister church in South Carolina. Thank you also to Pastor Jonathan St. Clair of Christ Church, East Bay, Reverend Father James Schexnayder, Father Jay Matthews, and Bishop Michael Barber of the Oakland Catholic community, Reverend Jim Hopkins of Lakeshore Baptist Church, and Reverend Don Ashburn of the Piedmont Community Church for being here along with some of your members to stand with us. Your presence gives us great comfort and lets us know that we are not alone.

The second reason is to remind us that no community should ever be alone. For while it happened to the Jewish community time, it has happened to so many other communities as well, such as

- The historically Black Church Emanuel AME in South Carolina
- First Baptist Church in Sutherland Spring, Texas, which is predominantly white
- The Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin
- The Islamic Center of Quebec City

We must be there for them as well to let them know they are never alone.

The third and final reason is to enable us to respond, and to me the only responses are life and love. We must continue living in order to not give terrorists a victory. This is a lesson I have learned from spending so much time in Israel, and from my friends Misia Nudler and Helen Fixler, Holocaust survivors who told me that nothing like this would ever keep them away from synagogue.

And when it comes to love, our sacred task is to bring more of it into the world. Our non-Jewish neighbors have shown us this love today, and we must continue to show it to everyone we meet. That is why our children will lead services with me today and why they will lead us into the future with their love.

We are not alone. No one is alone. And we will respond with life and love.

Concluding Story about the Child and the Puzzle
There was once a young student who found a large map of the world in the newspaper. Curious, the student took the map to his teacher. Seeing an opportunity to challenge the student, the teacher took the map of the globe and tore it into many, many pieces. Fragments of paper fell to the floor at the student's feet. And then handing over a roll of tape, the teacher challenged the student to reassemble the map of the world, and then the teacher returned to work. The student dropped to the floor and, in short order, completed the assignment by correctly taping together each of the pieces of the whole of the world. Where only minutes before the image of the world we believed we had known so well was torn asunder, and strewn across the floor, now it was being offered up as an intact whole. When the teacher asked the student how it had been possible to reassemble the fragmented world so quickly, the response was short and to the point: "There was a picture of a person on the back side. I repaired that one person and the whole world got fixed too."
The tragic shooting today, Saturday, October 27th, made me think about synagogues as sacred spaces, and what they have meant to me:

Beginning around the time of my Bat Mitzvah I entered an identity crisis of sorts, feeling the urgent pressure to understand my relationship to Judaism as a religion, culture, and community. While BBYO, NFTY, summer camp, midrasha, and madrichim were helpful for some, these various communities and options for religious involvement added to the pressure for me.

Though this pressure subsided over time, it wasn’t until my freshman year of college that I felt I had resolved this pending question. I entered a temple for Saturday morning services by myself for the first time: in a new state at a new school. My mother, my constant temple companion was not with me, and it didn’t take long for me to start crying. It took me being there, in that temple, to get it. Judaism for me was my roots. It was my connection to the prayers I learned at a young age, the familiarity of the harmonies, and the memories they brought me. But it was also my connection to things less recent and accessible. It was my connection to ancestors who sang the same songs, practiced the same traditions and recited the same prayers. It was my connection to the rest of the world, something I’ve explored through traveling and visiting foreign temples. It connected two sides of my family, one which escaped the pogroms in Russia over a century ago and one which escaped the Holocaust decades ago. It was only a few months after going to this service that I created a playlist of all my favorite Jewish songs that I grew up with, which I still listen to around the holidays or when I feel I need a sense of comfort. It took going to a synagogue for me to put all of that together, it is a synagogue where I feel most connected to my Jewish identity, and it is a synagogue where I feel most embraced by the Jewish community.

So now, today, I’m once again away from home. I’m staying abroad in Argentina, hearing about a shooting in a temple and the oblivious response of the current governmental administration. And trying to figure out how I feel. Argentina, it should be noted, has had its own history of terrorism against Jewish institutions. It reached the point to which you now need to show ID to enter a synagogue or even museum. I’m thinking about the question: what if this had been our temple back home? I’m listening to my playlist and thinking about all the people—particularly survivors—that were likely in the congregation and had probably heard those hateful words yelled before.

And so I think about all of this hatred in contrast with the community that I have established for myself. A community which did not take place in summer camps or teenage organizations, but which took place in the synagogue where I went to Saturday services and sang with my Hebrew school class. Where I watched my mother close her eyes say her own prayers during the Amidah. Where I would sit with my best friend from Hebrew school, and we would braid the tzitzit on our tallit during the d’rash. This act of hatred did not only kill 11 people. It disrupted tradition, community, ritual, and family. It ripped through history in the most painful of ways: bringing terror of the past raging through the present—not in memory of the victims but of the perpetrators. It disrupted a safe space, much like bombings of black churches, shootings at LGBT+ night clubs, and countless other senseless hate crimes. I’m holding my own Jewish community and those around the world close to me today, and am sending love to all those affected.
Reflections on Squirrel Hill community
By Steve Wolmark

Steve Wolmark is a TBA congregant who became Bar Mitzvah at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. He shared his reflections on the Squirrel Hill Jewish community and his hopes for a unified response against all bigotry in response to the shooting. [At the TBA memorial service] he shared his thoughts.

Hello. My name is Steve Wolmark. My family and I are members here at TBA and at Temple Sinai. My wife Britt and I have three boys – Joey, Benji and Eddie. Eddie went to the Gan for preschool and is currently a 1st grader and in religious school here at TBA. Rabbi Bloom asked me to speak to you about my experience growing up in Squirrel Hill and as part of Tree of Life.

