



THE RABBI SPEAKS



RABBI BARRY BLOCK

Dear Friends:

Alongside my family and Congregation B'nai Israel, the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) keeps me busy and stimulated. I am honored to serve with eighteen diverse colleagues on the Board of the CCAR. The CCAR provides me with constant opportunities for

professional growth. Continuing rabbinic education is my sacred duty as a rabbi, part of my Job Description at Congregation B'nai Israel; and, as of 2019, a requirement for continued membership in good standing in the CCAR.

This year, I am devoting much of my study time to my role as Editor of *The Mussar Torah Commentary*, forthcoming from CCAR Press in 2019 (God willing). Having invited scores of colleagues to write commentaries on each of the fifty-four Torah portions – I wrote one, so fifty three other authors are involved – I am now learning from a wide variety of colleagues who are becoming my teachers as I read what they have written.

For example, Rabbi Bonnie Koppel, who has served as a U.S. Military Chaplain for thirty-eight years, writes about *tzedek* (justice) and *rachamim* (mercy) in *Parashat Ki Teitzei*, a portion that includes rules about conducting warfare. One of those commandments restricts a victorious soldier's right to take a woman by force. Rape is forbidden in the moment of conquest. However, the warrior is permitted to take a captive woman to his home. There, she mourns her parents, presumably killed in battle, for a month. During that time, her hair must be shaved and her nails, pared; and she must wear mourner's garb. These rules are doubtless designed to make her less attractive to her captor. Only thereafter may he enjoy relations with her; but if he does, he must also marry her, with all the obligations attendant to marriage.

Rabbi Koppel acknowledges that our modern minds recoil at the notion of permitting the exploitation of military conquest for any sexual ends, no matter how restricted. At the same time, she teaches about a field that was new to me until recently: moral injury, which Rabbi Koppel has encountered in the military chaplaincy. Soldiers are morally injured by being required to engage in activity, e.g., killing, that would otherwise be immoral. Doing so requires dehumanization of the enemy. The result, all too often, is post-traumatic stress disorder.

Worship at a Glance

Friday, May 3

LaFTY Shabbat, led by LaFTY members and Rabbi Block, at 6:15 pm

D'var Torah: Brock Jacobs

Music: Steve Bauman, Isabella Ifrah

Candles: Hallie Pingel

Kiddush: Larry Jacobs

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor: Sisterhood

Altar Arrangement Sponsor: Sisterhood

Saturday, May 4

Torah Study, led by Rabbi Block, 9:30 am

Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Block, at 11:00 am

Friday, May 10

Mishkan T'filah Service, led by Justin Young, Phillip Young, and Rabbi Block, at 6:15 pm

Sermon: "Teaching the Heart What It Already Knows"

Music: David Bauman, Jana Cohen, Liz Cohen, Richard Estelita, Charlie Friedman

Candles & Kiddush: Regina, Perry, Phillip, Justin, and Sophia Young

Reader: Sophia Young

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor: The Young family in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Phillip and Justin Young

Altar Flowers Sponsor: The Young family in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Phillip and Justin Young

Saturday, May 11

Abbreviated Torah Study, led by Rabbi Block, 9:30 -10:15 am

Shabbat Service for the B'nai Mitzvah of Justin and Phillip Young, at 10:30am

Friday, May 17

Mishkan T'filah Service, led by Rabbi Block, at 6:15 pm

Sermon: "How Should We Translate *Pirkei Avot?* Why Does It Matter?"

Music: Meg Marion, Richard Estelita, Josiah Wheeler, Charlie Friedman

Reader: Jeff Nodelman, in celebration of his birthday

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor: Sisterhood

Altar Arrangement Sponsor: Sisterhood

Saturday, May 18

Torah Study, led by Rabbi Block, at 9:30 am

Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Block, at 11:00am

The Rabbi Speaks continued...

Morally compromised men may well fail to see the (enemy) woman as a human being, which the Torah requires. Only after the conqueror treats the woman with compassion required by Torah does justice permit him to marry her.

Rabbi Koppel's commentary, like so many that I'm reading, reminds us that the choices we make are often complex, requiring us to balance justice and mercy. Thankfully, we have the Torah – and one day, if we are successful, *The Mussar Torah Commentary* – as our guide.

