

TBS-EV TIMES



Elul 5780 — Tevet 5781 September — December 2020 (4th Quarter)

Herschel 'Brodie' Aberson, Rabbi
Dennis Aust, President

Greetings from the Rabbi

Shalom Le'kulam!
Hello Everyone!

As we move forward into the holiday season of the Hebrew year 5781, I want to take a moment and reflect on how far we have come. We live in a world where one of the most powerful acts of compassion and love we can do is to stay away and stay home. And as a community, we have done this admirably. From volunteers making food and doing shopping runs for those who cannot do it themselves, to the many wonderful classes, events, and social activities planned by our fellow congregants, the work of making Temple Beth Sholom of the East Valley survive and thrive is being done every day.

This year, we are also doing the work of coming together to celebrate a new year and embrace the process of change and growth that defines the period between the month of Elul through the end of Simchat Torah. Although we may not be able to see our beautiful sanctuary brimming with

friends, family, and community, to hear Kol Nidre sung with our own ears, or the resonating blast of the Shofar bringing us to attention, no one has given up. I feel blessed each and every day to an inbox full of ideas and reports of efforts being made to manifest our holiday spirit.

Rosh Hashanah is the new year of all Creation, celebrating the first moment of being for the smallest grain of sand to the most magnificent galaxy. It is the anniversary of existence itself, when God uttered and reality became. Every year, it is also a milestone on our way to becoming the next, best version of ourselves. We have done so much, overcome so many obstacles, and still we press on brighter and stronger than ever. I am eager to see who we will become this year, excited to be part of what we will accomplish, and joyful at the

relationships we will create and cultivate with each passing day.

With blessings, love, and total admiration,

Rabbi Brodie



Rabbi Brodie



Core Values

Welcoming: Actively invite and engage the community (internal and greater)

Inclusive: Respectful of all individuals and their unique gifts

Caring: Ensuring for well-being of others in the community

Learning: Foster the journey for Lifelong Jewish Education. We provide an excellent religious education in a lifelong learning curriculum, from Pre-B'nai Mitzvah through Adult education.

Persevering: The Little Shul that Could (70 years +)

Safety: Congregate in peace

Mission Statement

Temple Beth Sholom is an inclusive East Valley Conservative Congregation. We are egalitarian and enrich Jewish life by promoting growth spiritually, ritually, educationally, and socially while serving the greater community.

Vision Statement

We strive to be deeply connected to each other and to the greater community through meaningful collaborations to both enrich and elevate Jewish life while serving others.

Donation / Giving to Temple Beth Sholom

This is a list of the many different funds that you can donate to at Temple Beth Sholom. Payments can be made on-line at tbsev.org or in person.

Donation Funds

General Fund: A donation to this fund assists in the general running of TBS-EV. It goes to the heart of the synagogue and is used where is most needed.

TBS-EV Religious School: Monies increase the quality of the programs and materials available to our students.

Jaffa Endowment Fund: Helps provide religious school tuition scholarships to TBS-EV Religious School students.

Youth Funds: (Kadima & Teens) (4th – 12th Grade): Enhances the programs and activities in which our younger members can participate.

Virtual Hanukkah Madlibs

During one of the TBS-EV virtual zoom gatherings we played Madlibs and came up with the following:

Celebrating the Jewish Holidays 101:

We all know how to celebrate Hanukkah - we light the [crap], sing [brown] songs, eat oily [dogs], and play dreidel. But how do we celebrate some of the other [bonito/pretty] holidays throughout the year? Well, on Tu B'Shevat, we celebrate by planting a [roof] in the ground or by donating money to an organization that plants trees in [Scottsdale]. To celebrate Purim, we read the Book of [Joe Wechsler] and wear [blue] costumes. On Passover

Mark Foster Fund: For children in need without regard to race, religion or gender.

Shiva Fund: To provide traditional nourishment process for families in mourning. It may be used for meals for the family or food for the family's shiva.

Ritual Fund: This fund is managed by our Ritual Committee and is used for the care of our Torah and their dressings, prayer books, tallit, and various religious objects needed by the TBS-EV community. A donation for a yahrzeit or Aliyah received is often made to this fund.

Oneg/Kiddush Fund: Supports TBS-EV sponsored Onegs & Kiddushes. (Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush for that special occasion) **Be sure to visit our Kiddush sponsor page on the website and fill out the webform.**

we have a special meal called a Seder, which means ["phone"]. Someone hides the [computer] and all the kids try to find it at the end of the Seder. On Sukkot we build a [lady] outside and then [jugamos/play] in it for [9] days. There are many more holidays, but one of the most [beautiful] is Shavuot. That's when we stay up and [dormimos/sleep] all night long, and then the next day, we listen to the reading of the Ten [Books]. I guess that's why the call us the People of the [Meteorologists].

