



Temple B'nai Israel

A Note From Our Spiritual Leader

The first Shabbat of this month we read *Parshat Lech Lecha* where God instructs Abram to embark on a sacred journey: “*Lech lecha*, go and leave your native land, and your birthplace, and your father’s house to the land that I will show you ... I will bless you ... and you shall be a blessing” (Genesis 12:1-2).

Abram’s journey is not just physical or geographical but one that can be viewed in psycho-spiritual terms. Contemporary Torah scholar Avivah Gottlieb-Zornberg translates *lech lecha*, as “go from yourself,” and views this phrase as an invitation to take a risk and depart from habitual ways of being, thinking, feeling and acting. *Lech lecha* can also be read as “go to yourself” - dig deep, tap into the deepest yearnings of the heart and dream of what is possible.

This piece of Torah is not about arriving at a particular destination, but rather “the land that I will show you” is a path of discovery that unfolds in the moment. According to philosopher Martin Buber, Abram is tasked with how to be present in his own life and unencumbered by fixations on future hopes or perceptions of the past. The promised land is to be revealed to him through a radical presence which is core to the art of being and of true meeting with the other. Radical presence requires a surrendering to the unknown which can seem scary, yet in that state of not knowing there is infinite potential for creativity, growth, deeper connection and unexpected blessings.

May we have a taste of what it feels like to be radically present to what manifests in our lives and may such a heightened sense of awareness help us to be more joyful, grateful, empathetic and loving.

L’shalom,

Gabrielle

Below is a link to Debbie Friedman’s musical meditation on *Parshat Lech Lecha*.

<https://youtu.be/d8WrShnKTWY>

TEMPLE BOARD

Val Meyerson
President
(231) 881-7676

Jim Line
Vice President
(906) 440-3888

Gus Paz
Treasurer
(231) 675-0638

Jamie Schwartzfisher
Secretary
(231) 881-0729

Mandy Friedenberg
Education Coordinator
(248) 259-8568

Emily Stuchell
Mishpacha
(231) 330-4936

Suzanne Shumway
(231) 881-1107

Elisa Seltzer
(231) 838-8032

Hal Willens
(231) 330-1467

Carol Ellstein
517.881.0668

Gabrielle Pescador
Spiritual Leader
pescadorarte@gmail.com
(734) 604-9335

New Member Committee

The Temple Board is looking for volunteers to create a New Member Ambassador/Committee! These individuals would be a welcoming personal contact from the congregation, who would socially connect (such as going out for coffee, etc.) to newly approved members of Temple B'nai Israel to help welcome them to the congregation, get acclimated, as well as be able to answer any questions they might have.

Reach out to a board member or email tbipetoskey@gmail.com if you are interested in helping us assist newcomers to our membership.



Kulanu

Help Us Fight Anti-Semitism with Kulanu!

We are looking for members of the congregation who are interested and willing to help with the initiative of bringing Anti-Semitism workshops and programs to Northern Michigan with *Kulanu - Synagogues in Action Against Antisemitism*.

As one of the participating synagogues, we will have exclusive access to experts and webinars over eight months as we work to address antisemitism in our local communities and nationwide. Contact Val Meyerson for further details!

ADL®

kulanu
SYNAGOGUES IN ACTION
AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

Join Our New Program
& Lead Your Community

DONATIONS

General Fund

- Martha & David Adler
- Mike Close
- Cynthia Doyle
- Hollye & Jeffrey Jacobs
- Thomas Johnson
- Elise & James Straus

Perpetual Kaddish

- Harold & Linda Driedman -
In memory of Judith Sternberg
- Mark & Sue Weiss -
In memory of Irene Weiss

Rabbi House Fund

- Louis & Sally Cannon -
In honor of Chelsea & Zack's
Wedding

L'Dor v'Dor

The next Book Club meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. The book is *The Light of Days* by Judy Batalion, about Jewish women in Poland who became active resistance fighters. Details and Zoom link can be found on the LDvD website under the Book Club link. The book club is open to all, so please visit us even if you've never attended before!

LDvD now has an Interim Education Coordinator and an Education Committee who will work together to create a virtual children's religious school to supplement congregational religious school programs.

The Fall Women's Retreat has been pushed back to **November 11-13**, at the Best Western Hotel in **Sault Ste. Marie**. Our new Education Coordinator - Debbie Massarano, from Seattle - will serve as the retreat's spiritual leader and educator.

You can register from either of these two links:

rmd.me/zH.8RICHzDe - which will take you to a message, with directions to the site below

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfUnOjPfA1G4jXK8z6HrWodOxbZ4laiZj6KYWKClOvCs9jqMw/viewform>

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)

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

EVENTS

- **November 6th** -
10am Sunday School
12:30pm Annual Meeting
- **November 11-13** -
L'Dor V'dor Women's Retreat
- **November 18th** -
7:30pm Shabbat Services
- **November 19th** -
10am Torah Study
- **November 20th** -
10am Sunday School

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

November 2022

Cheshvan 5783/Kislev 5783

Su M Tu W Th F Sa

		1	2	3	4 Candle: 6:05pm	5 Parsha: Lech-Lecha
6 10am Sunday School 12:30pm Annual Meeting	7	8 Election Day	9	10	11 Candle: 4:56pm L'Dor v'Dor Womens Retreat	12 Parsha: Vayeira L'Dor v'Dor Womens Retreat
13 L'Dor v'Dor Womens Retreat	14	15	16	17	18 Candle: 4:49pm 7:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	19 Parsha: Chayei Sarah 10am Study w/ Gabrielle
20 10am Sunday School	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Rosh Chodesh	25 Candle: 4:43pm	26 Parsha: Toldot
27	28	29	30			