My parents lived on Beechwood Blvd. in Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh when I was born in 1975. In 1979 they moved to a house on Murray Hill Ave. and shortly thereafter joined the Tree of Life congregation. I spent the rest of my childhood living on Murray Hill Ave. eventually leaving Pittsburgh for university. My father still lives in this house. Tree of Life is 3 blocks way – about a 7-minute walk.

As many of you have probably learned over the past few days, Squirrel Hill is a remarkable neighborhood. Originally developed as a streetcar suburb for Pittsburgh’s industrial elite, today it is a racially and ethnically diverse community within the heart of Pittsburgh’s city limits. It is a physically beautiful place – with tree lined streets and homes dating from the early 20th century and two immense parks (Schenley and Frick) bookending the neighborhood. Next to Frick Park is the Homewood Cemetery – its size and beauty rivaled perhaps only by Oakland’s Mountain View and where my mother is buried.

And my goodness is Squirrel Hill Jewish. Unlike many places in the country, the Jewish community in Pittsburgh has for the most part remained in the city. More than half of the region’s Jewish families live within city and many of these families live in Squirrel Hill. Today Squirrel Hill has 12 synagogues and 3 Jewish day schools. Think about that for a moment – 12 synagogues and 3 Jewish day schools in a neighborhood that 2.7 square miles big. Squirrel Hill’s main business district of Murray Ave. – simply referred to as “Up Street” by neighborhood kids (myself included) – is dotted with Kosher restaurants, bakeries and grocers. And the Jewish community in Squirrel Hill is diverse with thriving Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Progressive congregations scattered throughout the neighborhood.

Tree of Life was my family’s congregation and the center of our religious world. I attended Hebrew school there on Tuesdays and Thursdays and religious school on Sundays for years. My sister and I would make that walk together three days a week – week after week. We attended high holiday and Shabbat services here together, celebrated weddings, births and deaths here together and we celebrated many, many Bar and Bat Mitzvahs here together. My Bar Mitzvah was at Tree of Life as was my sister’s Bat Mitzvah. It was here that my father’s parents – holocaust survivors living in Montreal – saw the promise of America manifest in their own grandchildren. A thriving community where generation after generation of Jewish families could practice their faith in the absence of bigotry and hatred.

The shocking and tragic events of Saturday at Tree of Life have left us shattered and broken. Over the past two years, it has felt more and more like this country’s great promise – an America where an individual is not judged by the color of their skin, or by to whom they pray or by with whom they fall in love – is slipping way.

But as heartbreaking as the events of Saturday are, I am overwhelmed by the support and love that individuals of all faiths throughout the country have demonstrated towards the Tree of Life victims and the Jewish community.

Over the years, Squirrel Hill has been home to artists, athletes and celebrities. One of the most well-known – at least for my generation – is Fred Rodgers. For those that don’t know, Fred Rodgers for many years hosted a children’s television show on PBS called Mr. Rodgers’ Neighborhood. Squirrel Hill is literally Mr. Rodgers’ neighborhood.

There is a wonderful Fred Rodgers quote that has circulated a lot on social media over the past few days. It says “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, “look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping”.

I find great solace in knowing that we are not alone and that there are helpers seemingly everywhere - individuals of all faiths and walks of life are standing with us not only as we mourn but as we fight to ensure that the noble promise that this country offers remains within reach for all – regardless of race, ethnicity, religious persuasion or sexual orientation.

When I was a child, Squirrel Hill was a place where white kids and black kids, Jewish kids and Christian kids, gay kids and straight kids went to school together, played

Continued on page 19
Making our community safer
By Alice Hale

For me, the last several days have been an unsettling blur of sadness about the shooting in Pittsburgh, concern about our community here in Oakland, and anxiety about the upcoming election. In the midst of this, the service we had on Tuesday afternoon was incredibly healing. Rabbi Bloom’s words and the love from our Oakland neighbors were deeply comforting – but it was probably the children’s voices that gave me the most hope that better days are on the horizon.

It has also been empowering to help take steps to improve and refine our synagogue’s safety plans. As I said in my recent email, we have done many things over the years to reduce our risk of harm to our facility and our community. Those steps include consulting with the FBI and the ADL; establishing a working relationship with the Oakland Police Department; working with Rafael Brinner, director of community security at the San Francisco Federation; landscaping to discourage intruders; putting in place emergency plans and having Panic Buttons available throughout the facility to alert emergency services.

Making TBA safer is an ongoing process all the time. But in the days just after the Pittsburgh shooting, our staff acted especially quickly to review, enhance and modify our existing plans and procedures in light of the sense of heightened risk we all feel. Here are some of the steps we have taken:

• Current emergency procedures were reviewed with the preschool staff and Susan Simon.
• Gan staff and custodians greeted parents at the gate at drop-off time.
• The codes at the gates were changed and cheat sheets have been removed. Rayna emailed everyone the new code; be sure to add this to a secured phone or someplace you will find the number easily.
• I’ve appointed a committee to work with a new security specialist to review our emergency plans and to give suggestions of current best practices. We have done many of these evaluations but it never hurts to have fresh eyes review the facility. The review will be completed by mid-November and presented to the TBA Board at the November meeting.
• At our November board meeting we will be reviewing all our emergency plans and preparations and reviewing Shabbat Greeter responsibilities.
• In early November Rayna will be meeting with our Oakland Police Beat officers to make sure they understand the layout of our facility.
• The Oakland Mayor’s office has offered an expert who can walk through our facility, which we will accept.
• We will be replacing the low fence between the Gan and the apartment building on the north side of the facility.
• There will be additional thorny plants added to the landscape off MacArthur Blvd.

