

# B'nai Israel

*The Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel*

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## Rabbi's Corner

While in Petoskey, I am reading David Grossman's novel *To the End of the Land*, about a woman called Ora trying to save the life of her son, Ofer the soldier, by avoiding the notifiers who she fears will announce his falling in battle. Traveling through the Galilee with Ofer's broken-down, reclusive father, she tells him about his son he never met, and about her family life (she was married to Ilan, their former best friend). It is through this journey and Ora's narration that we discover the characters' history, and the impact of war on their lives. It is a mesmerizing book. If you want to understand the geist, soul, and internal fears of Israel, I recommend reading Grossman's novel. I only regret that most of you would read the book in English, and thus lose the rich Hebrew of the original text.



The resemblance between the prose and the author's life is haunting. At the end of the book, a note informs readers that writing began in 2003—a half a year before Grossman's second son, Uri, was enlisted to the I.D.F. In 2006, Uri was killed during the last hours of the Second Lebanese War. The Grossmans were members of my congregation Kehilat Mevasseret Zion, and I Bar Mitzvah-ed Uri, his older brother, Yonathan, and his younger sister, Ruti. After Uri's death, I took part as a reform rabbi in his military funeral, which was a daring request on the part of the family: David was very critical of the Israeli Government for not stopping the war and for putting politics before people, and his speech at the rally before the end of the war resonated in many homes and hearts. Consequently, thousands of Israelis who had never met or known the family showed up at the funeral in silent support of the Grossmans.

Every year, when Menachem and I return to Petoskey, I think of ways to bring Israel closer to your hearts. It is a beautiful, successful country, but also a very intricate, multilayered one, difficult to understand in its fullness. As I read Grossman's novel, it occurred to me the best way to bring you close to Israel would be to simply recommend the book. To the Men's Book club, I suggest setting aside political analysis for once and instead delving into the Israeli soul through Grossman's fabulous book.

*L'shalom,  
Maya*

## Inside—

Events	2
Retreat Registration	2
Rabbi House Project	3
Donations	3
Calendar	4

## August Events

- Fri., Aug. 3, 6:15 p.m. – **“Pre-Neg” Nosh & Schmooze @ Charlevoix Bandshell**
- Fri, Aug. 3, 7 p.m. – **Up North Shabbat Services w/Rav Maya @ Charlevoix Bandshell**
- Sat., Aug. 4, 8 p.m. – **Temple Tour for Temple Beth El and Havdalah Services**
- Sun., Aug. 5, 11:30 a.m. – **Lunch & Learn Potluck**
- Fri., Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.— **Shabbat Services w/Rav Maya**
- Sat., Aug. 11, 10 a.m. – **Bar Mitzvah of Mitchell Kranig**
- Sun., Aug. 12, 11:30 a.m. – **Lunch & Learn Potluck**
- Fri., Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m.— **Shabbat Services w/Rav Maya**
- Sun., Aug. 19, 11:30 a.m. – **Lunch & Learn Potluck**
- Mon., Aug. 20 – **Rav Maya & Menachem Depart**
- Fri., Aug. 24 – **Intergenerational Retreat Begins**

## New Student Rabbi

Madeline Anderson, who will be joining Temple B'nai Israel this fall season, is a rising second year rabbinical student at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. During her year in Israel studies at H.U.C.-J.I.R. Jerusalem, she volunteered with Encounter Programs. Before rabbinical school, Madeline worked as the marketing and communications coordinator at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, and has spent two years working with Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity, one year serving on an AmeriCorps construction team, and another working on its administration team. In college, Madeline studied business at the University of Indianapolis, where she received a B.A. in Global Leadership and where, as a student, she helped develop the Precious Words Africa Project, which provides educational resources and infrastructure in Ghana. In addition, she has served on the Young Professionals Board at Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, leading peers in various service projects, and has volunteered with Jewish Family Services, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity. Madeline hopes that her passions for Jewish life, social justice, and leadership will guide her to build meaningful connections with the communities she serves.

## Intergenerational Retreat

The L'Dor v'Dor Consortium has once again helped make possible the semi-annual Intergenerational Retreat, which will take place at the Clear Lake Education Center in Manistique on the weekend of August 24th.

The theme this year is “Putting the Pieces Together,” encouraging participants to discuss their unique and varied journeys to and within Judaism, and resources will be available for interfaith families and individuals considering conversion. Marquette’s student rabbi, Zoe McCoon, will be in attendance, providing rabbinical services and music. Guests will have chances to attend Shabbat and Havdalah services, go swimming and boating, and take a glass-bottomed raft across the Kitch-iti-kipi, Michigan’s largest spring.

Thanks to a generous grant from the L'Dor v'Dor Women’s Consortium and support from the Ravitz Foundation, the cost per person is only \$36 (includes on-site lodging, board, access to programming, and relevant materials). Comfort lodging is available off-site, in town.

