

Temple Beth El Bulletin

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Rabbi's Message ~ Dov Gottesfeld

VEHIGADETA LEVINCHA - AND YOU SHALL TELL YOUR SON

This heading is taken from the Haggadah of Passover. Can you hear the two words "vehigadeta" and "Haggadah" sharing similar consonants? The meanings of those two words in Hebrew indicate the striving to communicate with an objective in mind: To encourage a conversation with the youth with the purpose of teaching and learning. That explains why the word "to your son" was included.

The writers of the Haggadah used the Torah's phrase from Exodus 13:8 "And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, this is done because of that which the Lord did to me when I came forth out of Egypt." The objective is to introduce, increase, and encourage a natural curiosity of the son, and that teaches the son the art of asking credible and meaningful questions. The text, although written in the male gender "your son," also, I trust, was aimed towards daughters as well.



Dov Gottesfeld

That is why the Haggadah has the Four Questions, with the four answers, and the Four Sons, each with his own personality and particular learning need. That repetitive yearly "celebration," or I should call it "reinforcement," instills and reaffirms in the mind of the learner the importance of asking questions and seeking answers. It has already been widely recognized that the above approach to the teaching and learning process produces notable men and women who make the difference in all aspects of life for the advancement of humanity.

This year our temple was blessed to see that the kids are back! We were privileged with seeing and hearing the children Caleb, Tikvah, Elise, Isbeth, Bella, Nuri, Channah, Levi, Liz, and Ruby asking questions about the exodus from Egypt. All these children with young and curious minds are participating in the process of learning and asking questions in our renewed children's school that meets every Saturday morning at 10:00 am for two hours of instruction. Their teachers are Amber Medina and Nakiah Burnes.

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April Schedule of Services:

Lori Meltzer Sutton (April 6th)
Andi and Jeff Portney (April 13th)
Rabbi Dov Gottesfeld (April 20th)
Diane Borad Mirken (April 27th)

Educational Activities:

Intermediate Conversational Hebrew
(Tuesdays at 6 pm)

Library is open at all congregation functions

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For many years we thought Santa Maria did not have young Jewish families anymore. Then we found out that there were two Jewish communities and now we are together and we rejoice that again we can see the torch is being passed to the next generation. We encourage those who read this newsletter and who know families with young children to tell them that there is a school at Temple Beth El where they can send their kids, a school where the kids can learn about the essence of meaningful knowledge that Judaism offers.

I wish you all a Happy Passover.

Rabbi Dov Gottesfeld

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President's Column ~ Suzanne Levy



Suzanne Levy

Welcome Etz Chaim Religious School!

Those of you who attended our wonderful Seder this year probably noticed something very different from last year's Seder, we had children there! Lots of them! These are the children of our new Etz Chaim Religious School. How wonderful it was to have them ask the four questions, participate in the Passover play and look for the afikomen. These kids, and their parents, are the future of Temple Beth El, and we are very fortunate to have them as members and future members of our congregation.

The religious school meets on Saturday mornings from 10 to 12 for children ages 4-13. It is run by Amber Medina and Nakiah Burnes. The goal of the school is to give the Jewish children of our community a foundation of faith by giving guidance religiously and spiritually and by providing a rich Jewish environment. The topics covered include the Parsha, the Hebrew alphabet, Hebrew blessings, holidays, Israel, and more. Crafts, games, and other fun activities are mixed into the day.

The emphasis and value of education is strongly embedded in Jewish culture. Thanks to Amber, Nakiah, and others, we are able to once again provide education to the children, as well as the adults, of our community. We look forward to their participation in all of our holiday celebrations. If you have a child who would like to attend our religious school (there is currently no tuition, the parents provide the food and supplies) please contact Amber at amedinacasa@gmail.com. We also welcome Amber as a member of our board as the Education Chair replacing Joel David. Joel has done a wonderful job guiding our Adult Education Program these last few years. He will continue in this role working with Amber.

Speaking of new board members, elections are only a month away for the entire Temple Beth El board at our General Membership Meeting on May 20 at 3 pm. We are always looking for new people to join our board, and we have had co-chairs in many of the positions in the past. If you are interested in serving our Jewish community and would like more information, please contact me.

Suzanne

Bulletin Briefs

Donations:

Jeff & Andi Portney

April Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-----------------|
| 1 | Niki Eschen |
| 2 | Sid Goldstein |
| 3 | Marsha Epstein |
| 14 | Raul Medina |
| 16 | Caleb Medina |
| 17 | Cesar Vidales |
| 22 | David Goldstien |
| 28 | Sheryl Brunk |

Brotherhood

The Brotherhood met on Sunday, April 8th, and enjoyed the usual fabulous breakfast and great conversation, which focuses primarily on current events, especially involving Israel. The May meeting of the Brotherhood will be held on Sunday, May 6th. All Jewish men (and women) are invited to attend.

Michael LeCover

Sisterhood

Our dinner meeting is set for Tuesday, April 17th, 6:00 pm, at Lo Mejor de Jalisco, 116 S. Blosser Rd., Santa Maria, 925-0194. This restaurant has gotten great reviews so we get to try something new. They will use vegetable oil in their cooking if requested, so everyone should be comfortable eating their food. They have an extensive menu on-line, and quite a number of fish offerings so it should satisfy everyone. Our Sisterhood welcomes all Jewish women to join us, and men often choose to come as well. They usually sit together and enjoy their own get-together. Hope to see you there.