Continued on page 19

ANNUAL WTBA MEMBERSHIP EVENT
Social Succulents Sangria and Schmoozing
Decorate a planter, create art and schmooze!
If you have cuttings please bring some for the plant exchange.
No previous experience needed. All supplies will be provided!
This event is FREE to current members of WTBA. We are celebrating You!

When: Sunday November 4, 2:30-5:30pm
Where: TBA’s Social Hall
RSVP: http://evite.me/rkRh6KwHs1

WTBA Membership Drive will continue through the end of 2018.
Watch your email for sign-up info or contact Bella Gordon, Membership Chair:
2bellagabriella@gmail.com or (510) 499-6325.

NEXT MONTH’S GIRLS NIGHT OUT
Thursday December 6 | 7-9 PM
Watch your email and our Facebook page for details. Facebook: Women of TBA
Sunday, November 11th, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.
Meet us at The Contemporary Jewish Museum in SF where we will have a private tour of the Israeli Dress exhibit “Veiled Meanings: Fashioning Jewish Dress,” from the Collection of The Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

This exhibition will focus on how clothes balance the personal with the social, how dress traditions distinguish different Jewish communities, and how they portray Jewish and secular affiliations within a larger societal context. These exquisite objects from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries demonstrate how diverse global cultures have thrived, interacted and inspired each other for centuries.

This event will be held on location at CJM in San Francisco. $10.00 plus the cost of museum admission. Please RSVP to Judy at judyglick@gmail.com.

Wednesday, November 28th, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
Rabbi Andi Berlin will speak about the Jewish relationship to gratitude.

After her ordination from Hebrew Union College in 1998, Rabbi Berlin served Temple Sinai in Oakland for 13 years; she left Temple Sinai to direct both the North American Commission on Rabbinic Congregational Relations and the Union for Reform Judaism - West. Rabbi Berlin now has her own business, yet she remains active in the rabbinate, as well. She is serving Anshe Chessed - Fairmount Temple in Beachwood, Ohio for her fifth High Holiday season. She is also the chair of the Central Conference of American Rabbi (CCAR)’s Ethics Committee. Rabbi Berlin and her family are active members of Temple Beth Abraham. Rabbi Berlin is a member of Hadassah and has enjoyed speaking to and conducting workshops for Hadassah over the years.

This event will be held in the evening in a private individual’s home. Please RSVP to Judy at judyglick@gmail.com.
An Obsession Leads to Chicken Noodle Soup That’s M’M, M’M Good
By Faith Kramer

Ken Albala might be the king of noodle soup. Albala, a professor of history and food studies at the University of the Pacific, has made hundreds of variations of noodles in soup. He makes his own broths and noodles, some of them from conventional ingredients others from some surprising ones (such as noodles made from potato chips with beer or spicy Cheetos). In some cases he’s even made his own soup bowls (and chopsticks) as well.

“Noodle Soup: Recipes, Techniques, Obsession” was published last year by University of Illinois Press. It’s not a kosher or Jewish cookbook, although Albala, who is Jewish with Turkish, Greek and Eastern European roots, does delve into the world of Jewish and other chicken soups and offers some recipes with Middle Eastern flavors.

Among the hundred or so recipes are ones of his own invention as well as basic stock and broth instructions and directions for noodle soups that have been eaten for generations in Europe, Asia, Southeast Asia, and elsewhere, plus lots of handholding to help you make your own noodle soup a success.

The book is aptly named since Albala spent years experimenting with ingredients and creating and collecting recipes. According to published interviews, he made a different kind of noodle soup from scratch daily for about 1,000 days.

I’ve known Albala for years and have attended his food history lectures and even worked with him on a project, so I am especially happy to share his noodle soup expertise.

Albala had great fun creating and collecting these recipes and it shows in the book, which is a cross between a textbook, cookbook, how-to handbook and an atlas for noodle soups and their ingredients around the world.

Most of the recipes in the book are for one generous serving but can easily be multiplied. One exception is his Chicken Noodle Soup recipe which serves four. It’s a riff or homage to the canned soup we all grew up on. He keeps the recipe pretty straightforward but uses fresh ingredients to improve on that straight from the can taste. Feel free to use it as a base for making your own comfort food in a bowl.

KEN ALABLA’S CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP
Adapted from Noodle Soup: Recipes, Techniques, Obsession
Serves 4

If making the broth and noodles are more than you want to take on Albala suggests using homemade chicken stock and purchased egg noodles. He says this soup should remind you of the canned ones we grew up on (maybe minus the additives and MSG). It’s “m’m, m’m good.”

1 whole chicken
12 cups cool water
United Against Hate Week (Nov. 11-18, 2018)

United Against Hate Week (Nov. 11-18, 2018) is a call for local civic action by people in every Bay Area community to stop the hate and implicit biases that are a dangerous threat to the safety and civility of our neighborhoods, towns and cities.

Last fall, when members of white supremacist groups began a campaign to hold rallies in Berkeley and Oakland, California, a group of community leaders came up with a way to make a statement that neo-nazis, their hatred and their ideas were not welcome in the East Bay. For the first episode of their new podcast, Not In Our Town gathered the organizers of the poster project at our office in Downtown Oakland to talk with them about their poster project.

Check the website for local events, cities that are participating and how to get involved.

More info: https://unitedagainsthateweek.org/

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COOKING CORNER

1 tsp. Plus 1/4 tsp. salt
3 cups flour plus extra as needed
2 large eggs
Water for dough
3 carrots, peeled and diced
3 stalks celery, diced
1 onion finely chopped

Clean chicken reserving giblets but discarding liver. With the chicken on a cutting board, run your knife down one side for the breast bone and with even strokes separate the meat from the bone. Pull off the skin. Set breast meat aside. (The pieces don’t have to be very neat.) Do the same for the other side. Set aside breast meat. Next remove thighs and legs from the carcass and separate from each other. Cut off the wings and cut each section, separating the upper part, middle and wing tip. Cut the backbone in half. Add the 12 cups of water to a large pot and then the reserved giblets, skin, neck, thighs, legs, wings and backbone and any remaining carcass pieces (but not the breast meat). Add 1 tsp. salt. Gently heat but do not let it boil. Simmer about 1 1/2 hours.