To register, visit <http://bit.do/wildretreat> (the weekend agenda may be viewed at <http://bit.do/Wild17A>). For more information, contact Carol Ellstein at [cgellstein@gmail.com](mailto:cgellstein@gmail.com).

## Lunch & Learn Themes

Rav Maya has led over a month of Lunch & Learn sessions, focused on the life and journey of Moses, with topics ranging from his birth and early years to his ordination and growing relationship with God. Sessions will continue through August 19th:

**August 5th: Moses—Revelation**

**August 12th: Moses—The Golden Calf**

**August 19th: Moses—Death of a Mythos**

If planning to attend a Lunch & Learn session, please bring a dish to pass (diary/pareve). We hope to see you there!

### Donations Received

<b>General Fund</b> Mr. & Mrs. Schreiber	<b>Tree of Life Fund</b> Mr. & Mrs. Sternberg— <i>in honor of Hank &amp; Anita Schneider</i>
<b>Rabbinic Fund</b> Albert Ernst	<b>Rabbi House Fund</b> Mr. & Mrs. Feldman Elizabeth Frey Rhoda Raider

### Rabbi House Project

Since 1925, Temple B'nai Israel has hosted student rabbis during the summer. In the 1990s, a year-round internship was established and, since 2014, Rav Maya Leibovich has served during the summer months.

Purchased in 1998 for sixty thousand dollars, the current rabbi house has served our community well, but has begun to show both its limitations and, simply, its age—a sinking foundation, crumbling window casings, poor ventilation, outdated appliances—leading to continually increasing maintenance bills.



*Above: Artist's rendering of proposed rabbi house and surroundings.*

To solve this costly issue, the temple is engaged in a fundraising campaign for the construction of a new rabbi house, which will improve our campus and help sustain our vibrant Jewish presence in Northern Michigan by providing safe, accessible housing for the rabbis this temple is so fortunate to attract each year. The proposal details a sustainably constructed three-bedroom, two-bath, fully conditioned 1,900-square-foot space, with appropriate furnishings and landscaping. For more information, please contact the co-chairs of the Rabbi House Fundraising Committee—Val Meyerson and Sally Cannon—or the temple president, Gus Paz. Pledge forms are available on Temple B'nai Israel's website.

### Funds / Named Donations Available

- Temple General Fund  Newsletter Fund
- Prayer Book Fund  Building Fund
- Irene Gordon Memorial Fund  Oneg Fund
- Lee and Miles Jaffe Memorial Fund
- Religious Education Fund
- Stacy McCracken Memorial Youth Enrichment Fund
- Alvin's "Helping Hand" Rosenhaus Memorial Fund
- Tree of Life Fund (\$100 Per Leaf)
- Aubrey & Gerald Meyerson Perpetual Kaddish Fund
- Donor Wall Tile Fund (\$48 per tile, plus freight)
- Tribute Fund (packets of five tributes for \$90/pack)

### Temple B'nai Israel Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My contribution is in honor or memory of:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Circle which fund you are designating (above) and then mail your check and this completed form to:

Mark Rothman, Treasurer  
 Temple B'nai Israel  
 PO Box 2416  
 Petoskey MI 49770

**TBES** Shabbat in  
**CHARLEVOIX 2.0**

Join us for a beautiful Shabbat service at the  
 Charlevoix Band Shell Amphitheatre.

**6:15 PM NOSH & SCHMOOZE PRE-NEG BEFORE SERVICES**

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lindsey at  
 lfoxwagner@tbeonline.org or 248.851.1100.

**AUG**

**03**

**7:00 PM**

Temple B'nai Israel  
 PO Box 2416  
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Located at the corner of  
 Waukazoo Ave. & Michigan St.  
[www.TempleBnaiIsraelofPetoskey.org](http://www.TempleBnaiIsraelofPetoskey.org)

5778

Calendar of Events  
 Av / Elul | August

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 29 11:30 a.m. – Lunch & Learn w/ Rav Maya	30 <i>Summer Day Camp Begins</i>	31	Aug. 1	2	3 6:15 p.m. – “Pre-Neg” Nosh & Schmooze 7 p.m. – Up North Shabbat Services 8:47 	4 <i>Parshat Eikev</i> 8 p.m. – Temple Tour & Havdalah Services
5 11:30 a.m. – Lunch & Learn w/ Rav Maya	6	7	8	9	10 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rav Maya 8:37 	11 <i>Parshat Re'eh</i> 10 a.m. – Bar Mitzvah of Mitchell Kranig
12 11:30 a.m. – Lunch & Learn w/ Rav Maya	13 7 p.m. – Temple Board Meeting	14	15	16	17 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rav Maya 8:26 	18 <i>Parshat Shoftim</i>
19 11:30 a.m. – Lunch & Learn w/ Rav Maya	20 <i>Rav Maya &amp; Menachem Depart</i>	21	22	23	24 <i>L'Dor v'Dor Consortium Retreat Begins</i> 8:14 	25 <i>Parshat Ki Teitzei</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31 8:01 	Sept. 1 <i>Parshat Ki Tavo</i>