Faithfully,



Rabbi Barry H. Block



You are cordially invited to a

Get Together

with your congregation

Saturday, May 4, 2019
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, socializing

Meet new friends, visit with great people.

RSVP by April 28 to the temple office:
templesecretary@bnai-israel.us

Open to all members as a purely social event. No Charge.

Organized by the
Congregation B'nai Israel Social Engagement Party

Yizkor Eloheim
We record with sorrow the death of..

SUE STROOCK

Wife of Chris Hackler

MELISSA BRYANT CLASEN

Niece of Tracye (and Larry) Townley
Niece of Mark (and Mischelle) Strauss

NATALIE PAIGE STRAUSS

Niece of Tracye (and Larry) Townley
Niece of Mark (and Mischelle) Strauss

Worship at a Glance continued...

Friday, May 24

Union Prayerbook – Sinai Edition Service for Armed Forces Shabbat, led by Men's Club Members and Rabbi Block, with special guest speaker, Andrew Ashford, AIPAC Southwest Veterans

Outreach, at 6:15 pm

90th Birthday Blessing of Stanley Goldberg

Music: Jeffrey Neuhauser

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor: Sisterhood

Altar Arrangement Sponsor: Sisterhood

Saturday, May 26

Torah Study, led by Rabbi Block, at 9:30 am
Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Block, at 11:00 am

Friday, May 31

Shabbat under the Stars, Abbreviated, Music-filled, Service for all ages, with blessing for all young people attending Jewish Camp or Israel programs this summer, led by Rabbi Block at 6:15 pm, followed by Picnic Dinner, all in the amphitheater

Music: David Bauman

Candles & Kiddush: Donna Kirkwood and Barry, Eli, and Lilah Goldman

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor: Sisterhood

Altar Arrangement Sponsor: Sisterhood

Saturday, June 1

Torah Study, led by Rabbi Block, at 9:30 am
Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Block, at 11:00 am

Mazel Tov

to **Dale Ronnel**, recent recipient of the Jane Mendel award. This award is presented by the Little Rock School District Volunteers in Public Schools and is its highest award in volunteerism.

to **Daniela Berlinski**, daughter of **Silvana and Ariel Berlinski**, for graduating with a double major in International Studies with an emphasis in Spanish and Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance and Banking. She will begin her new chapter in NYC in July as an Associative Relationship Manager for corporate U.S. Bank.

Todah Rabah

Many thanks to our office volunteers:
Milt Baer and Aniko Diamant

President's Message

Security comes in many ways –safety, financial, and the security of inclusion. As President of the congregation, I am tasked with ensuring many facets of security for our building, membership, and even in our budget and investment. Most recently, two of these agenda items have been on our forefront.

On April 9, thanks to the efforts of the FBI and The Madina Institute headed by Sophia Said, we were host to a Hate Crimes Awareness seminar. We welcomed over 50 community leaders to a 3-hour presentation on trends and responses to hate crimes and terrorism. While we are not able to learn how to stop these senseless acts in the world, we are able to be as prepared as possible if we are threatened. We carefully listened to statistics, then learned best practices for our building and community. Our efforts will continue in all safety aspects: Shabbat security sponsors, updated exit signs, stop the bleed and AED training, building assessments, and continued door and camera monitoring.

Financial safety is a big concern for the Temple too. While our investment committee has always been diligent to ensure our future, we count on pledges each year for our operating budget. This is where each and every member fit into the equation. Each family unit can give to the Temple in different ways – some with their financial resources, others with time and energy, some with both. Making Temple a priority is important – no matter what level. Please consider B'nai Israel in your annual budget each year – both the financial budget and time allotment budget. We need you and want you to be here as part of the community. Most recently, we mailed the annual GIFT OF THE HEART pledge forms to all our members. This is one way we can plan for our future programs, needs, services and employees. We are a small congregation, but certainly put out the equivalent programmatic of any larger congregation. This is done by volunteerism and financial support. Our staff is not large, yet with the help of our membership, our efforts and capabilities grow. This is the time to return your form – please take the time to mail it to the Temple office so we can finalize our 2019-2020 budget numbers. If you have questions or concerns, I welcome your call.