Place flour and eggs in bowl and mix thoroughly, adding enough water to make a soft dough. Place on well-floured board and roll it into a sheet about 1/4” thick and then cut into strips a “little bit wider” than 1/4” and finally cut them into 6” lengths.

Strain soup with a sieve into another pot and taste and correct for salt. There will be a little fat on top, which is good - do not skim off. Discard cooked chicken pieces and bones. Do not add any seasoning (that’s right, no herbs, pepper, etc., if you are going for the classic version.) Bring back to a simmer and add in the carrots, celery and onions. Cut the reserved breast meat into tiny pieces, sprinkle with remaining salt and dust with flour, and add to soup. Stir well so pieces don’t stick together. Continue to simmer until vegetables are soft, then add noodles. Simmer until the noodles are cooked. Serve.

Faith Kramer writes a food column for the j, The Jewish News of Northern California, and blogs her food at www.clickblogappetit.com Contact her at fjkramer@msn.com
Experiencing Simchat Torah at the Gan
By Jill Rosenthal and the Gan Staff

When holidays are introduced at the Gan, the teachers make a concerted effort to provide a variety of open-ended, hands on experiences to the children. We know that this is how children develop an appreciation for and understanding of the significance of the holiday. So, in that spirit, we offer you some snippets that teachers have written in their newsletters to families regarding our exploration of the holiday of Simchat Torah. We also love the fact that both Susan Simon and our Jewish Resource Specialist, Emma Schnur are always available to us to help us engage the children in learning in a myriad of ways (see the photos here)!

From Kitah Bet:
“We finished up Simchat Torah with a visit from Susan Simon in the sanctuary, where we learned a lot about the Torah. We were enamored (as well as distracted) in the big holy sanctuary space. It’s beautiful windows and colorful lights all lend to the awe and divinity that we try to bring to our GAN. Some of the reflections we had (specifically..."

Continued on page 14
This week’s Torah portion is Chayyei Sarah which means the life of Sarah but actually tells us about the death of Sarah. In this week’s portion, Sarah is the first Jew to die, Abraham is the first person to cry, and Isaac is the first person described as loving his wife, Rebecca. There is one more first in this portion, the purchase of the cave of Machpelah as a burial place for Sarah, the first purchase of property in Eretz Yisrael.

How appropriate this week when burials are so foremost in our minds following the tragedy in Pittsburgh. And while this is a parasha of so many firsts, sadly, tragedies like this are numerous, causing fear, sadness and dismay. What are we to do with these emotions?

We do what our ancestors did. When Abraham died, his two sons, Ishmael and Isaac, came together to bury their father. They put aside their long standing differences and fulfilled their obligations, their mitzvot, together.

We are thousands of miles from Pittsburgh but we came together at TBA, congregants and neighbors, Jews and Christians, adults and children. We took comfort in the voices of our children as they led our afternoon service and sang songs of hope and love. We all joined together, regardless of our differences, just like Isaac and Ishmael. Our sanctuary was nearly full with people who needed the solace of being together at a time of such great loss.

Thank you to Rabbi Bloom, our neighbors, and everyone who has expressed sorrow with us in these past days. We rejoice in our community, in our children, our future, and pray for better times to come.
DONATIONS

Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.

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Courtyard/Next Big Thing Building Project
Lowell Davis
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Oppen, in memory of Linda Gordon
John Rego & Deborah
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Marc & Karen Zak, thank you to Susan Simon

Gan Avraham
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Kahane Rego, in memory of Nat Margolin
Paul Weiss & Allison Kent Weiss, in memory of Herbert Bloom, z”l

High Holy Day
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Richard & Audrey Kauffman
George & Janet King
Ruth Kleinman
Gary & Faith Kramer
Michael & Katherine Maidenberg
Kirk & Dvora McLean
Philip & Amy Mezey
Peter Miller & Bess Gurman
Shelby & Adrienne Miller
Randy & Lori Morris
Misia Nudler
Barbara Oseroff
Lawrence Polon & Ernestina Carrillo
Jeffrey & Judith Quittman, in memory of Leonard and Nancy Quittman

Happy Anniversary
T ov on 60 blessed loving years
to Eva & Aaron Paul

Happy Anniversary
T ov on 60 blessed loving years
to Susan Simon

Happy Anniversary
T ov on 60 blessed loving years
to Elinor DeKoven

Happy Anniversary
T ov on 60 blessed loving years
Rayna & Saul Arnold, in honor of Maxine Ribakow Miller’s 100th birthday!
Rayna & Saul Arnold, in memory of Herb Bloom
Rayna & Saul Arnold, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin
Rayna & Saul Arnold, in memory of Ronni Rosenberg
Wendy Bear, in memory of Herb Bloom
Azary & Clara Blumenkrantz, in memory of Girsha Uretsky
Norman & Jo Budman, get well wishes to Cantor Kaplan
Marvin Cohen & Suzie Locke, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Ronald David
Sanford & Leslie DeLugach, in memory of Rosalie Beren
Alan & Rachel Engel, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Maurice Engel, Shana tova!
Evelyn Epstein, in memory of Rabbi Bloom’s beloved father, Herb A. Bloom
Joseph & Judith Epstein, in memory of Jack Tessler
Joseph & Judith Epstein, in memory of Sam Epstein

