



Welcome to
Temple Beth El of Augusta, Maine

embracing a spirit of community, lifelong Jewish learning, commitment to inclusiveness, and active participation in Jewish life in Central Maine

artwork by Lenora Leibowitz

Elul-Tishrei-Chevan 5779-80/September-October 2019

From the desk of Rabbi Asch

This summer, I had the pleasure of spending my fourth year as a faculty member at Crane Lake Camp in the Berkshires. Crane Lake is one of many Union for Reform Judaism camps where kids ages 8 to 16 are immersed in Judaism while also enjoying traditional summer camp activities like boating, swimming, sports, art, and more. I wanted to give you all a taste of what I do during that week that I am away and why I think it is such an important part of my summer.

Saturday—I arrive and settle in just before dinner and *havdallah*. While *havdallah* is usually a 10-minute ceremony, this one lasts at least 10 extra minutes as campers dance, sing, and yell, “One more time!” After *havdallah*, the new Jewish value of the week, *hachnasat orachim* (welcoming guests) is revealed to cheers. The kids head to bed and I join a faculty meeting. I meet friends from past year and new colleagues from Connecticut and New York.

Sunday—Move-in day! We are up early to welcome campers and parents. I talk to many nervous first-timers and am able to welcome back campers I know from previous years. It is wonderful to feel like I’m such a part of the community. After dinner, the faculty facilitates a ceremony where we pass the Torahs from the oldest to youngest campers. The brand-new Torah covers were designed by Nancy Katz (the artist who is doing our stained glass window).

Monday-Friday—Teaching! Each day, campers have a period of Jewish education. I work with the youngest campers on a unit about how to find God. We focus on movement, making up moves to psalms, learning Jewish dances, and talking about how they connect to God. The curriculum for 7th graders is community organizing. I meet with a bunk all week talking about how to make change, leading fun activities (which includes putting some mentos in coke), and challenging them to think about what they would like to change at camp. They pick three issues and next week they will do research to put their ideas into action! This year camp has a new outdoor cooking class thanks to the work of last year’s campers.

For the oldest three grades, faculty design and teach courses, and campers are able to pick what they want to learn. After doing a lot of Jewish cooking last year, this year I teach a “Hot Topics” class. We explore Jewish texts relating to gun safety, LGBTQ rights, and abortion. We have great discussions and the campers leave with a more nuanced view of Jewish tradition and a more expansive view of what religion says about these important topics.

This week I also visit nearby Eisner Camp to see a TBE student who is there, serve as a judge for an evening program, offer “Words of Wisdom” at morning services, and help campers who will be leading services prepare for their parts.

Shabbat—Shabbat is a very special day at camp. Faculty and staff can sit with their kids—Robin and Aaron join me for dinner along with another TBE camper and two “Olim buddies.” The youngest campers are assigned buddies from the oldest units, and both of the buddies leave their friends to sit with their new mentees at our table. We have beautiful Shabbat services in an outdoor sanctuary, and then campers opt for a raucous song session or a quieter evening of songs and games (I head to the latter). After campers are in bed, I gather with other faculty members to share stories, sing songs, and spend some great time together. This is one of my favorite parts at camp, getting to connect with colleagues. Saturday we have doughnuts for breakfast, enjoy Shabbat morning services, and eat a special Shabbat lunch. I head off camp to visit Pastor Erik Karas, who moved from Augusta to the Berkshires last year.

It has been an awesome week at camp. I learned a lot and was able to recharge and refresh, even in the midst of being busy.