Marsha Epstein

MOVIE NIGHT

Our 70th movie night: Saturday, April 21st. Title of movie is "Steambath." It was shown on public television in the late 60s. This razor-sharp, outrageous comedy portrays God as an overworked steambath attendant who doles out "wrath" and "blessed events" in between taking on chores such as scrubbing floors and walls. Not for kids. Refreshments. (7:30 pm)

A message from Tom Geiger

I want to thank our lay service leaders for their leadership in the month of March:

Andi & Jeff Portney (March 2nd), Diane Borad-Mirken (March 16th), Anita Friedman (March 23rd)



Children from the temple Seder March 31, 2018



2nd Annual Brisket Cook-Off, Sunday, February 25, 2018

April Yarzheits

4/1/18	Stan Eschen*	7	Nisan	Father of Donna Eschen, Husband of Niki Eschen
4/1/18	Juan Velasquez Jr.	21	Nisan	Cousin of Cesar Vidales
4/2/18	Arline T. Williams			Sister of Alan Kushnick
4/4/18	Annabelle Abramson	19	Nisan	Aunt of Abby Lassen
4/4/18	Miriam Barkai	19	Nisan	Friend of Lyn Meltzer
4/5/18	Harry Heller*			Husband of Hazel Heller
4/5/18	Ethel Zudekoff	27	Adar	Cousin of Corinne Bernstein
4/6/18	Henrietta Swimmer*			Mother of Annette Barnett
4/9/18	Denise Abb	1	Nisan	Cousin of Marsha Epstein
4/9/18	Michael Ratner	11	Nisan	Cousin of Marsha Epstein
4/11/18	David Wall*	26	Nisan	Son of Leo and Florence Wall
4/12/18	Conrad Sylinski*			Husband of Ruth Sylinski
4/12/18	Karl Wolf*	27	Nisan	Grandfather of Kenneth L. Wolf
4/13/18	Joe Martin	8	Nisan	Friend of Tom Geiger
4/16/18	Cynthia A. Cohen			Daughter of Edgar Cohen
4/17/18	Paul Evans*			Brother of Ben Evans
4/17/18	Nathan Robbins*			Father of Evelyn Lubin
4/18/18	Barry Green*	24	Nissan	Husband of Phyllis Green
4/19/18	Dave Argov*			
4/19/18	Anna Eschen			Grandmother of Donna Eschen
4/19/18	Barry Lipman*			
4/19/18	Helen Lipman*			
4/19/18	Janet Melman*			Wife of Harvey Melman
4/19/18	Zetta Rykiss			Aunt of Errin, Sari, and Abby
4/25/18	Beverly Duel			Sister of Joe Friedman
4/25/18	Berta Geiger	10	Iyar	Mother of Tom Geiger
4/29/18	Shulamit Ben-Moshe			Mother of Ilana David
4/29/18	Avrum Goldman*			Father of Cary Goldman

Months of Mourning

Lyn Meltzer	Mother of Lori Meltzer-Sutton	4/17/17
Sue Taylor	Friend of Marsha Epstein	4/25/17
Harry Berkowitz	Uncle of Gary Epstein	5/1/17
Joe Perez	Husband of Stella, Beloved friend of Temple Beth El	5/2/17
Betty Rosen Kalish	Mother of Mel Kalish	6/5/17
Jerry Wikes	Friend of Boots Hersh	8/30/17
Pam Gollub	Niece of Myra Wapner	8/31/17
Kathlin (Kathy) Bakst	Mother of Leslie Bakst	10/11/17
Stanley Gollub	Brother of Myra Wapner	10/15/17
Lois Pawlan	Mother of Suzanne Levy	10/18/17
Charles Dietz	Brother-in-law of Niki Eschen	
Ed Isenson	Friend of Gary & Marsha Epstein	11/27/17
Rose LeCover	Mother of Michael LeCover, Grandmother of Aliya & Rachel	12/8/17
Leonard Davidman	Friend of Gary & Marsha Epstein	12/29/17
Shari Schwartz	Former member of Temple Beth El	12/30/17
Millie Kring	Member of TBE	1/31/18
Mary Ann Canter	Cousin of Gary Epstein	3/2/18
Diane Dolginow	Cousin of Ken Wolf	4/9/18

APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2nd day of the Omer	2	3 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm)	4	5	6 Shabbat service led by Lori Meltzer Sutton (7:30 PM)	7 Amber Medina's Children's Religious Studies Class (10 AM)
8 Brotherhood Breakfast meeting (8:30 AM)	9 TBE Board Meeting 7 PM	10 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm)	11	12	13 Shabbat service led by Andi Portney (7:30 PM)	14 Amber Medina's Children's Religious Studies Class (10 AM)
15	16	17 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm) Sisterhood Dinner @ Lo Mejor de Jalisco (6 pm)	18	19	20 Shabbat service led by Rabbi Dov Gottesfeld (7:30 PM) Potluck at 6 pm	21 Children's Religious Studies Class (10 AM) Torah Study (10 AM) Movie Night (7:30 PM)
22	23	24 Intermediate Conversational Hebrew class with Joel David (6 pm)	25	26	27 Shabbat service led by Diane Borad Mirken (7:30 PM)	28 Amber Medina's Children's Religious Studies Class (10 AM)
29	30 31st day of the Omer					

Temple Beth El
PO Box 5217
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Your donation is greatly appreciated.

□

Please apply this contribution to the following:

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<input type="checkbox"/> Torah Scroll Repair Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious School Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Lieberman Computer Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Simcha Board Update Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Renovation Fund for Accessible Facilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Salary Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Jack Meltzer Library Book Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Alfred J. Perlman Temple Endowment Fund

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Address _____

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<input type="checkbox"/> Baby Naming	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Anniversary	<input type="checkbox"/> Bar/Bat Mitzvah
<input type="checkbox"/> In Loving Memory of _____			<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

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Thank you!

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