Greg & Jessica Sterling
Michael Stevens
Jon Golding & Carla Itzkowich, Richard Kaplan:
With love and healing prayers
Michael & Renee Marx, Elinor DeKoven’s 2nd Bar Mitzvah with love
John Rego & Deborah
Kahane Rego, Eva & Aaron Paul’s 60 blessed loving years, Happy Anniversary
Cindy Sloan

Temple Beth Abraham
General Fund
Richard & Naomi Applebaum, to Richard Kaplan sending love and healing prayers
Richard & Naomi Applebaum, to Elinor DeKoven Mazel Tov on your 2nd Bat Mitzvah with love
Richard & Naomi Applebaum, to Eva & Aaron Paul Mazel Tov on 60 blessed loving years Happy Anniversary
Norma Armon, in memory of Gertrude Kreimerman
Rayna & Saul Arnold, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Max & Lauren Fleisher
Saul & JoAnne Gevertz, in memory of Martin Hertz
Fifi Goodfellow, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Murray & Janet Gordon, in memory of Martin Hertz
Stanley & Joan Gross, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Aretha Caron Harris
Libby Hertz, in memory of Sidney Hertz
Arnold & Jo-Ann Jacobson, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Sheldon Kahn & Sarah Liron, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin
Randall & Jan Kessler, in memory of Isaac Kessler
Seymour Kessler, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Jonathan Klein & Rebecca Calahan Klein, Virginia Tiger for making beautiful menus for our Kiddish lunches
Jonathan Klein & Rebecca Calahan Klein, Joe for everything he does to keep TBA’s facilities beautiful and running smoothly
Jonathan Klein & Rebecca Calahan Klein, Gilbert, Juston, and Will for their outstanding service supporting our kiddish lunches
Judith Klinger, in memory of Edwin Ames and Susan Ames Klinger
Marshall & Lynn Langfeld, in memory of Linda Rosenthal
Marshall & Lynn Langfeld, in memory of Steffi Rath
Janice Marlinga, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Adele Mendelsohn-Keinon & Irwin Keinon, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Estelle Myers, in memory of Eleanor Greenstein, our first friend in the U.S. We miss her dearly.
Ilya & Regina Okh, in memory of my father, Nuta Okh
Ilya & Regina Okh, in memory of my sister Mundele Litvak Okh
Barbara Oseroff, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Barbara Oseroff, in memory of Sue Stevens
Betty Ann Polse, in memory of Ellen Bercovich
Mark & Rita Roytfeld, in memory of our parents and loved ones
Allen & Ellen Rubin, in memory of Eileen Pachefsky
Allen & Ellen Rubin, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Ellen Davis & Richard Sears, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Stephen Steiner & Sarilee Janger, in memory of Ruth Janger
Stephen Steiner & Sarilee Janger, in memory of Steve Janger
Stephen & Amy Tessler, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin
Mary & Isaak Tsifrin, in memory of David and Khana Tsifrin
Mary & Isaak Tsifrin, in memory of Hanna Tsifrin
Brenda Turetsky, in loving memory of Herbert Bloom
Brenda Turetsky, in loving memory of Brenda Turetsky
Brenda Turetsky, in memory of Manda and Sam Turetsky
Brenda Turetsky, in loving memory of Anna and Josh Needle
Mitch & Arlene Waksasa, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Vera Zatkin, in memory of Ellen Bercovich
Kiddush Fund
Michael & Renee Marx, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin
Flo and Paul Raskin, in honor of the marriage of our son and daughter-in-law, Dara & Jacob Raskin
Marc and Eden Bruner, sponsored kiddush in honor of the Bat Mitzvah their daughter, Talia Bruner
Ruth Kleinman, wishing a Happy Birthday, Ulli Rotzscher!
David Weiner & Ellen Kaufman, in memory of Pearl Weiner
Melissa Diamant and Doug Moss, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of our son, Ellis Moss
Yom Ha Shoah Fund
Leon & Judy Bloomfield, in memory of Eva Klein David
Misia Nudler, in memory of Harold Nudler
Rabbi Ralph DeKoven
Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund
Elinor DeKoven, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Elinor DeKoven, in memory of Steffi Rath
Misia Nudler, wishing Cantor Kaplan a speedy recovery
Misia Nudler, condolences to Billy Gentry on the loss of his mother
Misia Nudler, condolences to Arthur Beren of the loss of his wife Rosalie
Rey Steinberg, in memory of my devoted husband, Harvey
Sam Silver Playground Fund
Seth & Abi Eckstein, in memory of Pushpa Muturamalingam
John Rego & Deborah Kahane Rego, in memory of Gwynn Simon
Rabbi Discretionary Fund
Roslyn Aronson, appreciation and Aliyot on Shabbat Shuvah
Barry Barnes & Samantha Spielman, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Noah Belkin, in honor of Gwynn Simon
Larry & Ruth Bercovich, in memory of Sam and Ellen Bercovich
Phil & Arlene Bernstein, in memory of Herb Bloom
Harriet Bloom, in memory of Blossom Goldfarb
Leon & Judy Bloomfield, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Norman & Jo Budman, sincere condolences to Rabbi Bloom and family on the loss of the Rabbi’s father
Michael & Kathy Burge, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Michael & Kathy Burge, in memory of Rachel Gordon
Michael & Kathy Burge, in memory of Samuel Burge
Richard Charlesworth & Amy Moscow, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Helene Cohen, in memory of Herbert Allen Bloom, from Helene Cohen, Lisa Croce and Lana Croce, and KC, Dana, and Adalia Fialko-Masters.
Barry & Cheri Feiner, Supporting the principles of Herbert Bloom
Helen Fixler, in memory of Harold Nudler
Helen Fixler, to Rabbi Mark Bloom and Harriet Boom, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Helen Fixler, to Paul and Flo Raskin, in honor of Jacob’s marriage
Herbert & Marianne Friedman, in memory of Herb Bloom
Jon Golding & Carla Itzkovich, in memory of Harold Bloom
Sari Grossman, in honor of Rabbi Mark’s beautiful 5779 New Year’s services
Jeff Gutkin & Helene Blatter, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Randall & Jan Kessler, in memory of Herbert Bloom
George & Janet King, in memory of Herbert Bloom
George & Janet King, in memory of Martin Hertz
Edward & Miriam Landesman, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Mark & Judy Langberg, in memory of Irving Podolsky
Marshall & Lynn Langfeld, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Marshall & Lynn Langfeld, in memory of Nat Margolin
Daniel Levinsohn & Yulia Rozen, in memory of Herbert Allen Bloom
Robert Levinson, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Peter & Helen Loewenstein, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Michael & Renee Marx, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Madeline Mendelsohn, in memory of Herbert Bloom
David Simon & Carol Misrach, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Misia Nudler, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Ron & Adele Ostomel, in blessed memory of Herbert Bloom
Jacqueline Palchik, in memory of Herbert Bloom