The final security is our own comfort to participate fully and feel welcomed. You are welcome to each and every program and event. If this is something you have not done in the past, but need an entrée point, please come on May 4 at 5:30 pm for a purely social Cocktail Party sponsored by the Social Engagement Committee, led by Perry Young. All that is asked of you is to come, meet new folks, and visit with old friends. You'll nosh, have a drink, and just be comfortable in your Temple environment. It's a simple idea, a simple ask, and a fun way to be here at B'nai Israel. We are asking for RSVP's for planning purposes.

It is a pleasure serving as your congregational President. I hope to hear from all of you soon – and see you personally on May 4.

Carol P. Parham, President



AIPAC Regional Veterans Outreach Director to Speak on Armed Forces Shabbat

Andrew Ashford, Southwest Regional Veterans Director for AIPAC, is slated to speak at Armed Forces Shabbat, led by our Temple Men's Club, Friday, May 24, at 6:15pm.

Born and raised in Texas, Andrew currently lives in Houston. Andrew received his BS in Business Administration from Troy University in 2007, his law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law in 2010, and his Masters in Tax Law from the University of Alabama in 2016. He enlisted in the Army Reserves as a Chaplain Assistant and received an ROTC scholarship to complete his final two years of law school. Andrew commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer; and, after receiving his Texas law license, he joined the Judge Advocate General Corps within the Texas National Guard. Andrew has been activated to serve as the attorney for the Texas National Guard on the Southwest Border Mission (2011) and deployed to Afghanistan with the 136th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. During his time in Afghanistan, Andrew served as the Chief of Claims for Kabul Province and the legal advisor for the Commanders Emergency Response Program. Before working for AIPAC, Andrew ran his own law practice where he focused on providing low cost legal aid to military Veterans. He has served as AIPAC's first, and so far only, Veterans Outreach Director since October, 2014.

Andrew came to Judaism at Temple Beth-El in San Antonio, where Rabbi Block supervised and was directly involved in his conversion process.

A poster for 'Shabbat under the stars' featuring a dark blue background with a crescent moon and stars. The text reads: 'Shabbat with beauty, outdoors, peace, prayer, song & music. Special send-off blessings for those going to camp and Israel this summer.' Below this, it says 'SHABBAT under the stars' in a stylized font, and at the bottom, 'May 31, 2019 in the Amphitheater. Oneg Shabbat at 5:45 pm, services at 6:15'.

YAHRZEITS: MAY 2019

MAY 3

Julius Abrams
Edward S. Baer
Marjorie L. Baer
Mary J. Lewis Barrett
Sarah Lefkowitz Brandt
Dennis Braunfeld
Sidney M. Brooks
Esther Dreyfus
Eph Epstein
Margot Strauss Garon
Barbara Whitebloom
Goodman
Eleanor Hasson
Lou B. Hoffman
Greg E. Kempner
Rose B. Kory
Nina Krupitsky
Emily S. Lasker
Lucille Hiller Levine
Clara L. Lewis
Nathan Lubner
Doris Heilbrun Pfeifer
Charlotte Ross
Julia F. Schott
Walter Lewy Scott
Sam J. Storthz, Sr.
A. Allen Weintraub

MAY 10

Forrest Abrams
Edward Bennett
Carrie Ottenheimer
Berger
Dylan Besser
Gus Blass II
Velma Block
Isabel F. Cohen
Louis Cecil Cohen
Meyer "Mike" Davis
Paul Diamant
Linda Fitzhugh
Louis Frankenstein
William Hamburger
Abe Herstein
Isaac Kronberg
Joseph L. Loebner
Curtis E. (Gene) Loftin
Julius Louchheim
Manuel D. Pollock
Alan E. Pollock
Louis Rubel
Ashtyn Lane Russell
Michael Schach
Larry Schwartz
Marti Shlenker
Irving J. Spitzberg

