

Temple B'nai Israel

Rabbi's Corner

In my sermon for the portion Hukat, I quoted the poem: "Pride" by the late Israeli poetess Dalia Rabikovitch. I want to use it once more, not just because of its beauty but because I want to draw a lesson from it for an uneasy month (The Hebrew month Av) and for uneasy times.

Pride by Dalia Rabikovitch

**Even rocks crack, I'm telling you,
And not because of old age.
For years they lie on their backs
In the heat and cold,
So many years,
It almost creates the illusion of calm.
They don't move, so the cracks stay hidden.
A kind of pride.
Years pass over them as they wait.
Whoever is going to shatter them
Hasn't come yet.
And so the moss flourishes, the seaweed
Whips around,
The sea bursts forth and rolls back—
And still, they seem motionless
Till a little seal comes to rub up against the rocks,
Comes and goes,
And suddenly the rock has an open wound.
I told you, when rocks crack, it comes as a surprise.
All the more so people.**

Dalia looks at rocks by the sea but wants us to imagine human beings. The last line of the poem is the central message of it: humans crack/ break suddenly but the change has taken a long time and we haven't noticed.

This is true for our governmental and Juridical systems. The cracks are hidden for many months or years and then suddenly there is a crack and a system of values breaks. It seems to be sudden but it has really been hidden.

During the Hebrew month of Av (August), we look at the past and the destruction of the Temple but we need to look straight into the eyes of the present, recognize the cracks in our societies and systems and mend them.

May the Rock and Redeemer of our people help us better this world.

Rav Maya

TEMPLE BOARD

Val Meyerson
President
(231) 881-7676

Jim Line
Vice President
(906) 440-3888

Gus Paz
Treasurer
(231) 675-0638

Naomi Behrman
Recording Secretary
(231) 330-4396

Jamie Schwartzfisher
Corresponding Secretary
(231) 881-0729

Emily Stuchell
Mishpacha
(231) 330-4936

Suzanne Shumway
(231) 881-1107

Elisa Seltzer
(231) 838-8032

Hal Willens
(231) 330-1467

Rav Maya Leibovitch
ravmaya@gmail.com
(231) 387-2381

DONATIONS

General Fund

- Ivan Behrmann - In Honor of Michael Behrmann's Retirement
- Mr. & Mrs. Foreman
- Seth Tzizik

Perpetual Kaddish

- Arleen Levine - In Memory of Her Beloved Mother, Elizabeth Redlich

EVENTS

- Sunday Mornings @10am - Torah Study Lunch & Learn with Rav Maya
- Friday Evenings @7:30pm - Shabbat Services
- August 6th @10am - Maksym Bar Mitvah
- August 8th @7pm - TBI Board Meeting
- August 12th - Memorial for David Rothman
- August 13th @11am - Services at Temple Beth El in Alpena

Rabbi Search

Naomi Behrmann

Earlier this year, news of the closing of The Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati was announced. Unlike past years, student Rabbis are no longer available to serve congregations for High Holidays or to lead during the school year.

The TBI board acted swiftly and put together a committee, dedicated to addressing this important issue. The idea of a permanent, part time spiritual leader had previously been discussed by the board, and an outline of duties and approximate financial compensation was already established.

Using those set guidelines, the Spiritual Leader Search Committee was formed and hit the ground running. Various avenues to find viable candidates were investigated. Ultimately, word-of-mouth and personal contacts led us to several qualified individuals that could potentially fill the two immediate need positions.

More immediately, we needed a leader for the High Holidays. Secondly, it was determined an interim part-time spiritual leader/educator was needed for the upcoming school year.

On the horizon, the search committee will be considering options for a permanent spiritual leader. Our goal is to begin the process later this fall.

- **Rav Maya and Menachem will be with us for the High Holiday service schedule!** After our search fell short of solidifying clergy for the High Holidays, Maya and Menachem graciously offered to step in. In spite of the tremendous rescheduling difficulties, they are 100% on board with continuing service to our community. They will be leaving our weekly summer pulpit with a last weekend on August 12-14. They will have the opportunity for travel for a few weeks before returning to Israel to visit with their family before coming back to Petoskey for two weeks. We are very excited and honored that they will be with us. We hope that you all are also excited and will plan to join us.