Continued on page 17

DONATIONS
Hello, my name is Julia White. I am in 8th grade at Piedmont Middle School, and this November I will become a Bat Mitzvah. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, reading, and going to Camp Tawonga every summer. My Torah portion is Toldot, which means generations or descendants. Toldot is the story of Jacob and Esau. It describes Jacob and Rebecca tricking Esau in order to obtain Esau’s birthright for Jacob. I will be discussing whether or not good people can do bad things, and vice versa. If you would like to hear my thoughts and analysis of this question, please join me for my Bat Mitzvah on November 10th.

**GAN, cont. from page 10**

about the Torah and in no particular order) included:

- Torah is a book of stories about Jewish People
- Who are the Jewish people? Us!
- The Torah is very old and special
- A sofer wrote the Torah in Hebrew by hand and it took a long time
- The ink and paper is delicate. We can’t touch the inside with our hands
- We use a pointer (yad) to find/read the words
- We saw five Torahs in the ark but more live in the chapel
- The Torah has a special “night light” so we can always find it!
- The Torah “wears” a fancy dress and crown
- We stand up when the Torah comes out of the ark
- We saw a tallit and Susan said a blessing when she put it on
- We wear our kippot in the sanctuary and chapel
- The first story in the Torah is about creating the world and Shabbat
- The first hebrew letter is Bet! In the beginning (Bereshit)..... :)  

When we came back from our visit we practiced “writing” with a feather... just like a scribe! It was tricky and we needed to dip the feathers in paint...lots of times!! Fun is messy and messy is fun!”

**From Kitah Gimmel:**

“We had a lovely experience with Emma in the chapel to mark the holiday of Simchat Torah. We were able to unroll the Torah, touch the paper, and look at the Hebrew words. We also learned a chant that traditionally is said at the conclusion of Torah reading: “Be strong, be strong, and let us strengthen each other.” This implies that through studying and reading the Torah together will help to give us strength as a community.”
# November Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 1 - 2</th>
<th>November 3 - 9</th>
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Is your birthday information wrong or missing from this list? Please contact the TBA office to make corrections.

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Welcome New Members

Justin & Adelia Hunt. Children Mirah, Judah, Lilah
Mark & Judy Langberg
Karen Shaw
Simone & Chris Clark

Dan & Laura Rubenstein
Maurice Engel
Rami & Nhu Weinberg. Son Avi
May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

23 - 24 HESHVAN
November 1 - 2
Anna Ramek
Isadore Scheinberg
Meyer Schultzak
Bill Biglovsky
Frieda Levine Jacobs
Hilda Kessler

25 HESHVAN - 1 KISLEV
November 3 - 9
Bernard Hodess
Gertrude Lazar Landy
Herman Rosenthal
Jack Dobrushin
Alfonse Feibelman
Edith Bloch
Edith Tabak
Geraldine Turchen
Hezghia Saidian
Joseph Bloch
Joseph Malnick
Max Pactor
Myer Cohen
Samuel Felberbaum
Sophie Casson
Rose Kontrovich
Arthur Myers
Henrietta Cherry
Morris Isaacson
Peter Lipman
Helmut Stein
Irene Elizabeth Flick
Marvin Goldberg
Sam Clar
Samuel Ash
Sara Stevens Zorowitz
Sarah Epstein
Patricia Nightingale
Augusta Saretsky
Weinberger

2 - 8 KISLEV
November 10 - 16
Anne Bosniak Goldberg
Ben Maccabee
Helen Moskowitz
Janice Thompson
Kurt Kruchinski
Max Gershenson
Ruth Bresow Young
Charlene Eberhart
Esther DeKoven
Gil Hersh
Joseph Landowitz
Marietta Wulff
Pearl Kasdan Jonas
Sonia Greenberg
Arlene Frances Freeman
Ben Shane
Edes Olszak
Esther Dubrow
Gitman Olszak
Joseph Okh
Lola Kahane
Mary Feltman
Rebecca Kerns
Robert Zuckerberg
David Benisty
Paul Hertz
Abraham Shaffer
Arthur Kellman
Leo and Esther Ramek
Max Gevertz
Suanne Claire Kasdan
Cyril Weiss
Gussie Goldstein
Isaac Marcus
Leah Stamer
Max Marovitz
Harry Grossfield
Herman Roth
Judy Lerner
June Reingold Fleck
Phyllis Marjorie Cowan

