

# MISHPOCHEH

Temple Beth Shalom ☆ Brigantine Jewish Community Center

November 2013 Vol. 21, No. 10

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

Cheshvan/Kislev 5774

## SERVICES



Every Friday Evening  
Throughout the Year,  
8-9 p.m.

Light Refreshments

## Saturday Service

November 9 • 10 a.m.

## Sunday Board Meeting

November 17 • 10 a.m.

## Coming Events

Sunday, Nov. 10

Farewell Brunch for  
Betty Chaikin, 11:30 am

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Thanksgiving  
Interfaith Service Hosted by  
Temple Beth Shalom, 7:30 pm

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Hanukkah Eve

Thursday, Nov. 28

1st Day Hanukkah  
Thanksgiving Day

## Cheerio, Ciao,

## Ta-Ta & Goodbye

Come join us on Sunday, November 10 at 11:30 a.m. for a farewell brunch for our very own Betty Chaikin. After 100 years as a Brigantine resident and founding mother of our synagogue, Betty is moving to Langhorne, Pa. to be near her daughter, Gale.

Come one, come all, to join in the festivities! Please note reservations are an absolute must by November 4.

*See you there,*  
Lill Shender

## RABBI'S COLUMN

### *Illuminating Our Hanukkah Light*

From time to time (actually, more often than you'd think), I get into a conversation with a truly vexed, spiritually troubled fellow Jew.

Inevitably, the conversation leads to a lamentation of the current state of Jewry. I will save you from the depressive comments relating to synagogue attendance (or general participation in Jewish activities), the various percentages of this or that connected to interfaith marriage, and devotion to Jewish Peoplehood or the State of Israel, but instead I will focus on the unsettling ruminations of the Jew of any era, summarized thusly: "Rabbi, I am so confused nowadays. Even the Jewish holidays used to be predictable. We knew what to expect, how to act. Today, how do we know what to do, how to live? What should we focus on; what should I do to be a good Jew?" My short answer? Our lives require meaning and purpose that love and dedication bring; go out and propagate both. My longer answer is . . .

Often, when facing uncertainty, we look to tradition, to our heritage, to guide us. Lost in the wilderness around us from which we create an orderly life, our feet fall more firmly with the tempo of the time-tested, the familiar, the predictable certainty of the wisdom received from and passed along to generation after generation. We look to find pat, or at least concise, answers to encyclopedic questions. We want reassurance. And we find it in the teachings of our heritage. I must ask, in return, 'Is this what we are really looking for? Are we looking for guidance for its own sake, or are we craving for the nourishment that only a life of meaning can provide?'

Each generation inevitably decides upon the questions it asks and the issues on which it obsesses. It does not live in a vacuum, however, and so we depend upon our teachings to lend us a hand in the climb of our own generation's search for meaning and purpose. After all, without the love of our ancestors for our faith and our tradition, we would not have the opportunity to partake of the riches that remain for us today.

To wit, the latest confusion: The "earliness" of the Jewish holidays. Now, after having only recently left behind the glow of the Jewish New Year and Sukkot after it, we face the concurrent civic and religious celebrations of Thanksgiving and Hanukkah. So, what questions might we ask and what meaning may we glean from the "calendar kismet" appearing to unfold before our eyes.

Well, traditionally, and in most of our eyes, Hanukkah is a truly communal festival; a "national holiday" of sorts that speaks to the importance of Jewish identity and our right to exist with our own traditions and our vision of the world. So, too, is our current thematic expression of Thanksgiving. And now, in a rare moment of convergence of civic and religious purpose for American Jews, both will become one for one night.

In the spirit of this confluence of gratitude, let us consider: What if we were to see Hanukkah in far more personal terms? Might we see a moral lesson as one of personal conscience, of giving and receiving love? Love, surprisingly even platonic love, is a very sensitive subject for most of us. And yet, without our love for each other, without those few individuals whose compassion reaches out to us over the long years of our lives to touch and to transform our souls, we might succumb to the woes of life. Bearing witness – to God's miracles and to our own through our giving willingly of ourselves – is what is at the core of Hanukkah and what is at the core of any expression of kindness between one human being and another.