Lois Gottlieb Stern
Charles Taliaferro
Josie Wasserman
Emelie Zeno
Henry Zwirn

MAY 17

Sam Backal
Sadee Alexander Bauman
Bena Schwartz Biondo
Gilbert J. Blass
Philip Cohn
Dorothy Darline Yates
Davis
Jane Stern Dreeben
Rose Weil Dungan
Flora Caro Ehrenberg
Edward David Elias
Richard William Falkoff
Anna Smulian Froug
Rosa Kaufman
Samuel Raymond Lyons
Agnes Lafont Meyers
Irene Pareira Sanders
Lynton Scharff
Jony Schneider
Ray S. Scholem
Al Schumann

Cynthia K. Shell
Henry Spear
Jennie S. Spitzberg
Rebecca Levy Vogel
Louise Wiseman
George Zinser

MAY 24

Mollie Abowitz
Melanie Adams
Sabina Loewenberg Block
Linnie H. Bott
Wolf Hersch Brandt
Anna Cooper
Joyce S. Ehrenberg
Ray Fendler
Charlotte Kempner
Goodman
Olive Stern Hart
Fred King
Irvin Levy
Tony Mobly
Hulda Phillips
Samuel Ringelhaupt
Percy L. Scholem
William Samuel Shanklin

Bruce Besser
Dorothy Dreeben Block
Pearl Tenenbaum
Carvalho
Charles Cone
Henry Myar Franklin
Melissa Estelle Gruner
Eleanor Rockwitz Kiel
Marvin Krochock
Kenneth Joseph Mirloff
Pauline Sanders
Harriet Stern Smoler
Phyllis Alexander Storthz
Henriette Thalheimer
Richard Thurow
Hattie Kuehn Weisman
Albert M. Wise
Joseph Wiseman

MAY 31

Congregation B'nai Israel and Jewish Federation of Arkansas Invite You:

Coffee, Cake and Conversation

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 11:30 am

Congregation B'nai Israel Library

"Con Men and How to Avoid Them"

Presented by Richard (Dick) Williams

Contact Jewish Federation of Arkansas social worker Kelsey Dugger
at kelsey@jewisharkansas.org or call the Federation office at
501-663-3571, if you would like a ride to the event.

Coffee Cake, and Conversation is sponsored
by Congregation B'nai Israel and Jewish Federation of Arkansas.
All are welcome.

You bring lunch; we provide dessert and coffee.



Jewish Federation*
OF ARKANSAS

THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.
THE POWER OF A COMMUNITY.

Please join us as we commemorate

Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day

Wednesday, May 1st • 7:00 pm

Congregation B'nai Israel

3700 N. Rodney Parham Rd. • Little Rock

The ceremony will include a presentation, "Through These Words of Mine: Why We Study the Holocaust", By Dr. Dorian Stuber, Isabelle Peregrin Odyssey Associate Professor of English at Hendrix College, and his students, Morgan Akers, Elizabeth Jones, Eliot Peterson, and Marchelle Williams

Yom Hashoah is sponsored by Jewish Federation of Arkansas, in partnership with Congregation Agudath Achim, Congregation B'nai Israel, and Lubavitch of Arkansas.