9 - 15 KISLEV
November 17 - 23
Anne H. Tanner
Eve Rothman
Irina Eis
Jeanette Jeger
Sarah Lichtenstein
Stanley Rudee
Jacob Karwat
Mona Scharff
Edward Bercovich
Esther Naggar
Herbert Goodman
Leon Kraft
Pearl Werber
Rebecca Millman
Ronald Abraham
Sarah Leah Schneider
Alexander Kleinlerer
Alice Mendel
Evie Weissman
Jacob Wachman
Joseph Rosenfeld
Joseph Samson
Joseph Schein
Eric Zielenziger
Erwin Wallen
Laura Rosenthal
Sam Katzburg
Sandy Rosenfeld Emert
Ben Silver
David Aarons
Esther Nankin
Ganesane Rosenberg
Harry Barnett
Irwin Bryan
Rita Heeger
Wayne Stanfield
Edythe Goodwin
Leland Kugelgen
Mary Hale
Max Davis
Max Kaufman
Mervin Tessler
Molvá Goodman
Richard M. Goldstone

16 - 22 KISLEV
November 24 - 30
Adolph A. Kay
Edith Budman
Jennie Gevertz
Max Charulp
Nina Ballint
Al Mendelsohn
Erna Bender
Helen Ida Tessler
Kathy Roman
Sylvia Reback
Thelma Diane Tobin
Pierson Jacobs
Anna Shalinsky
Ida Hyman
Lilyan Schriemberg
Louis Berman
Marlene Berger Caspar
Toni W. Berke
Benjamin Holeman
Michael Robert Gelfand
Jean Middleton
Miriam Nudler
Samuel Rubin
Victorine Misan
Herman “Pinky” Pencovic
Maso Kishi
Mordecai Parker
Sam Feltman
Stanley Schechtman

Recent Deaths in Our Community

Yigal Yanai, Father of Ella Yanai (Amit Ben Horin)
Victor Mendelsohn, Father of David (Stephanie) Mendelsohn
Stacy Cohn, Daughter of Ann Cohn
Aaron Belkin, Brother of Noah Belkin
GENERAL INFORMATION:
All phone numbers use (510) prefix unless noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mailing Address</th>
<th>336 Euclid Ave. Oakland, CA 94610</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>M-Th: 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Fr: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Phone</td>
<td>832-0936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fax</td>
<td>832-4930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Mail</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@tbaoakland.org">info@tbaoakland.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STAFF

Rabbi (x 213) Mark Bloom
Cantor Richard Kaplan, kaplanmusic@hotmail.com
Gabbai Marshall Langfeld
Executive Director (x 214) Rayna Arnold
Office Manager (x 210) Virginia Tiger
Bet Sefer Director Susan Simon 663-1683
Gan Avraham Directors Jill Rosenthal & Marta Molina 763-7528
Bookkeeper (x 215) Suzie Sherman
Facilities Manager (x 211) Joe Lewis
Kindergym/ Toddler Program Dawn Margolin 547-7726

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

President Alice Hale 333-0416
Vice President Etta Heber 530-8320
Vice President Ann Rapson 612-2304
Vice President Jessica Sterling 420-1849
Vice President Aaron Goldberg 917-226-1399
Secretary David Goodwin 655-0529
Treasurer Peter Miller 652-7814

COMMITTEES & ORGANIZATIONS: If you would like to contact the committee chairs, please contact the synagogue office for phone numbers and email addresses.

Adult Education Aaron Paul
Chesed Heidi Bersin & Heike Friedman
Development Leon Bloomfield & Flo Raskin
Endowment Fund Charles Bernstein
Finance Peter Miller
Gan Avraham Toni Mason & Carolyn Bernstein
Parenta
Gan Avraham School Committee Becky Brown
House Stephen Shub
Israel Affairs Ann Rapson
Membership Etta Heber
Men's Club Rick Heeger
Omer Lisa Fernandez & Rachel Dornhelm
Personnel Etta Heber
Public Relations Lisa Fernandez
Ritual Marshall Langfeld
Schools Aaron Goldberg
Social Action Jessica Sterling
WLCJ Torah Fund Anne Levine
Women of TBA Kathy Saunders & Dina Hankin
Youth/BBYO/La'atid Amanda Cohen

Donations, cont. from page 13

Michael & Linda Palmer, in memory of Herb Bloom, a wonderful man
Lawrence Polon & Ernestina Carrillo, in memory of Herbert Bloom
John Rego & Deborah Kahane Rego, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Robert & Judith Rosenkranz, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Daryl & Bryna Ross, in memory of Harry Saul Winchell Sheldon & Barbara Rothblatt, in memory of Herbert Bloom
SF Airport Marriott Waterfront, in memory of Herbert Allen Bloom
Will & Rebecca Sparks, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Mark & Lori Spiegel, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Rabbi Daniel Stein, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Stephen & Amy Tessler, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Benjamin & Jenette Woskow, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Marvin & Sheila Yudenfreund, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Steven & Victoria Zatkin, in memory of Ellen Bercovich
Steven & Victoria Zatkin, in memory of Herbert Bloom

Leonard Quittman Endowment Fund
Larry Miller & Mary Kelly, in memory of Anne Miller
Larry Miller & Mary Kelly, in memory of Herbert Bloom

Mollie Hertz Interfaith Outreach Fund
Jeri & Marvin Schechtman, in memory of Reba Schechtman

Danielle and Deren Rehr-Davis Teen Fund
Howard Davis, in memory of Herbert Bloom
Howard Davis, in memory of Nathaniel Margolin