TBE Schedule: September—October

Services

Note: All services and activities will be in the Shuman Education Building until further notice

Friday, September 13
6:00pm Shabbat Service
7:00pm Potluck Dinner

Saturday, September 21
5:30pm Selichot Service @ Vaughan Homestead

Torah Study

Saturday, September 7, 14, & 28
10:30am Torah Study & Kiddush Lunch

Saturday, October 5, 12, & 19
10:30am Torah Study & Kiddush Lunch

TBE Activities

Wednesday, September 4
5:30pm Soup & Study

Monday, September 9 & 23
6:30pm Introduction to Judaism

Wednesday, September 11
10:45am Ritual Committee

Wednesday, October 2
5:30pm TBE Book Club

Monday, October 14 & 28
6:30pm Introduction to Judaism

Wednesday, October 16
5:30pm Soup & Study in the Sukkah

Interfaith Activities

Every Tuesday
12:30pm Volunteering at Addie's Attic



TEMPLE BETH EL, AUGUSTA

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5780



ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, September 29
7:00pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Services
Monday, September 30
8:30 - 9:15am Children's Service
9:30am Morning Services followed by Lipman Kiddush Lunch
1:30pm Taslich at the Hallowell waterfront park
5:00pm Family Taslich at Vaughan Woods
Tuesday, October 1st
9:30am Morning Services followed by Kiddush lunch



SUKKOT

Sunday, October 13th
9:30am Sukkot Family Education
10:30am Sukkah building and decorating
Wednesday, October 16th
5:30pm Soup & Study in the Sukkah
Friday, October 18th
6:00 - 8:00pm Sukkot Festival
Saturday, September 29
10:30am Torah study followed by potluck lunch in the Sukkah



YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, October 8th
7:00 pm Kol Nidre
Wednesday, October 9th
8:30 - 9:15am Children's Service
9:30am Morning Services with Yizkor
1:00pm Torah study and discussion
2:45pm Meditation Service
4:00pm Mincha Service
5:15pm Musaf Service
6:15pm Neilah Services
7:15pm Break Fast



SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday, October 20th
4:00 - 5:30pm Hebrew School
5:30 - 6:30 Pizza Supper
6:00 - 7:00pm Simchat Torah Service
Monday, October 21st
8:30 - 9:30pm Simchat Torah Service with Yizkor

TBE Schedule: High Holidays

Yizkor 5780 Registration Form

If you would like your loved one's name to appear in the Temple Beth El 5780 (2019) Yizkor (Memorial) Book to be read during Yizkor service at Yom Kippur, please print out this form and send it with a check, made out to TBE, to:

*Sue Offer
11 Stickney Terrace, #136
Hallowell, ME 04347*

You may also email her at offersusan@hotmail.com or phone her at 623-7820 or 314-4402.
The deadline for your submissions is September 30.

The cost **per name is \$10.00**

Your name(s) _____
Phone (in case clarification is needed) _____
Email (in case clarification is needed) _____
Name(s) of deceased _____

Food Contributions

For the Rosh Hashanah Lipman Kiddush Lunch on Monday, September 30, the Lipman family will again provide the majority of the food. We ask you to contribute by bringing fruit or a dessert to share.

For the Yom Kippur Break Fast on Wednesday, October 9, contributions of fruit, salads, kugels, or desserts would be welcome. Please bring something to share for these community meals.

Today's Rabah

- To **Susan Bakaley, Cree Krull, Chris Marshall, and Chris Zinck** for hosting Torah Study
- We appreciate **Tinalyn Caisse and Scott Knox** for hosting Shabbat on the Lake at their beautiful home
- To **Rev. Carie Johnson and the Unitarian Universalist Church** for hosting our Tisha B'Av program

Temple Renovation: Everyone is Working Hard!

By Jerry Bley

If you have been able to stop by the Temple this summer, you have seen the scope of the renovation project that we have undertaken. Inside and out, the entire structure is being rebuilt to make it structurally sound, energy efficient, accessible to all, and a more welcoming, comfortable and functional space. Early plans of a more limited and surgical approach to our renovations -- leaving sections of the building largely intact -- were quickly dashed after demolition began.

Unsafe wiring, woefully inadequate roof support, black mold in the walls, rotted wood, major rodent and insect infestations, and many other unpleasant surprises forced the early recognition that the renovation would be more comprehensive than originally planned. On the positive side, several desired upgrades, such as a renovated kitchen, were added to the plans as a result of generous donors who felt that they were important needs.