Hanukkah Wishes:

It has been an especially [superfluous] Hanukkah for me this year. I am surrounded by friends, family, great food, and lots of

Ellie Keleman Kitchen Fund: These donations help maintain and update the kitchen facility.

Library Fund: Helps buy materials and supplies for the TBS-EV library.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund (RDF): Contributions are used, as the name indicates, at the Rabbi's discretion, and anonymously, to assist members of the community who are in need.

Tree of Life: Order a leaf to celebrate your simcha. Examples include birth of a baby, wedding anniversary, and bar/bat mitzvah.

Memorial Board: Honor your beloved with a Yahrzeit Memorial plaque.

(Visit the website and click on the donation tab)



[cars]. I feel so thankful, and I consider myself especially [clean], so I'd like to share my Hanukkah wishes for you all: May your garden overflow with [dogs]. May you receive many [books] from your children. May your [juguetes/toys] be few and far between. May you always have [underwear] when you really need it. May your [people] never show when you [progress], and may you live out your days in health, wisdom, and with many [rabbis]. I hope you have a [crazy] Hanukkah filled with the light and love of good [schools] and finally ... I hope you don't get indigestion from eating too many [supermarkets].

Shiva

Have you ever wondered what is expected of you when you attend a shiva? Many of us have, so here are some pointers. Each community has their own traditions. Below is a combination of the Jewish traditions and the TBS-EV traditions.

Logistics The word 'shiva' means seven, and refers to the period of intense mourning that follow the funeral. Many, for personal, family, or communal reasons, choose to observe this intense period of public mourning for a shorter period of time – often for only two or three evenings. Multiple days provide the community opportunity to support the family. The family may designate shiva call hours, which must be respected. Participating in a minyan is a mitzvah, and usually extends the visit time by twenty minutes.

Attire

It is not required to dress for Shabbat (those leading the service usually dress up a bit more). One should dress in a respectful fashion – avoid tattered and messy clothing. Given that temperatures can be quite high in our area, shorts are not uncommon. However, they should be modest, and shoulders should be covered (for both men and women). The most important thing to keep in mind is that you are showing your support for the family,

President's Message

Autumn is here and it is usually followed by less harsh temperatures, and with it people in Arizona suddenly and magically become pleasant and polite again. This year seemed like the longest summer ever with COVID and quarantine. It's true, this year has dragged on in many ways where others usually zip by faster than we can keep up with, but we are persevering as a community.

We persevere because TBS-EV is not just a place, but an ideological construct of community and a commitment to each other to make our world a better place. We

and your presence should demonstrate that rather than distract from it.

Entering the House Visitors making a shiva call customarily enter the house in a quiet and non-intrusive manner. It is typical that a visitor walks directly into the house without knocking.

Refrain from Initiating Conversation

Uncharacteristic to usual interactions, visitors should avoid initiating conversations with others making a shiva call and generally listen and offer support when engaged. This is a time for mourners to express their thoughts and feelings, and only when invited for conversation should the visitor engage. This seems counter to what and generally feels appropriate, but it is based on the principles of Jewish mourning. Most of all, those making a shiva call should not attempt to engage in theological discussion or explorations of what has happened. The visitors are there to support the family, not offer counsel.

Attention to Atmosphere During the shiva call it is essential to focus on the needs of the mourner. Visitors should always be mindful of the solemnity and the seriousness of the shiva visit. The shiva house is not the place for casual lighthearted conversations that do not contribute to the needs of the mourners. Attention should be paid to the atmosphere in the house of mourning because this will help guide them on

may have had to close our sanctuary, but our community is always open. It is during times of crisis and adversity that we learn the most about who we are and who we can rely on to be there for us. For some of us, it shows us equally or more importantly, who we can be there for.

We are Jews, and as such we have accepted the commandment to observe Shabbat; To set aside one day a week to take a break from our work and spend some time recognizing adversity is a part of life. Every Pesach, every Purim, every Yom Kippur, every Tisha B'Av and every Chanukkah, we remember the adversities of our

what is and is not appropriate behavior. It is important to be careful not to offend and adhere to the customs and rituals that are being followed by the mourners.

Eating It is customary and a long-standing tradition for friends, extended family and the Jewish community to provide food for the mourners. Meals are traditionally intended for the mourners, so that they do not have to be concerned with mundane needs, and not for individuals making a shiva call. However, it is quite common today for all to partake in some of the food (the snack type food) as opposed to the meal type food. It is traditional for the TBS-EV community to bring something to share with the community – baked goods, fresh fruit, or other snack food. Our shiva committee brings a light spread of fruit, baked goods and water; this, however, is not usually enough for everyone or for multiple evenings. If a person who is making a shiva call is not able to bring something, that person usually makes a donation to the shiva fund shortly after shiva is over.