It is our rededication to the light of compassion that leads us both to find light and to

*(RABBI continued on page 5)*



## Donations In Memory of Bernie Cohen

Gary & Marlene Creagh  
Arlene Erbacher  
Joseph & Gayle Siverio  
Bruce & Dee Bortner  
Ronald & Shelley Miller

## Building Fund

A donation has been made by **Lorraine & Burt Stolove**  
in memory of **Bernie Cohen**.

## Condolences

Deepest sympathy to **Carl & Beth Apter**  
on the loss of Carl's brother, Allen Apter,  
who passed away October 10.

## General Donations

**Arlene Erbacher** in memory of Nancy Clancy.  
**Joseph & Gayle Siverio** in memory of Nancy Clancy.  
**David & Estelle Silver** in honor of  
Matan & Doron's *Upsherin*.

## Get Well

**Sandra Wray** (sister of Lill Shender)

## Message Cards

**Sid & Shirley Morgan:** *Condolences to*  
Carl & Beth Apter in memory of Carl's brother,  
Allen Apter.

**Ron & Lill Shender:** *Condolences to* Carl & Beth Apter  
in memory of Carl's brother, Allen Apter.

## Yahrzeit Donations

**Irene Siegel** for Yizkor in memory of her family members.  
**Dr. Joseph & Lillian Hassman** in memory of  
Lill's father, Morris Davis.  
**Ronald & Shelley Miller** in memory of Shelley's father,  
David Gitomer.

## Thank You To the Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Sponsors For October

Friday, October 4 – **Howard Abber** in memory of his sister,  
Joyce Small.

Friday, October 18 – **Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker** in  
memory of Howard's father, Isadore Waronker.

Friday, October 25 – **Michael & Carol Albert** in memory  
of Michael's father, Maxwell B. Albert.

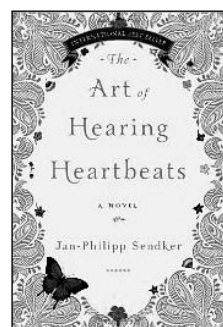


### BIRTHDAYS - November

1 .....	Jamie Chaikin,	13 .....	Gale Donohue
	John A. Elzufon	14 .....	Trudy Durant
3 .....	Joseph Weinstein	15 .....	Steven Donohue
5 .....	Eric Goldstein		Steven Titlebaum
12 .....	Phyllis Hoffrichter	26 .....	Lisa Yuen

### ANNIVERSARIES - November

5 .....	Dr. Stephen & Rosalyn Weinstein
23 .....	Cary & Trudy Durant, Saul & Nancy Grossman
27 .....	Mitchell & Mina Kramer



## BOOK CLUB

The next book club will meet  
**Monday, Nov. 18, 1p.m.**  
to review

**"The Art of Hearing  
Heartbeats"**

by **Jan-Phillip Sendker**.

The club will meet at the  
**Brigantine Community Center, Room #139**  
located at 265 S. 42nd Street

RSVP to Shirley at [ssmorgan3@verizon.net](mailto:ssmorgan3@verizon.net) or  
call 609-266-8599.

## Desperately seeking a Mah Jong game in Brigantine

Novice player looking to find  
players, or anyone interested in  
learning to play Mahjong. Call  
Carol Dranoff @ 215-280-2141.



## HELP EXPAND OUR FAMILY

*We need more new, active members.*

*Do you have friends or neighbors*

*who could join us?*

# HANUKKAH ON THANKSGIVING

Hanukkah and Thanksgiving: A once in eternity overlap this year features an anomaly for American Jews – The first day of Hanukkah coincides with Thanksgiving, on November 28, 2013.

It turns out that it has never happened before...and it will never happen again. Thanksgiving is set as the fourth Thursday in November, meaning the latest it can be is November 28. November 28 is also the earliest Hanukkah can be. The Jewish calendar repeats on a 19 year cycle, and Thanksgiving repeats on a 7 year cycle. You would, therefore, expect them to coincide roughly every 19 X 7 = 133 years. Looking back, this is approximately correct – the last time it would have happened is 1861. However, Thanksgiving was only formally established by President Lincoln in 1863. So, it has never happened before. Why

won't it ever happen again? The reason is because the Jewish calendar is very slowly getting out of sync with the solar calendar, at a rate of 4 days per 1000 years (not bad for a many centuries old calendar!). This means that while presently Hanukkah can be as early as November 28, over the years the calendar will drift forward, such that the earliest Hanukkah can be is November 29. The last time Hanukkah falls on November 28 is 2146 (which happens to be a Monday).