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

May 2019

Nisan 5779/Iyyar 5779

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 Nisan 30 8:30 am - 9:30 am Intermediate Hebrew: Prayers, Songs, and Conversational Hebrew 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Last Day of Religious School for all Students and Parents, including Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Celebration and Honors for Students and Teachers. 3:00 pm	6 Iyyar 1	7 Iyyar 2	8 Iyyar 3 7:00 pm JFAR Community Yom HaShoah observance at Temple	9 Iyyar 4 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Torah Lunch and Learn	10 Iyyar 5 4:30 pm Tour FUMC NLR 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Oneg Shabbat 6:15 pm Mishkan Tfilah Service and B'nai Mitzvah of Phillip and Justin Young	11 Iyyar 6 9:30 am - 10:15 am Abbreviated Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service and B'nai Mitzvah of Phillip and Justin Young
12 Iyyar 7	13 Iyyar 8	14 Iyyar 9 11:30 am Coffee, Cake and Conversation 7:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting	15 Iyyar 10 CHRONICLE DEADLINE	16 Iyyar 11 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Torah Lunch and Learn	17 Iyyar 12 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Oneg Shabbat 6:15 pm Mishkan Tfilah Service	18 Iyyar 13 9:30 am - 10:45 am Torah Study 11:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 6:00 pm Schmoozerama
19 Iyyar 14	20 Iyyar 15	21 Iyyar 16 7:00 pm Temple Board Meeting	22 Iyyar 17	23 Iyyar 18 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Torah Lunch and Learn	24 Iyyar 19 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Oneg Shabbat 6:15 pm UPB-Sinai Edition Shabbat Service for Men's Club Armed Forces Shabbat with special guest speaker, Andrew Ashcroft, AIPAC Southwest Veterans Outreach	25 Iyyar 20 9:30 am - 10:45 am Torah Study 11:00 am Shabbat Morning Service
26 Iyyar 21	27 Iyyar 22 Ati'Day Closed in Observance of Memorial Day Temple Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day	28 Iyyar 23	29 Iyyar 24 4:00 pm Our House	30 Iyyar 25 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Torah Lunch and Learn	31 Iyyar 26 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Oneg Shabbat 6:15 pm Shabbat under the Stars and Picnic Dinner for Camp Sendoff	
CHRONICLE DEADLINE MAY 15 FOR JUNE ISSUE						
1 Nisan 26 7:00 pm JFAR Community Yom HaShoah observance at Temple	2 Nisan 27 11:30 am - 12:45 pm Torah Lunch and Learn	3 Nisan 28 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm Oneg Shabbat 6:15 pm LaFTY Shabbat	4 Nisan 29 8:30 am - 9:30 am Beginning Hebrew 9:30 am - 10:45 am Torah Study 11:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Social Engagement Cocktail Party			



BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Charles Alman A'80
2 Ed Back A'91 Paul Yoder A'85 Elizabeth Aronson Spencer Storthz	3 Jim Pfeifer Mozell Zimmerman Josh Bernstein Emerson Reiss	4 Tenenbaum/Tailon A'16 Amanda Ferguson	5	6 Art Pfeifer Raïda Snyderman Grant Rosenthal	7 Melanie Berman Sarah Johnson Scott Jordan Rebecca Lackie	8 Robert Vogel A'74 Jerry Gold
9 Wm. Eiseman A.62 Arleen Marshall Michael Simon Chester Storthz	10 Dave Grundfest,III A'90 Ed Back Matt Johnson	11 Edmond Freeman A'50 Byron Kantrow Eugene Krupitsky Josh McClintock	12 Circy Gastman Scott Korenblat	13 Evan Wilons A'09 Michael Schmitz Judy Tenenbaum Lilah Goldman	14 Evalyn Berleant Susan Clark Naomi Zottoli Jared Matson	15 Eugene Levy A'69 Marc Williams A'96 Ron Bara Sallye Mann Tim McGrath Carol Storthz
16 Shelly Casciano Lewis Krain Lee Ronnel Sadie Elson	17	18 Tom Sharp	19 Mark Strauss A'93 Evelyn Harberg	20 Guillema Morales Sadie Townley	21 Larry Hamilton	22 Don Evans A'67 David Bauman Sammy Lang Aaron Towbin-Hickling
23 Sol Brotman Heather Gerson Matt Mershon	24 Suzanne Klimberg	25	26 Susan Axelroth	27 Jay Fullerton A'92 Rabbi Barry Block Elaine Luber Marilyn Ronnel	28 Sol Brotman A'80 Larry Alman	29 J. Casciano Devon Webb
30 Lary Bentley A'02 Mark Levin A'07 Jeff Lux A'06						

If you would like to sponsor the flowers and/or oneg for an upcoming Shabbat, please call the Temple office.

THE RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Rabbi Block
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IN MEMORY OF:

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Leslie Singer
A. Dan Phillips
Sandra Phillips
Peter Phillips
Leslie Singer

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Judy Grundfest
Rich Lewis
Judy Grundfest

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Bar Mitzvah of David Bauman
Suzi Davis

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Jill and Steve Bauman
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Robynn Zinser and Jim Pfeifer

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Van Gates

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IN HONOR OF:

Anniversary of Carol and Allan Mendel
Suzi Davis

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IN MEMORY OF:

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IN MEMORY OF:

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IN HONOR OF:

Anniversary of Jana and Perry Cohen
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Birthday of Eileen Hamilton
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Birthday of Doris Krain
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Birthday of Aaron Lubin
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Birthday of Ellyn Polsky
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Birthday of Dale Ronnel
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy
Scot Goldsholl
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy

CONGRATULATIONS:

Job well done for the Purim play written by Meg Marion and kudos to the whole cast & crew
Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy



LEAVE A LEGACY

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

The Board of Temple B'nai Israel has established a planned giving program to secure a future for our Reform Jewish congregation as illustrious as our past. Planned gifts might include bequests or other deferred commitments. No gift is too small and every gift is a testament to your Jewish heritage. If you would like more information on making a legacy gift, please leave your name with the Temple office (225-9700) and a volunteer will contact you.



MAZEL TOV

LaFTY Led Congregational Shabbat Services

Friday, May 3

Oneg Shabbat at 5:45 pm, worship at 6:15 pm

To honor and install our teens who have been elected to serve as youth group leaders & bid farewell to our graduating seniors.

Our House

May 22

4:30 – 6:30 pm

Contact Jill Bauman for more information or to volunteer:
jarb223@yahoo.com.

Confirmation Class

May 8

6 – 8 pm - last class for 9th grade,
rehearsal for 10th grade.

June 5

Confirmation Rehearsal: 6 – 8 pm

May and June Tours

FUMC, N. Little Rock

Todah Rabbah

to our Passover helpers:

Rita Fagan	Bobbye Levy
Terri Moore	Meg Marion
Jan Alman	Kathy Grundfest
Trudy Jacobson	Debbie Brady
Jill Bauman	

Religious School

May 5 – closing day.

Special hours: 10 am – 12 pm.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ISRAEL

ESCAPE TO ISRAEL...
FOR THE MORNING
Sunday, May 5, 2019
For our last day of religious school
and the
celebration of Yom HaAtzmaut

PARENTS ~ We need you!!

- For planning
- Your creativity
- For set up
- For lunch prep.
- Your attendance for the day

71

PHOTOS OF YOU IN ISRAEL?
Send us a good one with you in it!
Email your photo to: dhamilton@Bnai-Israels.org by Wednesday, 5/1.

SPECIAL LAST DAY HOURS:

May 5

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

10:00: Introduction and
class level Israel ESCAPE ROOM
CHALLENGES

10:30: Israel visual and Israeli dance

11:15: Israeli style lunch – for all.

11:30: Honor teachers, awards and
Good-byes for this school year.

FROM THE EDUCATOR

Eileen Hamilton

Shavuot is the forgotten holiday for religious school. Especially this year – when this long leap year extended this awesome holiday into June. Yes, school is out; summer camp is on the cusp of beginning, vacations abound, and here we are still celebrating a holiday. Of course, we observe holidays all throughout the year, some lesser known than others, and yet, Shavuot is one of the ‘big’ holidays, even considered one of our three pilgrimage festivals. Shavuot falls exactly 7 weeks/50 days after the first Seder. Originally an offering of the first grain harvest of the season, Shavuot is most commonly associated with the Giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This covenant between God and Israel is marked on this holiday when our own religious school students end their formal studies as students of religious school and continue with their lifelong study of Judaism as adults. They will lead our service, read the Ten Commandments from the Torah, and enlighten us with their own words of wisdom and knowledge. They represent our continued covenant with God and our cherishing the Torah as our guide for wisdom.

It is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot, as we once wandered and traveled to the land of milk and honey, our Promised Land. I

hope you will bring something to share on the evening of June 8 after the Confirmation service as we study together for Tikkun Leil Shavuot – a study session which allows us to continue to study Torah just for Torah Lishmah (for the sake of studying Torah). That is, studying Torah is a pleasure and we take pleasure being together to embark on more food for our mind and soul – plus some delicious daily delicacies like blintzes. We will study the Ten Commandments today – the most modern interpretation yet.

Family Talk for Shavuot:

The Ten Commandments are important, but there are extra commandments one could create for today’s society that may help to repair the world.

- Name the 11th commandment that would be beneficial in our world today.
- And write an original commandment that may be unique, helpful, and special in your family/household.
- One of the commandments is Thou Shalt Not Steal. What are things we steal from others and even ourselves that are not material items? We would not steal from others or a store, but perhaps there are things we take....waste...or even steal. Can you name any?

