


THE DOME

November 2022



TEMPLE
BETH ISRAEL
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Temple Beth Israel
892 Cherry St. Macon, GA 31201

As many of us enter the polling stations soon, we experience a country which is more divided and angrier than many of us remember in our lifetime. At the same time we are witnessing an increase in antisemitism coinciding with a spreading of conspiracy theories. It is a time which begs of us to think about what the long-term consequences are of our divided country. This political divide extends beyond the corridors of the capital in Washington DC, it extends even to the huppa - to individuals marrying one another who are of the same political persuasion. It has even extended out into political violence, and we see it in an “us versus them” mindset which pervade the internet. The pernicious polarization that we are witnessing can erode our communities and our democracy.



We read of other pernicious polarizations in the Bible and witness the consequences of those divides. Specifically, every year we reread the story of the rivalry between two brothers – Esau and Jacob. We witness how a frightened Jacob made a painful decision of deceiving his brother. After twenty years, Jacob and Esau, who had both matured, both changed, and both confronted their own insecurities which either fed into a rupture or were the painful result of already ruptured family relationship, come back together. Dreading the encounter of once again facing the brother he wronged, Jacob sends messengers ahead of himself with gifts. He then goes on to wrestle an angel and comes out of that encounter a further changed man. The next day, when they encountered one another, we witness Esau run to his brother where he then hugs and kisses him.

Biblical commentators are divided as to whether these gestures of love were genuine. The Masorites, who assigned vowels to the text in the years 500-1000 CE placed dots over the word *vyishkeihu* – “he kissed him” indicating they were challenged by this word. Perhaps they even wondered if Esau’s affectionate behavior was genuine.

Regarding this incident Ovadiah Sforno, a medieval Italian commentator said that Esau changes his mind due to Jacob’s obeisance. He teaches that Jacob was saved from Esau’s sword by offering gifts and humbling himself. That Jacob demonstrated flexibility as a reed rather than remaining rigid in his perspective like an oak tree; he was able to indicate growth.

The question I am challenged with is how many of us show flexibility when confronting our fears. Rabbi Yochanan once said: "If one wants to know how to deal with powerful kings or governors, he should study closely the Torah portion of Jacob and Esau." (Berishit Rabbah 78:6) Rabbi Yochanan saw in the relationship between these two brothers a path for reconciliation.

While this encounter of the two brothers demonstrates both the causes of a ruptured relationship, namely fear and insecurities, it also shows how that those relationships can be healed. It shows that in order for healing to take place there must be a willingness on both sides to see the perspective of the other.

The healing hug from Esau was only after Jacob sent gifts, wrestled with an angle and came out a more humbled man. While the Torah is largely silent about Esau's motivations, one can surmise on some level he forgave Jacob for what happened and healed.

Most important – there was a willingness of growth, an openness to be flexible, and a desire to reengage with one another. Perhaps Rabbi Yochanan is correct, that we can learn how not only to respond to a powerful government, but challenging and divisive situations from the story of Jacob and Esau.

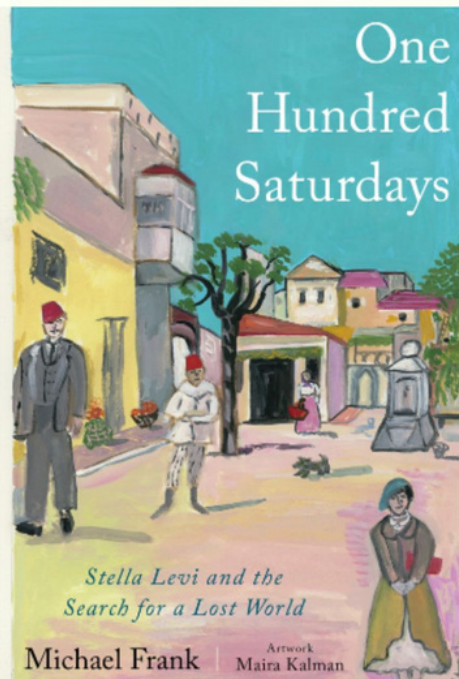
As this country faces opportunities to come together after the election around the Thanksgiving table, may we be inspired by the model of reconciliation from Jacob and Esau, and vow to cease participation in pernicious polarization pervading our discourse.

Thank all y'all for agreeing to honor your family members and helping TBI and TBI Sisterhood. Just a reminder to send your Checks for \$45 (made payable to TBIS) to TBIS Treasurer Lise Dayan, 506 Wesleyan Drive, Macon GA 31210.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need to make any changes.

Yours,
Marlene
November Hospitality Circle Chair

ONE HUNDRED SATURDAYS BY MICHAEL FRANK



SISTERHOOD

**BOOK
CLUB**

One Hundred
Saturdays
Sunday | 1 PM
December 4th
Temple Beth Israel

Join us in person or on
Zoom!