The end result -- of both the bad and the good modifications to our original plans -- is a larger, more time-consuming, and significantly more expensive project. Our contractors, led by general contractor, Pat Dexter and his crew (composed mostly of family members), have rolled with the punches, working long hours through the hot, humid summer weather.

So, where do we stand in terms of time and money? On the cost side of things, our best estimate is that the project will cost about 30% more than originally expected. As for timing, our goal remains to be able to hold high holiday services in the Temple, though we have reserved the Unitarian Church as a back-up plan. As we evaluate progress over the next several weeks, we will make a final decision.

We need your support more than ever! With the additional work and expenses outlined above, the total costs of the project are now projected to be approximately \$392,000; of this total, \$322,000 is needed to complete the work on the Temple this summer, and \$70,000 will be needed in 2020 for landscaping and parking lot upgrades, heat pumps for the Shuman Center and the stained glass window in the Temple.

As of mid-August, we are pleased to let you know that **we have now raised over \$318,000** in gifts and pledges. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this campaign! **However, we still have close to \$75,000 left to raise to complete the entire project. If you have not yet made a pledge to the campaign, please consider making a gift this month. If you have already made a gift or pledge and are able to increase the amount, your generosity would be greatly appreciated.**

Since many of the gifts made to the campaign include multi-year pledges, the TBE board recently approved and executed a construction loan with Kennebec Savings Bank to ensure that we have cash on hand to meet our commitments to vendors. The loan is for up to \$100,000 with a term of five years and an interest rate of 5.0% on the amount borrowed. Our hope is to pay off the KSB loan well in advance of its deadline and to not have to seek a long-term mortgage to fill our remaining funding gap. To accomplish this, we need your help. We are creating a new home for our community for this and future generations – please do whatever you can to bring this building campaign to a successful conclusion as soon as possible.

Your Temple Under Reconstruction!



TEMPLE BETH EL
WELCOMES
RABBINIC INTERN
MADELINE COOPER

FUN FACTS ABOUT MADELINE



- Before rabbinical school, Madeline worked as a political organizer in New Hampshire and met several presidential candidates-
- As a child, Madeline spent two summers at camp in Maine, where she developed a love of swimming in lakes and Gifford's ice cream
- Madeline spent her first year of rabbinical school living in Jerusalem
- In her free time, Madeline loves to cook, create art, and watch classic films
- Madeline loves musical theater, and knows all of the words to many musicals. Some of her favorites include Hamilton, the Sound of Music, and Les Miserables.

Madeline will be joining us September 13-15th

Thank you to the **Center for Small Town Jewish Life** for making Madeline's visit possible.



Featuring **NEFESH MOUNTAIN** in concert and
Scholar in Residence **RUTH CALDERON**.

JOIN US for a **Shabbat hike**, **shared meals**, and
rich learning opportunities for all ages.

FMI: colby.edu/jewishlife/fall-shabbaton

JewishLife@colby.edu | 207-859-4271

f /MaineJewishLife

Colby



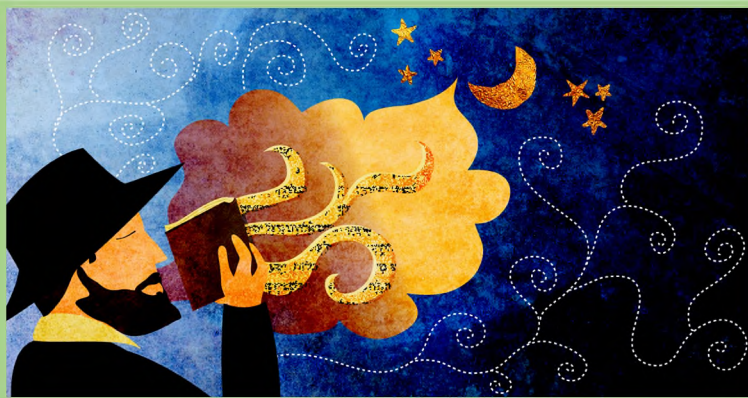
Soup and Study: Exploring the High Holidays