Therefore, 2013 is the only time Hanukkah will ever overlap with Thanksgiving. Of course, if the Jewish calendar is never modified in any way, then it will slowly move forward through the Gregorian calendar, until it loops all the way back to where it is now. So, Hanukkah will again fall on Thursday, November 28...in the year 79811!

## Chanukah blessings over the candles

*Blessed art thou, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who sanctifies us with Thy commandments and commanded us to kindle the light of Chanukah.*

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו  
להדליק נר של חנוכה: (אמן)

**On the first night of Chanukah add the following blessing:**

*Blessed art thou, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has kept us alive and sustained us and has brought us to this special time.*

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
שהחיתנו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה: (אמן)

The tradition is that on the first night of Chanukah one flame is lit, on the second night two, and so on until the eighth night when eight flames are lit. In this way we remember the 'growth' of the miracle.

The procedures for lighting the *chanukiah* (Chanukah menorah) are as follows. On the first night, set the first candle in the rightmost holder (as you face the chanukiah). Next, light the *shamash* (servant candle), recite the Hebrew blessings, and *then* light the first candle using the *shamash*. After kindling the first candle, set the *shamash* in its holder. Recite the *Haneiroi Hallalu* (see below) and begin to *celebrate!*

On the second night, set the candles from right to left in the chanukiah. That is, beginning at the rightmost holder, put one candle, then put another candle in the holder to its left. Next, light the *shamash*, recite the Hebrew blessings, and then light the candles from left to right in the chanukiah (in other words, you begin lighting the *newest* candle first). Recite the *Haneiroi Hallalu* and then celebrate! This sequence continues night after night, until the eighth night, when the entire chanukiah is lit up:



Place right to left; Kindle left to right.