The December Omer will focus on Pets.
## NOVEMBER 2018

### 23 Heshvan – 22 Kislev 5779

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 (26 Heshvan) Daylight Saving Time Ends—Clocks back 1 hour</td>
<td>5 (27 Heshvan)</td>
<td>6 (28 Heshvan) Voting Day at TBA</td>
<td>7 (29 Heshvan) 9:00am Weekly Test Study at L’Acajou Café 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 1:15pm WTBA-sponsored Bingo at Reutlinger Home 5:45pm 8th Grade Tichon 6:00pm 9th Grade Tichon &amp; 10th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>8 (30 Heshvan) 8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 4:00pm Bet Sefer 8:00pm Jews in Bad Shoes Bowling</td>
<td>9 (1 Kislev) Gan closed for Parent Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>10 (2 Kislev) Parashat Toldot</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 (3 Kislev)</td>
<td>12 (4 Kislev)</td>
<td>13 (5 Kislev)</td>
<td>14 (6 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Test Study at L’Acajou Café 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 5:45pm 8th Grade Tichon 6:00pm 9th Grade Tichon &amp; 10th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>15 (7 Kislev) 8:00am Minyan followed by breakfast 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 4:00pm Bet Sefer 7:00pm Men’s Club Poker Night</td>
<td>16 (8 Kislev) 9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergym 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service – Chapel</td>
<td>17 (9 Kislev) Parashat Vayetzei</td>
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<td>18 (10 Kislev)</td>
<td>19 (11 Kislev)</td>
<td>20 (12 Kislev) Bet Sefer closed for Thanksgiving break</td>
<td>21 (13 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Test Study at L’Acajou Café Gan closes at 1:00pm NO Kindergym NO Tichon or 10th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>22 (14 Kislev) Gan, Office, Bet Sefer closed for Thanksgiving 9:00am Thanksgiving Minyan followed by Breakfast</td>
<td>23 (15 Kislev) Gan, Office, Kindergym closed for Thanksgiving</td>
<td>24 (16 Kislev) Parashat Vayishlach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 (17 Kislev)</td>
<td>26 (18 Kislev)</td>
<td>27 (19 Kislev)</td>
<td>28 (20 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Test Study 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 6:00pm 9th Grade Tichon &amp; 10th Grade Confirmation 7:30pm Intro to Judaism</td>
<td>29 (21 Kislev) 10:00 &amp; 11:15am Kindergym 4:00pm Bet Sefer</td>
<td>30 (22 Kislev) 9:30 &amp; 10:45am Shabbat Kindergym 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th day of Kislev</td>
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CONTINUEDS

Next TBA Book Club meeting on November 29
The TBA book club will hold its next meeting on Thursday, November 29th, at 7:00 pm.

We will meet at the house of a TBA member and will be discussing the book “Leaving Lucy Pear: A Novel” by Anna Solomon.

If you want to join us, please send your RSVP to Judy Glick, at judyglick@gmail.com to learn the location.

“I write this just after a webinar with more than 1000 other members of the US Jewish Community and experts from the ADL and the Secure Community Network (a security initiative of the national Jewish community). The consensus is that the shooting in Pittsburgh was the act of one individual, and there is no credible threat to any Jewish institution right now. But the situation is dynamic, they said, and it is wise to take the time now to prepare and plan. The experts also gave us some important steps that we can all take to help make our communities safer:

1. If You See Something, Say Something. This is more than a slogan on a poster. Incidents have been averted and perpetrators stopped because people who saw something suspicious or concerning spoke up. If you are at TBA and you see something questionable, speak to Rayna or the custodians.

2. Report anti-Semitic incidents to the ADL. If someone shouts something at you on the way to shul, draws a swastika on someone’s car, or makes a threat on social media, report it. The ADL tracks these incidents and shares the data with law enforcement. Go to https://www.adl.org/take-action/report-an-incident to do so.

3. Get to know the neighbors. Having a good relationship with TBA’s neighbors can help make us safer. Be friendly to those who live nearby and courteous when parking to come to services or pick up from the Gan or Bet Sefer.

4. Attend services. Make it clear that we will continue to stand strong as a congregation and that we will not live in fear.

I also want to acknowledge again the dedication of our staff — Rayna, Virginia, Suzie, Joe, Gilbert, Juston, Susan, Jill, Marta, and the Gan teachers — to our community’s well-being. We are lucky to have them and I hope you can share your appreciation of their efforts when you see them.

In mesmerizing prose, award-winning author Anna Solomon weaves together an unforgettable group of characters as their lives collide on the New England coast. Set against one of America’s most turbulent decades, Leaving Lucy Pear delves into questions of class, freedom, and the meaning of family, establishing Anna Solomon as one of our most captivating storytellers.

President, cont. from page 6

Wolmark, cont. from page 5

sports together, grew up together, and fought and loved together. And through this, we learned how to appreciate and value those things that made us different. The actress Lena Waithe put it beautifully when she said “The things that make us different, those are our superpowers — every day when you walk out the door and put on your imaginary cape and go out there and conquer the world because the world would not be as beautiful as it is if we weren’t in it.”

We must strive to do more than mourn the 11 Tree of Life victims. We must also labor to honor their sacrifice by standing together with our African-American, Muslim, immigrant, and LGBTQ brothers and sisters in the face of discrimination and bigotry. We must all be each other’s helpers.

May their memories be a blessing.

Thank you.
A NOTE ABOUT THIS MONTH’S OMER
This issue is printed in sympathy, solidarity and support of the Tree of Life community in Pittsburgh and communities around the country experiencing an increase in hate crimes.
We paused the production of the Omer to include images and text from the memorial service held at TBA (pictured below).
Thank you for taking the time to read the Omer and engaging with our community in its pages during the course of the year – through the sorrow and the joy.