

Tevet / Shevat 5778

January 2018

B'nai Israel

The Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel

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Inside—

Events	2
Tu B'Shevat Seder	2
First Hand Aid	2
Donations	3
Calendar	4

The Year

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

What can be said in New Year rhymes,
That's not been said a thousand times?

The new years come, the old years go,
We know we dream, we dream we know.

We rise up laughing with the light,
We lie down weeping with the night.

We hug the world until it stings,
We curse it then and sigh for wings.

We live, we love, we woo, we wed,
We wreath our brides, we sheet our dead.

We laugh, we weep, we hope, we fear,
And that's the burden of the year.



Photo: Public Domain

Save the Date — Purim Retreat

Temple B'nai Israel is excited to announce this year's Intergenerational Purim Retreat, which will take place over the weekend of March 9th at the Best Western hotel in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. This event has been organized through the volunteer collaboration of the L'Dor v'Dor Consortium—a group of seven synagogues located throughout Northern Michigan and Ontario—along with support from the Jewish Women's Foundation and the Ravitz Foundation. Everyone is looking forward to another weekend retreat filled with family, food, and faith, and we hope you can join us.

For more information, contact Carol Ellstein at cgellstein@gmail.com. Registration information is forthcoming.



January Events

Mon., Jan. 8, 7 p.m. – **Board Meeting**
 Fri., Jan. 12, 5:30 p.m. – **Tot Shabbat**
 Fri., Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m. – **Shabbat Services**
 w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel
 Sat., Jan. 13, 11 a.m. – **Torah Study**
 Sun., Jan. 14, 10 a.m. – **Sunday School**
 Wed., Jan. 17 – **Rosh Chodesh**
 Wed., Jan. 24, 5:30 p.m. – **First Hand Aid**
 Cuban Dinner @ Presbyterian Church
 Fri., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m. – **Shabbat Services**
 w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel
 Sat., Jan. 27, 11 a.m. – **Torah Study**
 Sun., Jan. 28, 10 a.m. – **Sunday School**
 Sun., Jan. 28, 11:30 a.m. – **Tu B'Shevat**
 Seder w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel
 Wed., Jan 31 – **Tu B'Shevat**

Cuban Aid Dinner

The First Presbyterian Church will be hosting a First Hand Aid fundraiser dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 24th. Its proceeds will support a group delivering humanitarian aid to Cuba, and the church has invited everyone from Temple B'nai Israel to join them for the dinner, which will feature Cuban cuisine and live music. Spots cost \$10 per adult; kids twelve and under are free. Seating is limited, so please call the First Presbyterian Church office at (231) 347-4792 to buy tickets as soon as possible.

Tu B'Shevat Celebration

The Sunday School will be hosting a Tu B'Shevat Seder at 11:30 a.m. on Jan. 28th. All are welcome to attend, and potluck dishes would be greatly appreciated.

If anyone is interested in contributing to the Seder spread or would like to help with the set up and/or clean up, contact Emily Freedland at efreedland@hotmail.com or (231) 330-4936. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

A Look at Tu B'Shevat

Tu B'Shevat ("15th of Shevat"), which will be celebrated on January 31st, is the Jewish new year for trees, a time when, in Israel, the first spring plants blossom, after having been left dormant over the cold season. The holiday can be traced back to the destruction of the Second Temple, when the exiled Israelites remained spiritually tied to Jerusalem by eating, each year, various fruits from their homeland. In later centuries, Jewish mystics expanded on the Tu B'Shevat tradition, formulating Seders and the accompanying Haggadot.



Although many scholars also emphasize the holiday's basis in the biblical practice of tithing and the seven-year agricultural cycle, Tu B'Shevat is now celebrated widely and with great variety throughout the Jewish world. Around the globe, Jews still mark the holiday by eating various native Israeli fruits, such as grapes, pomegranates, and olives, and many congregations host Seders similar to those conducted during Passover (complete with a partitioned plate of symbolic foods). Today, in Israel, Tu B'Shevat is celebrated across the country as an Israeli Arbor Day.

Donations Received

Patron Level Donors
 Louis & Sally Cannon
 Carol Ellstein & Joseph Wildberg
 Harold Friedman
 Henry Hanflik
 Isaac & Lindsey Kaufman
 Gloria Levine
 Joshua & Mary Jean Meyerson
 Jack Solomon

General Fund
 Leonard Senkfor
 Sandra Glazier



Dues Increases

At the annual meeting last November, the board of directors approved the following dues increases, which are currently in effect:

Family membership: \$600 to \$700

Individual membership: \$325 to \$375



Funds / Named Donations Available

- Temple General Fund Newsletter Fund
- Prayer Book Fund Building Fund
- Irene Gordon Memorial 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:

Tom Johnson, Treasurer
 Temple B'nai Israel
 PO Box 2416
 Petoskey MI 49770

Corrections

This space is reserved each month for corrections. If any errors are seen, please contact the editor at goldasa99@gmail.com, and the appropriate correction will be printed in the following issue.

For times of bereavement and remembrance, the **Chevre Kadisha** group stocks items, including Shiva candles, Kria ribbons, and *yarhtzeit* candles. Items are stored in the basement bookshelf. To purchase or learn more, please contact Sally Cannon or Carol Ellstein.

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Located at the corner of
 Waukazoo Ave. & Michigan St.
www.TempleBnaiIsraelofPetoskey.org

5778

Calendar of Events
 Tevet / Shevat | January

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 31	Jan. 1	2	3	4	5 4:54	6 <i>Parshat Shemot</i>
7	8 7 p.m. – Board Meeting	9	10	11	12 5:30 p.m. – Tot Shabbat 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel 5:02	13 <i>Parshat Va'eira</i> 11 a.m. – Torah Study
14 10 a.m. – Sunday School	15	16	17 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	18	19 5:11	20 <i>Parshat Bo</i>
21	22	23	24 5:30 p.m. – First Hand Aid Cuban Dinner @ Presbyterian Church	25	26 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel 5:20	27 <i>Parshat Beshalach</i> 11 a.m. – Torah Study
28 10 a.m. – Sunday School 11:30 a.m. – Tu B'Shevat Seder	29	30	31 <i>Tu B'Shevat</i>	Feb. 1	2 5:30	3 <i>Parshat Yitro</i>