Note: If a day of Chanukah occurs on a Shabbat (i.e., Friday night), you



light the Chanukah candles before lighting the Shabbat candles

## November Yahrzeits

- 11/1 Dr. Joseph Hassman *in memory of* his father-in-law,  
Morris Davis  
Sarah Levine
- 11/5 Lilyan Cralle *in memory of* her mother-in-law,  
Sue Marie Cralle  
Ida Levin *in memory of* her mother, Sima Lotstein
- 11/6 Dr. Henry & Gloria Jacoby *in memory of* Gloria's  
mother, Rose Yablonsky
- 11/7 Debbie & Gail Coplein *in memory of* their mother,  
Constance Coplein, and their great-grandfather,  
Eli Erlichman
- 11/8 Edward & Judith Rubin *in memory of* Judy's father,  
Herman Lam  
Susan Mintz *in memory of* her mother, Lilyan Politzer
- 11/9 Jack Hanish  
Seymour & Dorothy Katz *in memory of* Seymour's  
father, Joseph Katz
- 11/10 Ida Levin *in memory of* her brother, Leon Lotstein  
Marvin & Diane Waxman *in memory of* Diane's mother,  
Ethel Rose
- 11/12 Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Cheryl's  
father, David Brownstein  
Anne Paulin  
Gregory & Bella Royzman *in memory of* Bella's brother,  
Khaim Sapozhnikov  
Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of* Seymour's  
mother, Yetta Trachtman  
Dr. Eli & Nancy Zucker *in memory of* Eli's father,  
Irving Zucker
- 11/14 Dr. Barry & Barbara Glaser *in memory of* Barry's father,  
Samuel Glaser  
Dr. Eli & Nancy Zucker *in memory of* Nancy's mother,  
Helen Kotzin  
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* Sheila's father,  
David Weil
- 11/15 Deborah Cimini *in memory of* her father,  
Gerson Goldberg
- 11/16 Marvin & Diane Waxman *in memory of* Marvin's mother,  
Belle Waxman
- 11/19 Betty Chaikin *in memory of* her husband,  
Dr. Joseph Chaikin  
Dr. Harry & Sarah Chaikin, William Boutin & Jamie  
Chaikin, and Steven & Gale Donohue *in memory of*  
their father, Dr. Joseph Chaikin  
Jacqueline Fabel *in memory of* her daughter-in-law,  
Maria Fabel  
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* Jerry's  
grandmother, Helen Greenberger
- 11/19 Gerald Pepper *in memory of* his mother-in-law,  
Elizabeth Rosman  
Leslie & Susan Tuerk *in memory of* Susan's mother,  
Adeline Taylor  
Arnie & Lory Schuster *in memory of* Lory's father,  
Harry Zeidel
- 11/20 Judith Blum-Crawford *in memory of* her mother,  
Sheila Blum  
Harvey Fern *in memory of* his mother, Dorothy Fern  
Linda Hahn *in memory of* her grandfather, Meyer Hahn  
Ida Levin and Stanton & Aimee Levin *in memory of*  
Ida's husband and Stan's father, Leonard E. Levin  
David & Estelle Silver *in memory of* David's mother,  
Pearl Silver
- 11/21 Toby Waller *in memory of* her mother-in-law,  
Frieda Waller
- 11/22 Jacob Greenberg  
Drs. Frank & Sarah Kern *in memory of* Frank's father,  
Harry Kern
- 11/23 Barry Bornstein & Fran Dratch *in memory of* Barry's  
father, N. Herman Bornstein
- 11/24 John & Beth Bacha *in memory of* John's father,  
Andrew Bacha  
Philip Hanish  
Linda Hahn *in memory of* her grandfather,  
Abraham Haufman  
Stanton & Aimee Levin *in memory of* Aimee's father,  
Daniel Schmerling
- 11/25 Jacob Melnitzer
- 11/26 Herbert & Rita Axelrad *in memory of* Herbert's father,  
Irving Axelrad
- 11/28 Davalene Hirsch *in memory of* her daughter,  
Carol Lucile Hirsch  
Helen Spinrad *in memory of* her father,  
Bernard Moskowitz  
Rose Zeltser *in memory of* her sister, Adelaide Pullis  
Howard & Carol Serotta *in memory of* Howard's mother,  
Jeanne Serotta  
Harvey & Diane Steiner *in memory of* Harvey's father,  
Benjamin Steiner  
Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of* Seymour's  
brother, Marvin Trachtman
- 11/29 Dr. Martin & Linda Millison *in memory of* Linda's father,  
Samuel Raichlen  
Dora Asher Schweitzer
- 11/30 Irene Siegel *in memory of* her brother, Sam Perlstein

## Prayer Book Dedication

We are offering you a chance to purchase a memorial/honorarium plaque to be placed in our new prayer books (inside front cover) for only \$36. We have only 27 books remaining for dedication, so call the office at 609-266-0403 and make your wishes known.

## MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!

*Are you celebrating a special day, honoring someone or remembering a loved one?*

A good way to do this is to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat on a Friday night or a Saturday Kiddush. It will make you feel good and will help your synagogue carry on this time-honored tradition.

For only \$25 for a Friday night or \$100 for a Saturday Kiddush lunch, this has got to be the biggest bargain on the planet!

Call Diane at 266-0403 and make your intentions known.

## Simply Shirley . . .

*Welcome to my fellow readers*

*Past Events:*

The Sukkah Squad met and sad to report took down our fabulous sukkah, which was truly enjoyed by many.

Temple Beth Shalom held a Learner's Minyan which was quite interesting and also well attended. Perhaps this will become a regular occurrence – check in for more information.

On Sunday, October 13, Matan and Doron celebrated their third birthdays by having their first hair cuts and sharing this event with our congregation. Happy to report there was no crying, by the twins that is, and they truly look like cute little boys now.

The book club met on Monday, October 21 at The Community Center Room 139 and was hosted by Karen Sederholm. The book reviewed was: "Turbulent Souls" by Stephen Dubner. This book was truly a different read since it relates to a Catholic son's return to his Jewish family.

