

TEMPLE BETH EMETH

MAY 2020 BULLETIN

IYAR/SIVAN 5780



A LETTER FROM RABBI WHINSTON

It has been the slowest month and the fastest month. I think back over April and can't believe it is already over. I am so grateful for our community. We have come together in extraordinary ways, and continue to support each other as this crisis carries on. As we gather virtually on Zoom, our Livestream, or Facebook, we are making and we are strengthening our community.

We continue to show up for each other. We show up at services, we show up in classes, and we show up at lifecycle moments. On April 29, the New York Times published an op-ed by Kate Murphy. The article was titled, "Why Zoom is terrible." The article discusses all the problems that Zoom, and really any virtual meeting, has.

Without a doubt, it isn't perfect; there is still plenty missing even as we gather together virtually. However, my expectations have been exceeded; I am so grateful to see dozens of faces every morning as we bless the day. I am thrilled at the participation level with Alden Solovy, our scholar in residence. I know when Rabbi Daniel and Cantor Hayut have deep connections with you, they also feel these same things. At the end of April, Rabbi Daniel organized a religious school Havdalah, and 60 families showed up to participate; it was extraordinary.

So many people ask me how I'm doing, and I am grateful for the concern. What I tell them is, when our community continues to show up, continues to say to us that what we are doing is meaningful and vital, I am filled with joy. I am filled with gratitude. I am filled with energy.

More than the way so many in our community are gathering together, I am deeply impressed and thankful for the ways we are helping each other. Dozens of members have offered to call other members. Many of our members have helped out other members by shopping for them or helping with tech support. People keep asking what else they can do to help. And of course, the truth is, that's the only way we are going to make it through this. We need each other more than ever; we cannot do this alone. We've asked for volunteers, and we have more volunteers than we have jobs. This is not true in every community. I hope each of us takes as much pride in Temple Beth Emeth as I do.

Together we continue to build a strong, loving, and compassionate community. Thank you. Thank you for allowing me to be your rabbi, and thank you for being the community you are.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Josh Whinston





A LETTER FROM JOE POLLAK

Last month I wrote about questions so this month I'm going to write about answers. Or, at least, write about how I hope that we will come up with answers.

While it was an emotional decision to close our building, we were following announcements from health experts and the governor. I think that we will have some guidance from those same authorities as we think about resuming in-person gatherings, but I don't think that the advice on re-opening will be quite as clear cut. In April, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, I established a crisis management committee to try to help us to come up with answers to those questions of when to re-open the building and, perhaps more importantly, when to close the building if social distancing again becomes necessary later this year. For

now, I have little to report other than that we are following the news.

We are closely watching the Temple's finances. Two-thirds of our membership continued to make their dues payments last month and we are always very grateful for the generosity of congregants who make regular dues payments. Forty member-families who were in a position to make tzedakah donations have done that too. At the same time, an unusually large number of members had a balance from unpaid dues or religious school tuition last month. We know that some members are facing loss of income right now, but we think that most of those members simply forgot to make a payment during a tumultuous month and will make up what they owe this month. The Temple maintains a financial reserve which can help us temporarily. Also, 389 members submitted a valid ballot with 94.9% voting in favor of TBE accepting a forgivable loan from the Paycheck Protection Program. Our application for that program has been submitted, but we do not yet know whether our request will be funded.

Finally, thank you to past-president Susan Gitterman who, in 2015, had the foresight to respond to changes in Michigan law and shepherded amendments to TBE's bylaws to allow for electronic voting and virtual meetings. Later this month you will receive notice in advance of the Temple's annual meeting which will be held in June. For the first time, our annual meeting will likely be an electronic meeting. The next TBE Board meeting is May 6, at 7:30 pm and members who wish to observe the meeting may [pre-register here](#).

B'Shalom,
Joe Pollak, TBE President

A MESSAGE FROM REBECCA NIEBUURT, TBE'S CONGREGATIONAL SOCIAL WORKER

While the severity and gravity of our current situation cannot be overstated, as a new member of the TBE community, I find myself in awe of your response to the coronavirus.

Furthermore, I am amazed by the welcome I have received from the members of this wonderful congregation. At a time when I worry that many of you may be in need of assistance, I have been met with generous offers to check in on my personal well-being. I can't wait for the opportunity to meet you all in person and put faces to the voices on the phone. Thank you for the warm welcome to your beautiful community.

Our efforts as a staff to ensure that members of Temple Beth Emeth are safe at home are ongoing. Volunteers continue to call and check in on every congregant. These phone calls have served to reconnect us all and remind us that we are not alone, that we have our community, and that we can count on one another for support and assistance. Selfless offers to help continue to stream into our inboxes and calls for help are being met with love and kindness. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you need help, if you are concerned about another person in your life, or if you want to be of service.

Be well, be strong and be safe.

Rebecca Niebuurt, MSW
Congregational Social Worker
Temple Beth Emeth (734) 845-2110



TBE ONLINE PROGRAMMING

Call the TBE office, 734-665-4744, and continue to check the [TBE website](#) and TBE's weekly announcements for updates and changes to this schedule.