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**JOIN FOR A DELICIOUS DINNER AND STUDY AND
DISCUSSION OF JEWISH TEXTS**

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH FROM 5:30-7:00PM

**TEMPLE BETH EL (HEBREW SCHOOL BUILDING)
PLEASE RSVP TO THE OFFICE SO WE HAVE
ENOUGH FOOD!**



Celebrate Selichot with TBE

Saturday, September 21st

5:30-7:00pm

Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead
2 Litchfield Road, Hallowell

Join us in beautiful Vaughan Woods and Historic Homestead as we explore gratitude in preparation for the High Holidays. We will gather at 5:30 for an introduction to our theme of gratitude. People will then have an opportunity to do a meditative walk on the Homestead Grounds and Vaughan Woods as part of a group or individually. We will gather back together for harp music, a Selichot service, the sounding of the shofar, and *havdallah*. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

RSVPs encouraged but not required:
bethelaugusta@gmail.com

Directions:

This program is at the Homestead, **not** at Vaughan Woods. To get to the Homestead from downtown Hallowell go SOUTH on 2nd street. When you reach the end of the street (the corner of 2nd street and Litchfield Road) you will see a long driveway and a sign for the homestead. Drive down the driveway and park in the field to the right of the road. Accessible parking is available closer to the Homestead. Continue down the road a little further and it will be in front of you.

Keeping TBE Safe

In the wake of the Pittsburgh and Poway shootings, a committee of TBE members has met regularly to discuss security and emergency preparedness. In June this group held a community forum, and it will continue to advise the Board going forward.

As an outgrowth of those discussions, we're ramping up the welcome over the High Holidays while adding in more security. For years, you've seen Jerry Bley in a yellow vest directing traffic. You've also been greeted at the door, usually a board member or two.

Next month, expect to see another TBE member out there with Jerry, along with a cruiser from the Augusta PD. At the door, you'll find a variety of greeters, and after services begin, you'll need to wait for a greeter to unlock the door for you. It's an old joke that we're never on time for High Holiday services; arriving early may become our new *minhag*. If you have questions, contact Cree Krull (cree.krull@gmail.com).

Greeter Training

Sunday, September 15

4:30-6:30pm

As part of our security training, we will conduct Greeter Training to teach the skills necessary to be a Greeter. The idea is to create as many trained Greeters as possible. Brad Chase, Community Resource Officer from the Augusta Police Department will teach the course. If you are interested in taking this role for our community, please attend the training. Please sign up by emailing Cree Krull: cree.krull@gmail.com to let him know you will attend. Please consider attending the training.

First Day of Hebrew School: Sept. 8th!