- **Cantorial Soloist Gabrielle Pescador** will lead services, adult enrichment/Torah study and assist with Sunday school for the 2022-23 school year. Gabrielle, from Ann Arbor, has extensive experience serving congregations from Conservative, to Reform, to Renewal, to Reconstructionist. She will be Cantor for the High Holidays at University of Michigan Hillel, this fall. Her background is in art, voice, and harp. She has also taught a myriad of Jewish themed subjects.

L'Dor v'Dor

Carol Ellstein

L'Dor v'Dor Upper Great Lakes Jewish Consortium is hosting an Intergenerational Summer Camp Retreat Weekend from **August 12-14** in Manistique, Michigan at the Clear Lake Education Center. The center is located in a camp-like setting (with bunk lodging, mess hall, community center, and other camp amenities) between Manistique and Munising.

Activities: Shabbat and Havdalah services, ropes course and water activities. Campfire Havdalah if conditions permit. Musical jam session (bring your instruments and sheet music). Arts and crafts and songwriting. Fishing. Hiking. Or just hanging out!

Included in the weekend: All meals, programming, activities, materials.

Cost: \$36 per person, includes on-site rustic lodging (hotels available in the area for comfort lodging--you must organize your reservation with hotels).

Temple B'Nai Israel is part of the L'Dor v'Dor Upper Great Lakes Jewish Consortium (also known simply as L'Dor v'Dor). The retreat is underwritten by a grant from the Ravitz Foundation Initiative for Small Michigan Jewish Congregations.

If you are interested, you may register at: rmd.me/s8.22S709Er or ldvd.net/retreats

For more information about the retreat or L'Dor v'Dor in general, please visit their website at: <https://sites.google.com/view/ldvd/home> or ldvd.net

New Staff

Val Meyerson

I am excited to announce that TBI has hired their first ever staff person, Nicole (Nikki) Russell. Nikki has joined our team as a part-time Administrative Assistant. Nikki will take over communications and mailings of the temple, including our paper newsletter and our weekly electronic updates. Nikki will also help with board meetings, Zoom sessions, scheduling Temple volunteers and workers, and making sure the Temple is supplied and cleaned.

Nikki was born and raised in Petoskey and lives in town with husband Ian and daughter Rory. While Nikki is not of the Jewish faith, they have fond memories of Gail Willens visiting their classroom to teach about Hanukkah and other Jewish events. Nikki also works part-time as one of the teen librarians at the Petoskey District Library and runs the Maker Space. As a librarian, Nikki is well suited for our administrative position: smart, comfortable with all technology, and very organized.

At your first encounter, please introduce yourself and welcome Nikki to our Temple family.



Funds Available

- Temple General Fund Newsletter Fund Prayer Book Fund Rabbi House Fund
- Irene Gordon Memorial Fund Security Fund Lee and Miles Jaffe Memorial Fund
- Religious Education Fund Stacey McCracken Memorial Youth Enrichment Fund
- Alvin's "Helping Hand" Rosenhaus Memorial Fund Aubrey and Gerald Meyerson Perpatual Kaddish Fund

Named Funds Available

- Tree Of Life Fund (\$100 per leaf)
- Memorial Wall (\$180 per plaque)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My Contribution is in the honor or memory of: _____

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

Gus Paz, Treasurer
 Temple B'nai Israel
 PO Box 2416
 Petoskey MI 49770

Temple B'nai Israel

PO Box 2416

Petoskey, MI 49770

All Temple events are open to the public, including Sunday School sponsored programs!

For questions about programs, please contact:

Tot Shabbat: Lindsey- kaufmanlb@gmail.com

Shabbat and other events: Emily - efreedland@hotmail.com

Av 5782/Elul 5782 August 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
10am Torah Study with Rav Maya	1	2	3	4	7:30pm Shabbat Services	10am Maksym Bar Mitzvah
10am Torah Study with Rav Maya	7pm TBI Board Meeting	9	10	11	7:30pm Shabbat Services Memorial for David Rothman	11am Services @ Temple Beth El in Alpena
10am Torah Study with Rav Maya	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Rosh Hodesh	29	30	31			