Author
Michael Frank

TBI Young Families
Smores and More in the Sukkahi



TBI Photo Album
Sukkot



TBI Photo Album
Sukkot





INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 • 6:00 PM
MULBERRY ST UMC SANCTUARY

Join us for a service project afterward
in the Fellowship Hall!

————— ***Childcare will be available*** —————

Sponsored by:
*Mulberry Street UMC, Temple Beth Israel, First Baptist Church, First
Baptist Church of Christ, High Street Unitarian Universalist Church,
Christ Episcopal Church, Steward Chapel AME Church, Centenary UMC*

JOIN US

**JOIN US
AT**

O'CHARLEY'S

Wednesday, November 9th

11:30AM

RESTUARANT IS

LOCATATED AT:

2990 Watson Blvd.

Centerville, GA 31028



Lunch with Rabbi Bahar
November 16th

11:30 AM



The Back Burner

RESTAURANT

2242 Ingleside Ave,
Macon, GA 31204



INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE


THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - 6:00 PM
 MULBERRY ST UJMG SANCTUARY
 Join us for a service project afterward
 in the Fellowship Hall
 Childcare will be available

Admission is free. Seating is limited. For more information, please contact: Rabbi David J. Green, 200 West 10th Street, New York, NY 10014, 212-224-2200, or Rabbi David J. Green, 200 West 10th Street, New York, NY 10014, 212-224-2200.

ONE HUNDRED SATURDAYS
 BY MICHAEL FRANK

SISTERHOOD One Hundred Saturdays
 Sunday 11 PM
 Join us in person or on Zoom
 Temple Beth Israel
 Author
 Michael Frank

NOVEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
6	7	8	9 Lunch @ O'Charley's 11:30AM	10	11 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	12 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
13	14	15	16 Lunch with Rabbi Bahar- The BackBurner 11:30AM	17 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 6:00PM	18 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	19 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
20	21	22	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving 	25 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	26 Kiddush Club 5:15PM 6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
27	28	29	30			

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

Lisa Newman - November 4

Jonathan Hoffman - November 9

Nancy Rosenberg - November 9

Mike Bashuk - November 10

Elayna Mizell - November 10

Simon Becker - November 14

Mike Bullington - November 16

Joe Johnson - November 16

Cameron Bullington - November 17

Porter Bullington - November 17

Jeffery Fried - November 17

Juan Lleras - November 29

Happy Anniversary

Guy & Valerie Fried - November 4th

Steven & Mamie Vogel - November 10th

Stephen & Nancy Rosenberg - November 19th

Juan & Martha Lleras - November 29



Happy
10th

Anniversary

Steven & Mamie Vogel -
November 10th



We Remember the Following on Shabbat
November 4 (October 29 - November 4)

Dorothy D. Greenwald - 10/29/1971
Freda Kaplan Nadler - 10/29/1991
Harold Z. Lubel - 10/29/1995
Marjorie Kahn Popper - 10/30/1950
Carrie Becker - 11/01/2003
Katie Elkan - 11/02/1926
Sidney Esner - 11/02/2010
Celia Goldstein - 10/02/1974
Elberta Bernd Bloch - 11/04/1945
J. Robert Peck - 11/04/1946
Henry Baker - 11/04/1980
Saul H. Dayan - 11/04/1982

We Remember the Following on Shabbat
November 11 (November 5 - 11)
Flor Alba Schiffert - 11/06/2018
Judy (Julia Edna) Ford Lubel - 11/07/1995
Sallie Schlosburg - 11/07/2017
Samuel Kaplan - 11/08/1901
Morris Putzel - 11/09/1937
Ruth Levy - 11/09/1980
Emile Sommer - 11/10/1909
Freddie Blaiss - 11/10/2011
Hilda B Elias - 11/11/2016

We Remember the Following on Shabbat
November 18 (November 12 - 18)

We Remember the Following on Shabbat
November 25 (November 19 - 25)

Lena D. Jacobs - 11/19/1961
Clarice Guthman Dolle - 11/20/1929
Reuben Mink - 11/20/1968
Faye Blaiss - 11/21/2009
Alvin Koplín - 11/21/2011
Henry Wilchenski - 11/23/1912
Carolyn Peggy Popper - 11/23/1992
Rose Oxman - 11/24/1963
Alma Moser Happ - 11/24/1972
Maurice Dayan - 11/24/2000
Pearl Abrahams Sacks - 11/25/1976

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

Thank you to our Corporate Sponsors!

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neilschwartz@windstream.net



Thank you for your Donations

HHD donations

Barbara Kaplan & Donald Belafsky

Gary Mendelson

In memory of Walter Dannenberg

Morris Purcel, Peggy Good, The Savannah Community Foundation (Julius & Danyse Edel), Dr. Clyde Kelly, & Betty Taylor

In honor of Jordan & Gabby's baby & Glenn's grandbaby

Betty Taylor

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