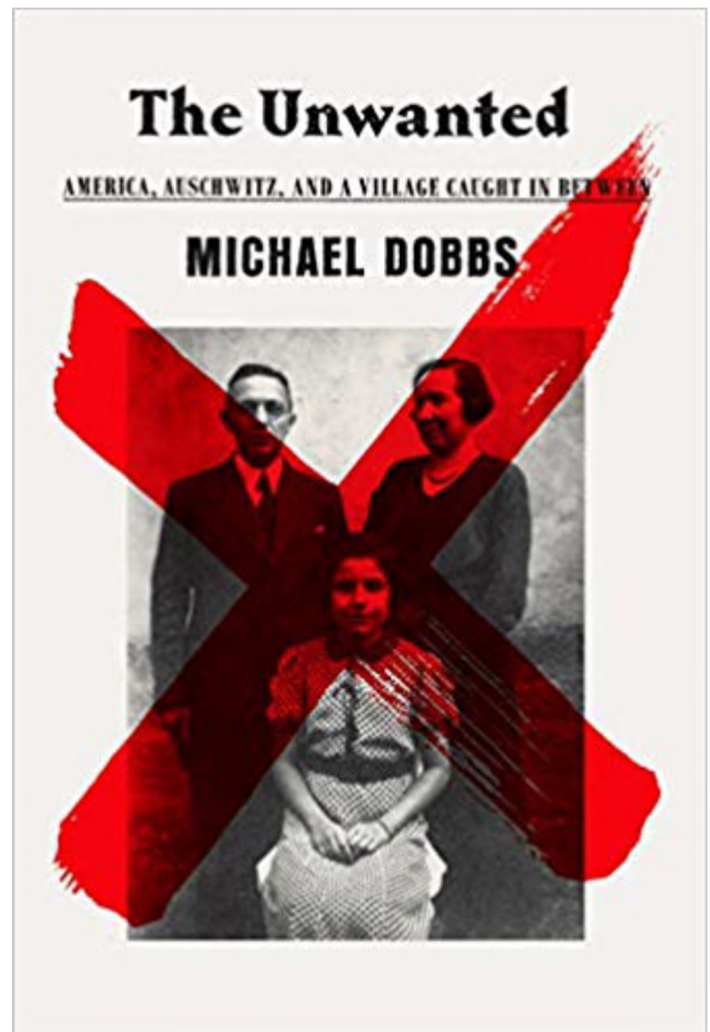
We are ready for another exciting year at TBE Hebrew School! We begin our school year on September 8 at 9:30am in the Shuman Education Center (5 Woodlawn). Families are invited to join with us for a special circle time at 11:30am in the Shuman Center, where we will start our school year together. Parents, if you did not receive your mailing with the detailed school schedule and registration form, please contact the office. As a reminder, registration forms are due back to TBE by September 3rd. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of any assistance. We are looking forward to a great year with all of you.

Rabbi Asch

TBE Book Club Wednesday, October 2 5:30pm @ TBE

The next meeting of the TBE Book Club will be Wednesday, October 2 at 5:30pm. We will be discussing *The Unwanted: America, Auschwitz, and a Village Caught In Between* by Michael Dobbs. Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, *The Unwanted* is a riveting story of Jewish families seeking to escape Nazi Germany.

“What's most chilling about Dobbs's book is how his account of the early years of World War II echoes our politics today. Xenophobia, isolationism, a fear of destructive infiltrators and an aversion to more war all conspired to keep refugee quotas low, when they were filled at all. Dobbs's book provides a glimpse of how we may be judged by future generations.”
— Anna Altman, *The New York Times Book Review*



Donations

Building Fund Capital Campaign 2019

- Gail Fels
- Ellen Freed & Carol Barlow
- Charlotte & Zeci Goos
- Laura McCandlish & Daniel Stone
- Jonathan Mittelman Family
- Blair & John Rubinstein
- Fran Rudoff
- Nancy & Charles Shuman
- Stanley Sclar
- Marty Weiss
- Dace & Jon Weiss
- Thea & Chris Zinck

In Honor Of

- Andrea Freed in honor of the birthday of Ellen Freed
- Phyllis Freed in honor of the birthday of Ellen Freed