It is not customary to remove food from a shiva house unless it is being disposed of or donated to a charity. It is not uncommon for a family to send unopened, kosher, commercially baked products to TBS-EV for future use after the shiva period is over.

<http://www.shiva.com/learning-center/visiting/act/> was used as a resource; many others are available.

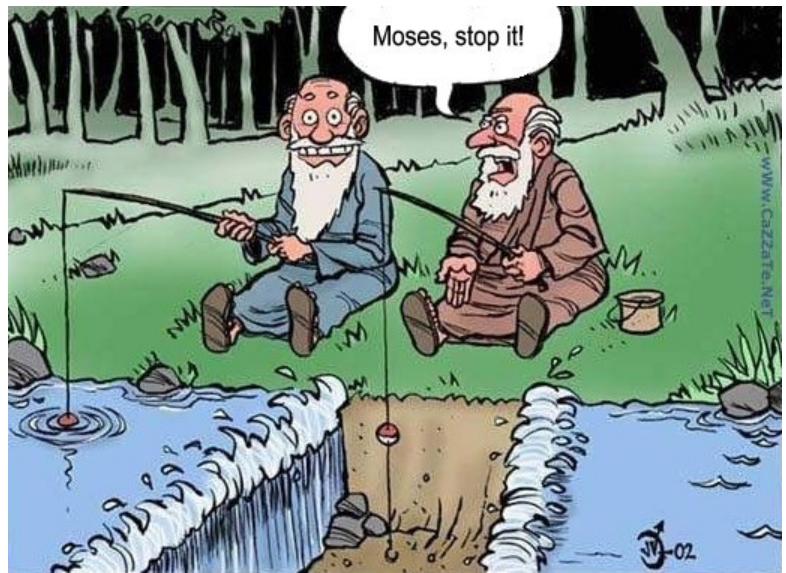
ancestors, talk about them, and celebrate their ability, our ability, to overcome the major challenges we face in our lifetimes. These traditions and practices help prepare us mentally for times like this. We find solace and rejoice in times of past and times to come during Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah, and Tu B'Shevat.

More importantly, these are times when we lock arms and carry each other forward. Even if that has to be through some virtual interface, electronic mail, web conference committee meetings, phone calls or text messages. There is always work we do to better our community so I encourage everyone that can to get involved. Tikkun Olam starts here. L'Hitraot. - Dennis Aust



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Fundraising Event October 23 - 25, 2020



A GLOW IN THE DARK ADVENTURE

Help Support Temple Beth Sholom of the East Valley and a great small business any time during the weekend of **October 23 - 25, 2020** Mention "TBS-EV" so that 15% of your golf game admissions will go towards our synagogue. It is fun with the kids or for a date night.

Swingin' Safari Mini Golf is an indoor glow in the dark 18 hole mini golf adventure fun for the entire family.

3875 W Ray Rd #8 Chandler, AZ 85226 Phone: 480-498-3985

Fundraising Hours: Fri-Sat 11AM - 10PM, Sun-11AM - 7PM

<https://www.safarigolfaz.com/>

"Thank You" to our Donor's"

Temple Beth Sholom would like to thank our Gala Donors. We thank you all very much for helping support our 70th Gala.

Michael and Lori Ann Margolis

Barbara Gold and Mark Jones

Irene and Dan Simpkins

Regina and Eric Fischer

Michael Beyo and Karolyn Benger

Wilma Greer and Allen Simon

Fred Wabnik

Doreen and Dave Aberson

Amanda and Frank Rosenberg

Help Needed - Join a committee or two

Refua Shlema/Shiva – Help maintain the Refua Shlema list, make calls to check on people; help set up food for shivas (when in person).

Membership - Help Membership VP with communication, planning, welcoming folks...

Social – Help plan social events, e.g., Hanukkah party & Open House.

Social Action – Plan/coordinate events to help the greater Jewish community.

Publicity - Help make flyers, brochures, and promote community awareness.

Fundraising– Help coordinate single events and long term giving.

Community Liaison – Coordinate and communicate with neighboring Jewish and secular organizations e.g. Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

Education – Assist with planning Adult Education & Religious School events.

If you would like to join any of the above mentioned committee's, please contact info@tbsev.org.

We are always looking for fresh content for the TBS-EV Times. If you have something you would like to submit and share in our newsletter please feel free reach out to us at info@tbsev.org (Or use our contact forms on website).