Our next book to be reviewed is: "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats" by Jan-Phillips Sendker and the date is November 18. Same place and time and our hostess is Terry Horowitz.

Well I am sad to say our Betty Chaikin will be moving. We all wish you much luck Betty – may this be a wonderful move for you. TBS will sponsor a Farewell brunch for Betty on November 10 at 11:30 a.m. Be sure to RSVP and join us!

Please contact Shirley at 609-266-8599 or [ssmorgan3@verizon.net](mailto:ssmorgan3@verizon.net) should you be interested in being added to our book club list.

*Until I write again,*

*Simply Shirley*



## GO GREEN!

Save trees, energy, and postage. Just email

[office@seashul.org](mailto:office@seashul.org) to request that your **Temple Beth Shalom newsletter**, and other notices and reminders be sent by email. Do it for the planet, do it to save postage, do it for a mitzvah!

## Rabbi (continued from page 1)

becoming a light. It is our job, in our generation, to remember that the Hanukkah lights do not exist alone; they remind us also to bring clarity, compassion, and, of course, warmth into the lives of those around us. In this way, we reflect a power so great that even God utilizes it: namely, the transformative power of love.

May we find a renewed sense of dedication and love in the Hanukkah lights, in the fellowship of family and friends at our Thanksgiving table, and in the eyes of everyone we meet. And let us remember that it is our dedication and our love that brings meaning and purpose into focus.

*Happy Hanukkah and a truly joyous Thanksgiving to us all!*

*Rabbi Gerald R. Fox*

## Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 26 • 7:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Shalom is hosting the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service this year. This traditional service has for many years brought people from all faiths together on our island. We invite you to join with Rabbi Fox and religious leads from St. Thomas Catholic Church and Community Presbyterian Church as we gather to offer prayers for Peace on Earth and Good Will to all. A dessert buffet (prepared by Gloria Jacoby) will be served following the service. Please plan to join us!





## Browse Our Library

Books that have been discussed by our Book Club and other best sellers have been placed in the Temple Library for your enjoyment. If you would like to read any of these books, or any others that we have, the office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day of the week.

*The Yiddish Policemen's Union* by Michael Chabon

*Girl With a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier

*The Ministry of Special Cases* by Nathan Englander

*People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks

*Chicken Soup for the Jewish Soul* – Stories to Open the Heart and Rekindle the Spirit

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**4419 West Brigantine Avenue**  
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## **MISHPOCHEH NEWS**

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**Newsletter Editor: Betty Chaikin**

**Newsletter Consultant: Diane Alexeev**

**Newsletter Production & Design: Jackie Caplan**

### **TEMPLE BETH SHALOM OFFICERS**

**Immediate Past President: Lillian H. Shender**

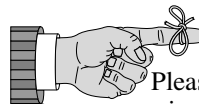
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**2nd Vice President: Beth Apter**

**Recording Secretary: Jack Lieberman**

**Corresponding Secretary: Mina Kramer**



### **A Reminder**

to all Temple Beth Shalom members  
 Please notify the office of any births, engagements,  
 marriages, illnesses or deaths. This way the Rabbi,  
 Board and Temple membership can be notified. The answering  
 machine is on 7 days and 24 hours a day.

## **Help Our Temple through your donations**

Your donations in memory of loved ones, simchas, our Library Fund or Rabbi's Discretionary Fund not only help the Temple, but also are a way to remember various happy and sad events in your life. Unsolicited general donations are needed to help the Temple meet its annual operating expenses. Keep in mind, less than 50% of our operating expenses are covered by membership dues. Listed below are the various items to which you can contribute.

<b>Bronze Memorial Plaque</b> .....	\$300
<b>Leaf on the Tree of Life</b> .....	\$50
<b>Oneg Shabbat Sponsor</b> .....	\$25
<b>Kiddush Lunch Sponsor</b> .....	\$100
<b>Message Card</b> .....	\$5 each
<b>Yizkor Memorial</b> .....	Minimum \$10
<b>Building Fund</b> .....	Whatever you desire
<b>Rabbi's Discretionary Fund</b> .....	Whatever you desire
<b>Library Fund</b> .....	Whatever you desire
<b>Kiddush Fund</b> .....	Whatever you desire