



Temple B'nai Israel

A Note From Our Spiritual Leader

December aligns with the month of Kislev, with Torah readings that feature the power of dreams. In parshat Vayetzei, God appears to Jacob in a dream with angels ascending and descending a ladder. God promises Jacob land and a safe journey back to Canaan. When Jacob awakens, he recognizes that God is with him. In parshat Vayeshev, Joseph relates prophetic dreams to his brothers of eventually ruling over them, which causes them to become so envious that they throw him into a pit. In parshat Miketz, Joseph interprets the dreams of Pharaoh and is rewarded with the appointment of viceroy over Egypt.

Talmud teaches that a dream is one-sixtieth of prophecy and as a result an uninterpreted dream is likened to a letter left unread. Figuring out the meaning of our dreams can help bring buried or unresolved thoughts and feelings to the surface. There are many techniques for interpreting dreams. To help remember our dreams, we may want to keep a journal by our bedside so we can easily jot down details. There are also many books on exploring dream life. One book that offers a Jewish perspective is ***Entering the Temple of Dreams*** by Tamar Frankiel and Judy Greenfeld.

As Hannukah approaches, during the darkest month of the year, it is important to look for light wherever we can. In addition to paying attention to our dreams, the Hanukkah candles themselves may offer a spiritual pathway to the light. According to the Hassidic master Sefat Emet, the Hanukkah candles signify the light of mitzvot, instruments that help us discover the hidden divine light within ourselves. As it says in **Proverbs 20:27**, "the human soul is the lamp of God that searches the inner chambers."

May the light within you shine brightly!

Gabrielle

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Letter from the President

L'Dor V'Dor retreat was invigorating, fulfilling, and fun. I remember the last time I attended, I was pleasantly surprised at what a lovely time I had. Not sure why I was once again surprised, I should just assume this is how it will be. There is something truly special about being with other Jews from small town Michigan. What makes it so special? You may wonder.... We prayed, we sang, we ate, we laughed, we walked, we talked, and we laughed some more. Connecting with new friends and reconnecting with old in such a relaxed atmosphere creates strong bonds. The knowledge that our community is not just Petoskey somehow enhances my sense of security and strengthens the feeling of belonging to something greater than myself. There are truly incredible humans in our Northern Michigan Jewish community and it is a joy to be able to spend time with them all.

The group was also blessed because Debbie Massarano was the retreat leader. Debbie is the newly hired L'Dor V'Dor educator and it was wonderful getting this first glimpse of all she will do for our kids. She is a delight and I'm quite confident that with her guidance, our Sunday School will strengthen and develop a stable foundation on which to grow. Our kids will have a great year with Debbie at the helm. The spring retreat is scheduled for March 17-19. The summer, August 10-13, is the intergenerational summer camp at Clear Lake, which is just plain fun! Both retreats will be meaningful, I look forward to seeing you there.

Shalom -
Val Meyerson, President



EVENTS

- **December 4th** -
10am Sunday School
- **December 12** -
7pm TBI Board Meeting
- **December 16th** -
7:30pm Shabbat Services
- **December 17th** -
10am Torah Study & Kids Shabbat
- **December 18th** -
10am Sunday School
First Night of Hanukkah

DONATIONS

General Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Beren

L'Dor v'Dor

To see what the Consortium does, which congregations it serves, and who is on the Leadership Team, please check out our website at **ldvd.net**. The website also provides a calendar of all six congregations' schedules.

For more information, contact Carol Ellstein at 517-881-0668 or cgellstein@gmail.com

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)

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

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Temple B'nai Israel

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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

December 2022

Kislev 5783/Tevet 5783

Su M Tu W Th F Sa

				1	2 Candle: 4:40pm	3 Parsha: Vayeitzei
4 10am Sunday School	5	6	7	8	9 Candle: 4:39pm	10 Parsha: Vayishlach
11	12 7pm TBI Board Meeting	13	14	15	16 Candle: 4:40pm 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	17 Parsha: Vayeishev 10am Study w/ Gabrielle & Kids Shabbat
18 10am Sunday School First Night of Hanukkah	19	20	21	22	23 Candle: 4:43pm	24 Parsha: Mikeitz
25 Rosh Chodesh	26	27	28	29	30 Candle: 4:48pm	31 Parsha: Vayigash