


THE DOME

December 2022



TEMPLE
BETH ISRAEL
EST. 1859

 www.tbimacon.org

 478-745-6727

Temple Beth Israel
892 Cherry St. Macon, GA 31201



In the book of Genesis, we read a story of Abraham welcoming in strangers. When he saw the strangers in the distance, who turned out to be angels, Abraham arose from recovering from his circumcision, prepared a meal and strove to make them feel welcome.[1] From this story the rabbis highlight the valuable lesson of welcoming in the guest and the stranger alike. Rabbi Yehuda went so far as to teach that welcoming in the guest is greater than receiving the Divine Presence.[2] Rashi, when commenting on a reminder that we were strangers in the land of Egypt taught: "If you vex him he can vex you also by saying to you: "You also descend from strangers". Do not reproach thy fellow-man for a fault which is also thine (Mekhilta d'Rabbi Yishmael 22:20).[3] Lastly, the great first century scholar Shammai taught, "Make your Torah fixed, say little and do much, and receive every person with a pleasant face." [4]

In case you missed it, we are taught to receive the stranger and the guest with love, grace and to make them feel welcome, even if we are challenged by them.

This congregation strives to make sure that everyone feels welcome here. There are a variety of avenues that people can come and feel welcome as part of a group. They can join one of the lunch-bunch groups which meet every other month in Macon or Warner Robins at various restaurants. They can attend Kiddush Club or Shabbat services on Friday nights. They can participate with the Young Family group which meets monthly or join in with Sisterhood.

For many of us, coming out of Covid, requires that we reestablish old patterns of synagogue engagement. It asks that those who show-up to turn and reach out to others who are less engaged thereby lifting them out of loneliness and doubt and into a sacred community. To accomplish this goal, several steps have already been taken – we have upped our profile online to attract new prospective members and begun a Young Family group. When I interact with unaffiliated Jews for life-cycle events, I encourage them to join. We are in the process of a feasibility study for a religious school to determine if and how we can support young families in Middle Georgia. When a new prospective member arrives though, there is a gap. When contemplating former members, another gap exists.

To bridge the gaps, two new initiatives are beginning, and your help is needed.

1. Former Members of the Congregation. Since we have been engaging in current members, it is time to reach out to those who have drifted away for various reasons. The board is forming a new committee of people to identify who those individuals are, host a series of events inviting them, and encourage them to rejoin the congregation. If you know someone who used to be a member, please let me know who they are! This group will reach out to them and invite them to participate in a series of events designed to reengage them and make them feel that the Temple is their home. If you know a former member who needs to be reengaged, please let the Rabbi know who they are.

2. Ambassadors. We need to establish a program of Ambassadors for those new and potential members. This would be people who are interested in having lunch or coffee with a new or potential member in order to provide information both about the congregation or Middle Georgia as appropriate. If you would like to be an ambassador, please let the Rabbi know.

Together we can make the community a wonderful Jewish heart for Middle Georgia. By embracing those who seek Judaism, engaging members and empowering each other to extend loving hands we will live out the work of welcoming in the stranger modeled by Abraham.

[1] Genesis 18

[2] Shabbat 127a:13

[3] Rashi on Exodus 22:20:3

[4] Pirkei Avot 1:15

Notes

Dear Rabbi Bahar,

On my seventieth birthday on November 19, I was fortunate enough to receive word from my cousin Letty Kaplan that beloved family members and friends had given me a leaf on the Temple's tree of life. I am very grateful for their friendship and kindness and hope that you could place this note of gratitude in the Dome.

Many thanks and please stay well.

Marjorie Becker

Sisterhood Chanukah Dinner

Friday December 16, 2022

5:45 lighting of outdoor Menorah

6:00 Service (inside)

6:45 Dinner followed by Chanukah music



Menu:

Brisket

Latkes (sour cream and applesauce provided)

Vegetable(s)

Challah

Sufganyot

RSVP to Marlene Humphry at 478 918-3666 or email at
mhumphry@cox.net

NO LATER THAN Tuesday December 13.

\$20.00 for adults

\$10.00 for kids 6-13

Free under 6

BRING YOUR MENORAH AND CANDLES FOR YOUR TABLE!



**Temple Beth Israel Sisterhood
Judaica Gift Shop
Hanukkah 2022**



Come shop with us for all your Chanukah needs.

