

B'nai Israel

The Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel

Temple Board

Gus Paz, Acting President
(231) 347-5131

Tom Johnson, Treasurer
(231) 487-1661

Judith Hindle, Secretary
(231) 622-1044

Emily Stuchell, Mishpacha
(231) 330-4396

Carol Ellstein
(231) 525-9250

Lori Katzman
(231) 675-4112

Mark Rothman
(231) 373-2349

Jamie Schwartzfisher
(231) 881-0729

Elisa Seltzer
(231) 330-1086

Ben Azriel, Student Rabbi
(847) 452-5157
Asa Gold, Newsletter Editor
goldasa99@gmail.com

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Rabbi's Corner

Around the beginning of each November, I seem to always find myself wondering what happened to the current year, and this November is no different. It feels like I just got used to automatically writing 2017 instead of 2016, and yet the holiday season is just around the corner. Soon I will be struggling to write 2018.

But the year is not the only thing I must relearn. Rather, I take this opportunity to reevaluate all that has become automatic over the past ten months. Have I made routine actions that I wish were thoughtful? Have I allowed myself to slip into simplicity instead of challenging myself to become better? I often return **Continued on p. 2, "Rabbi's Corner"**



From the President

October was a busy month! The Sunday School had their traditional hayride at Bill's Farm Market and returned with lots of decorations for the sukkah! We made good use of our sukkah all month, including hosting the community "Pizza in the Hut" event there.

The Hot Pstromi concert was terrific! The band played to about a hundred people from the temple and the wider community, and received a standing ovation. Hot Pstromi also attended our fall L'Dor v'Dor Intergenerational Retreat with the consortium of six other synagogues, offering up their musical talents all weekend long.

Looking ahead to November, the Women's and Girls' Retreat will be held in Munising, November 17th-19th. Registration ends soon, so check out p. 2 for details.

But first, our Annual Temple Meeting is on November 5th. The 2018 budget will be presented and voted on, plans for the new rabbi house will be discussed, and board members will be elected. I hope to see you all there!

*L'shalom,
Gus*



November Events

Fri., Nov. 3, 5:30 p.m. – Tot Shabbat

Fri., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services

w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel

Sat., Nov. 4, 11 a.m. – Torah Study

Sun., Nov. 5, 10 a.m. – Sunday School

Sun., Nov. 5, 12:15 p.m. – Annual Meeting

Fri., Nov. 17 – Women's and Girls' Retreat Begins

Fri., Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services

w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel

Sat., Nov. 18, 11 a.m. – Torah Study

Sun., Nov. 19, 10 a.m. – Sunday School

Remind— Tree of Giving

We now have a permanent reminder of our temple's giving spirit in the form of a Norfolk pine tree in our social hall. A basket near the tree collects items (non-perishable foodstuffs and personal care items), which will be taken to our local food pantry. If you would like to help, please deposit only non-expired items in the basket. In addition, the tree serves as a place to post the specific needs of a person in our temple or of someone in the wider community. All ideas are welcome.

Save the Date

The spring Purim Intergenerational Retreat will take place over the weekend of March 9th, 2018, in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, contact Carol Ellstein at cgellstein@gmail.com. Registration is forthcoming.

Women's and Girls' Retreat

The Women and Girls Retreat will be held in Munising, November 17th-19th, sponsored by the L'Dor v'Dor Northern Michigan Consortium and the Jewish Women's Foundation of Detroit. Please join us for a weekend of Shabbat services and Havdalah, Torah study and discussions, and relaxation at the pool or on the massage table. Outdoor recreation opportunities are also available.

Weekend rates are \$90 per person for a double room; \$180 per person for a single room. Teens and college students are half-price, and scholarships are available.


For more information and to register (by November 9th), visit bit.do/ldvdwomen. With other questions, contact Carol Ellstein at cgellstein@gmail.com.

Rabbi's Corner, cont'd from p. 1

to the stories that we read in our Torah during these weeks of reflection, and I ask myself if I've acted in accordance with the morals of the story of Noah, who worked not for himself but for those without a voice. Or if I've followed the example of Abraham, challenging myself to pursue that which is foreign, unknown, or frightening. It is during this season that we recall the morals of those most important stories. We take stock of the rote and the simple in our lives and decide how to move forward into the holiday season and the year ahead. May it be from strength to strength.

B'shalom, Ben

Donations Received

<p>General Fund Sandra Kupfer—in memory of Joan Karff</p>	<p>High Holy Day Fund Drive Ronald Granader Robert and Annie Cohen Linda Dresner Levy & Edward Levy Gerald Lorence Charles Kiefer Thomas Johnson & Valerie Meyerson Elizabeth Frey Karen Adams Jerome & Barbara Sitrer Keith & Laura Podob</p>
	

Annual Meeting

All temple members are invited to attend Temple B'nai Israel's Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 5th, at 12:15 p.m. (after Sunday School). Board members will be elected, the 2018 fiscal year's budget will be presented and voted on, and the plans for the new rabbi house will be discussed. We hope to see everyone there!

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

For times of bereavement and remembrance, the **Chevra 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.

Corrections

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






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

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

5778

Calendar of Events
 Cheshvan / Kislev | November

2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct. 29	30	31	Nov. 1	2	3 5:30 p.m. – Tot Shabbat 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rabbi Ben Azriel 6:06 	4 <i>Parshat Vayeira</i> 11 a.m. – Torah Study
5 10 a.m. – Sunday School 12:15 p.m. – Annual Temple Meeting	6	7	8	9	10 4:57 	11 <i>Parshat Chayei Sarah</i>
12	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Women's and Girls' Retreat Begins</i> 7:30 p.m. – Shabbat Services w/ Rabbi Ben 4:50 	18 <i>Parshat Toldot</i> 11 a.m. – Torah Study
19 10 a.m. – Sunday School	20	21	22	23	24 4:44 	25 <i>Parshat Vayeitzei</i>
26	27	28	29	30	Dec. 1 4:40 	2 <i>Parshat Vayishlach</i>