Please support our generous sponsors

ARKANSAS FESTIVAL BALLET
presents
Sleeping Beauty
featuring Marilyn Ronnel as Aurora
May 17-19, 2019
Arkansas Arts Center
Tickets available at arkansasdance.org

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501-590-1406

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Congratulations Graduates!

OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES 2019

Name	Parent(s)	Graduating from	Headed to
Jacob Collins	Joannie Jacobs	E-Stem High School	University of Central Arkansas
Thomas Gerson	Heather and David Gerson	Catholic High School	Indiana University - Bloomington
Brock Jacobs	Flavia and Stephen Jacobs Tanya and Bennie Langley	Maumelle High School	Arkansas Tech University
Larry Jacobs	Flavia and Stephen Jacobs Tanya and Bennie Langley	Maumelle High School	Arkansas Tech University
Spencer Nodelman	Melanie and Jeff Nodelman	Central High School	University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
Marilyn Ronnel	Jennifer and Steve Ronnel	Central High School	New York University
Joy Williams	Amanda and Marc Williams	Cabot High School	University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical College
Sebastian Wolf	Joe Wolf	Bryant High School	U.S. Army
Sophia Young	Regina and Perry Young	Central High School	George Washington University

If we have other high school graduates, whom we have missed in this listing, we apologize and ask you please to notify Keila in the Temple office, 225-9700 or TempleSecretary@bnai-israel.us. We will acknowledge them in the June Chronicle.

OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES 2019

Name	Parents	College
Daniela Berlinski	Silvana and Ariel Berlinski	University of Missouri
Bayley Elenzweig	Leah and Neil Elenzweig	Tulane University
Lauren Grundfest	Kathy and Jack Grundfest	University of Texas
Jonah Marion	Meg and Michael Marion	Full Sail University

If we have other college graduates, whom we have missed in this listing, we apologize and ask you please to notify Keila in the Temple office, 225-9700 or TempleSecretary@bnai-israel.us. We will acknowledge them in the June Chronicle.

With great joy we invite you
to join us in celebration
as our sons

Phillip Adam Young and Justin Evan Young

are each called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah
Saturday, the Eleventh of May, 2019 at 10:30 am

Regina and Perry Young



Philip and Justin conducted a large-scale E-trash collection for recycling. They filled their garage and beyond and their collection total was over 3 tons of recyclables including lightbulbs, computers, and ballasts.



Sisterhood Speaks

Sisterhood had its annual Miriam's Seder on April 4th. This year we were joined by members of our local Muslim community. We raised \$125 in tzedakah, our way of buying back the afikomen, which was donated to Arkansas Advocates for Families and Children.

Before the Seder about 15 women got together at Painted Pig to make their own Miriam's Cups - - thanks to Kirsta Nigro and Cheryl Streiff for organizing and Ellyn Polsky for talking about Miriam's significance.

Everyone wanted the recipe for the carrot soup so here it is...

Creamy Curried Carrot Soup for four

- 1.) Heat 2 Tbsp canola oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat.
- 2.) Add 1 lb. peeled and chopped carrots, 2 large peeled and chopped shallots, 1 tsp curry powder, ½ tsp salt and ¼ tsp black pepper; cook 5 min.
- 3.) Add 2 ½ cups low-sodium vegetable broth and bring to a boil.
- 4.) Reduce heat and simmer until carrots are tender.
- 5.) Add 2 Tbsp almond butter and juice of one lime.
- 6.) Puree with an immersion blender.

Thanks to all who helped: Jan Alman, Rita Fagan, Esther Gordon, Eileen Hamilton, Meg Marion, Kirsta Nigro, Ellyn Polsky, Marilyn Sorrels, Cheryl Streiff, Annabelle Tuck, and Deanna Ward.



Schmoozerama



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"On the Basis of Sex"

Young lawyer Ruth Bader Ginsburg works with her husband to bring a groundbreaking case of gender discrimination before the Supreme Court.

Al Barron Book Club

Sunday, May 5: 3:00 pm

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"Thou art the living God, Thy words bring life
and light to the soul."