Yahrzeit/Memorials

- Stefanie Barley in memory of Joel Davis
- Robert Beaudoin in memory of Joel Davis
- Li'el Boudreau in memory of Rebecca Schneider Cohen
- Li'el Boudreau in memory of Dora Cohen
- Chuck Cohen & Mary Beth Paquette in memory of Joan Price
- Cheryl Davis & Samuel Gidding in memory of Joan Price
- Diane Doyen & William Stokes in memory of Joel Davis
- Sarah & Mike Drickey in memory of Dorothy Spalding
- Gail Fels in memory of Larry Fels
- Vivian Flamm in memory of Sol Moser
- Tinker & Reg Hannaford in memory of Fred E. Hannaford
- Tinker & Reg Hannaford in memory of Lydia Liechty Thielman
- Beth Koopman in memory of Bernard Osgood Koopman
- Yale Marienhoff in memory of Blanche Marienhoff
- Yale Marienhoff in memory of Rose Schwartz Finkelstein
- Stacey Mondschein Katz & Bob Katz in memory of Sy Mondschein
- Stacey Mondschein Katz & Bob Katz in memory of Gloria Mondschein
- Hilary Neckles & George Lapointe in memory of Joel Davis
- Sue & David Offer in memory of Edith Gershon
- Sue & David Offer in memory of Joel Davis
- Martha & John Pelletier in memory of Joan Price
- Sandra & Peter Prescott in memory of Joel Davis
- Rosemary Presnar & Edith Bicknell in memory of Joel Davis
- Lynda & Barry Rosemark in memory of Joel Davis
- Peter Rosenberg in memory of Joan Price
- Deb & Syd Sewall in memory of David Macy
- Deb & Syd Sewall in memory of Bernigolde Macy
- Deb & Syd Sewall in memory of Sylvia Fain
- Nancy & Charles Shuman in memory of Gertrude Lerman
- Nancy & Charles Shuman in memory of Esther Shuman
- Ken Slosberg in memory of Lynn Slosberg
- Lee Webb in memory of Joel Davis
- Marty Weiss in memory of Miriam Weiss
- Marty Weiss in memory of Linda Weiss Manson
- Marty Weiss in memory of Joel Davis

Making a donation to Temple Beth El is a special way to honor family and friends.

Terumah

This fund includes the former General Fund and Dues and covers all temple operating expenses.

Building Fund

This fund is for major repair and rebuilding of our facilities.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

This fund helps Rabbi Asch meet special needs in the community.

Yahrzeit/Memorials/Honoraria

These contributions are made in memory or honor of family and friends.

Memorial Plaques

Remember a loved one with a memorial plaque in the synagogue. Donation: \$250

Payment due at time of order.

Tree of Life

Acknowledge a life milestone in a special way by adding a personalized, inscribed leaf to the Tree. Donation: \$36.

Payment due at time of order.

Please make checks payable to Temple Beth El. Indicate the fund to which you want to contribute and mail to TBE, Box 871, Augusta, ME 04332. Undesignated checks will go to the General Fund. *Temple Beth El accepts Visa & Mastercard. Please contact the office with any questions.*

Temple Beth El

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 Rabbi Erica Asch 207-242-9792
 Email: bethelaugusta@gmail.com

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**Portland Chevra Kadisha
 Jewish Funeral Home**
 471 Deering Ave.
 Portland, ME 04103
 207.774.3733

September Yahrzeits

September 3 Adelle Rubin
 Charles Zinck
 September 8 Leonard Brittain
 Emma Levy
 September 13 Julia Sandler Ray
 Sam Slosberg
 September 15 Gertrude
 September 17
 Goldberg
 September 19 Joe Hausner
 September 21 Elma Samuels
 Rosenberg
 September 26 Harry Shuman
 September 27 Lucille Rutberg
 Samuel Gass
 September 28 Harry Graham
 September 30 Joan Morse
 Shirle Offer

October Yahrzeits

October 1 Sarah Goos
 October 4 Thelma Lipman
 October 6 James Brown
 Edwin Moser
 October 9 Jess Yoder
 Bertha Plano
 Mary Slosberg Feldman
 October 11 Abraham Nerakis
 Nathan Schneider
 October 13 Irene Rubinstein
 Carol Eckert
 October 16 Evelyn Berman
 Belle Grodinsky
 October 20 Joan Goldberg
 Marie Salvino
 October 21 Albert Kleiman
 October 23 Richard Kelly
 Celia Norken
 October 26 Deborah Gail Sclar
 October 28 Albert Nolin
 October 29 Nancy Bien
 October 30 Lena Weiner-Sorgman

Condolences

Temple Beth El sends condolences to the Shed Davis family on the death of Joel Davis on August 20, 2019. Joel was the president of Temple Beth El and was very active in the Hallowell community. *Zichrono l'vracha*, may his memory be for a blessing.



Refuah Sh'leimah (Get Well) to:

Carole Fitzgerald
 Vivian Flamm
 Julius Goos
 Michael Libby
 Judy Plano