Sundays 12:30-2:30, Nov 27, Dec 11, Dec 18
Wednesday, Dec 7 12:00-2:00
Or by appointment with Lise Dayan 478-361-2328



Congregation Sha'arey Israel and Temple Beth Israel Present

**A
COMMUNITY
CHANUKAH
CELEBRATION**

Downtown Macon
Third & Plum Streets

Monday December 19, 2022 5:30 pm



Congregation Menorah Lighting



December 23, 2022

6PM

Temple Beth Israel Courtyard

DECEMBER 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	
				Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sisterhood Bookclub 1PM			Judaica Gift Shop 12:00 - 2:00	Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Judaica Gift Shop 12:30 - 2:30				Sisterhood Hanukkah Party 5:45PM		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Board Meeting 1PM	Community Hanukkah Celebration 6PM			Congregation Menorah Lighting 6PM		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
				Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat		

Macon Outreach Volunteers Needed 10:45-noon Third Thursday of Each Month

Macon Outreach (located at Mulberry Methodist 267 First Street in downtown Macon) needs 5 volunteers to help serve its cafeteria-style lunch for those in need on the third Thursday of each month: Aug. 18th, 10:45 a.m. - 12 noon. Free parking is available in front of the church on Mulberry Street.

TBI volunteers are invited to help on the third Thursday of each month: Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 15th.
Dates for 2023 will be emailed in December.

If you'd like to sign up for any of the above dates or have any questions, please contact David Ilan, CSI Social Action Chair at ilanclan@gmail.com.



HELP!

DUE TO AN INCREASE IN THE COST OF FOOD , OUR PANTRY IS EXTREMELY LOW.

Please consider helping
or sponsoring a Food Drive.

Needs List:

- Instant 1 min. Grits
- Fruit (canned,cups,fresh)
- Sandwich crackers & cookies
- Breakfast & Protein bars
- Vienna sausages
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Cold Cereal
- Pop tarts
- Applesauce



Note: All canned items must have pop-tops.

MORE INFO DAYBREAK@DEPAULUSA.ORG / 478-216-9119
ASK FOR MONICA

HAPPY
Birthday

Landri Mizell - December 1

Kathryn Nadler - December 1

Gabby Avery - December 5

Jennifer Hoffman - December 9

Shawn Hilton - December 14

Kathryn Baker - December 16

Lawrence Mink - December 17

Marlie Hammer - December 27

Happy Anniversary

Dr. Amy Flowers & Jim Warren - December 3rd

Jamie Downing - December 11th

Bernie & Barbara Gertner - December 20th

Drs. Adam & Davi Llevy - December 20th



We Remember the Following on Shabbat
December 2 (November 26 - December 2)

Harry Fried - 11/26/1942
Laurence J. Bernd - 11/28/1943
Arthur Schlesinger - 11/28/2005
Ben Goldgar - 11/29/1964
Charlotte Grossman Kahn - 12/1/1923
Bernice R. Bashinski - 12/1/1987
Lois Schwartz - 12/1/2005
Sidney Fried - 12/2/1938
Robert Schneider - 12/2/1992
Annette C. Zion - 12/2/1993
Armin Porges - 12/2/2002
Philip Dodson, Jr. - 12/2/2005

We Remember the Following on Shabbat
December 9 (December 3 - 9)

Joseph Cohen - 12/04/2006
Nelson Hoff - 12/06/1982
Steve Humphry - 12/06/2017
Louis Piassick - 12/07/1901
Mrs. William (Maude) Voorsanger - 12/07/1969
Millie Hoff - 12/07/1999
Sadie Siesel - 12/09/1898
Julius Fleischer - 12/09/1907
Wynette Dodson - 12/09/2011
Estelle Gallob - 12/09/2013

We Remember the Following on Shabbat

December 16 (December 10 - 16)

Alvin E. Siegel - 12/10/1961
Eugene Oberdorfer - 12/10/1965
Harry Lavine - 12/10/1979
Helen Mack - 12/10/1975
Sylvan Mendelson - 12/10/2009
Alice Carroll - 12/11/2001
Randie Rice - 12/11/2015
Harry Brown - 12/12/1973
Herbert S. Greenwald, Sr. - 12/12/1976
Maria Etheridge - 12/12/2000
Moshe Bialac - 12/12/2021
Elizabeth Samuels - 12/14/1946
Sylvia Grossman - 12/14/2015
Herbert M. Besser - 12/15/1901
Max Efron - 12/15/1967
Lena Blum Bloch - 12/16/1929

We Remember the Following on Shabbat

December 23 (December 17 - 23)

Carrie Waxelbaum Popper - 12/17/1915
Rose Kassner - 12/17/1974
Mary Goldstein Stone - 12/18/1987
Lola Bates - 12/19/2009
Dr. Melvin "Mel" Abend - 12/19/2011
Katie Fried - 12/20/1937
Anna Chaves Halprin - 12/20/1969
Sophie Pollock - 12/22/1992
Abbott Frank - 12/23/1983
Max Novak - 12/23/1992



We Remember the Following on Shabbat

December 30 (December 24 - 30)

Max Harris - 12/24/1924

Michael Morris Kaplan - 12/24/1950

Solomon J. Waxelbaum - 12/25/1964

Judd Goodman - 12/25/2007

Mamie Voorsanger Waxelbaum - 12/26/1968

Sue Howard - 12/27/2010

William Greenebaum - 12/28/1991

Phyllis Donner Zislin - 12/29/2006

Charles Nadler - 12/30/1962

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