ONLINE SERVICES

- [Friday Night Services](#) Fridays @ 7:30 pm, led by Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut.
- [Tot Shabbat Services](#) Fridays @ 5:45 pm, led by Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut.
- [Saturday Shabbat Services](#) Saturdays @ 10 am, led by Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut.
- [Youth Shabbat Services](#) Saturdays @ 9:30 am, led by Rabbi Alter.
- [Havdalah from the Whinston Home](#) Saturdays, 7:30 pm, led by Rabbi Whinston.

Online Mishkan T'filah Links: [Online version](#), courtesy of the CCAR, and discounted \$5 [Kindle version](#).

ONLINE PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- [Daily Morning Blessings](#) Daily @ 9:15 am, led by Rabbi Whinston.
- [Afternoon Blessings](#) Tuesday-Thursday @ 3 pm, led by Cantor Hayut.
- [Torah Study](#) Saturdays @ 9 am & Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm, led by Rabbi Whinston.
- [Women's Torah Study](#) Mondays @ 7 pm, led by Cantor Hayut.
- [Lunch & Learn](#) Fridays @ Noon, led by Rabbi Whinston.
- [Shabbat Music Sessions](#) Tuesdays-Thursdays, @ 7 pm, led by Cantor Hayut.
- [Parent Talks: Holding Up at Home](#) Thursdays, @ 8 pm, led by Rabbi Whinston.
- [Move Your Body w/ Nikki](#) Mondays & Thursdays @ 1 pm, led by Nikki Feinberg.
- [Game Time w/ Nikki](#) Tuesdays @ 5 pm & Fridays @ Noon, led by Nikki Feinberg.
- [Kol HaLev Rehearsals](#) Sundays @ 7 pm, led by Cantor Hayut.
- [Jewish Meditation](#)s Thursdays, 1 pm, led by Linda Greene.
- [Morning Song Session](#) Daily @ 8:30 am, led by Rabbi Whinston on Facebook Live.
- [Noon Nosh Social Hour](#) Monday-Thursday @ Noon, led by rotating members of TBE's senior staff.
- [WTBE Baking for Brunch](#), Sunday, May 3 @ 11 am. Bake ginger scones with members of WTBE!
- [WTBE Presents: Mondays w/ Mitch](#), Mondays @ 8 pm, "Human Touch" is being written by [Mitch Albom](#) in the present, one week at a time. Join the WTBE each week as we read and talk about the latest chapter.
- [Mindful Meditations](#), Wednesdays @ 5 pm, led by Claire Weiner.
- [Rishonim Time](#), Thursdays @ 11 am & Sundays @ 3 pm, led by Nikki Feinberg.
- [Talmud Tuesdays](#), Tuesdays @ 11 am, led by Rabbi Alter.
- [Teen Talks w/ Rabbi Alter and Rabbi Whinston](#), Sundays, 7 pm, led by Rabbi Alter and Rabbi Whinston.
- [Treasures of T'fillah w/ Alden Solovy](#), Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20 @ 1 pm. Join Liturgist-in-Residence Alden Solovy as we explore together some of the treasures in our Siddur, our prayer book. While there will be common themes throughout the sessions, you do not need to attend them in order; attend any or all.



Please Note: The TBE building is currently closed. Please [check the TBE website](#) for updates. For the safety of our community, do not come to the temple for any matters until further notice.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

TBE Helps: Asking For & Offering Help

We are living through a time of unprecedented change, upheaval, and anxiety. Many among us have time or resources to offer and are seeking ways to help those in need. Others of us are in need or would appreciate emotional, material, and/or spiritual support during this time. We have created this survey to better aid our TBE family: to understand our community needs and provide options for members to both offer and receive help. No matter what brought you to this form, thank you for continuing to be an integral part of our TBE community. Take [this survey](#) to communicate your needs and/or abilities to provide assistance to others.

Back Door Food Pantry Update

In response to suspending our food distribution and to the increasing need for hunger assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, the BDFP Coordinating Committee unanimously voted to transfer all of our food to the Bryant Community Center's food pantry which now distributes school lunches and operates their food pantry 5 days per week. We will continue to monitor the local scene closely, remaining alert to where we can best help in the future. We will keep you posted on any future changes in our role.

Curbside Pickup & Delivery Options in Washtenaw County

Click [here](#) to view a resource list compiled by Rebecca Niebuurt, TBE's Congregational Social Worker, of businesses in Washtenaw County with functioning and accessible curbside pickup/delivery options for patrons.

ONLINE RESOURCES: JEWISH, LOCAL, STATEWIDE AND NATIONAL

JEWISH CULTURE & EDUCATION

- [Virtual Ann Arbor Jewish Community Center](#)
- [The Quarantine Book Club \(Jewish Women's Archive\)](#)
- [Limmud E-Festival](#)
- [Mechon Hadar - Jewish Study for Adults and Children](#)
- [Israel Film Center](#)
- [The Jewish Museum](#)
- [JewishLIVE Facebook Group](#)
- [JewFlicks.com](#)

COLLEGE STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS

- [Michigan Hillel](#)
- [Hillel@Home](#)
- [Zoom University Hillel Facebook Group](#)
- [JYP Ann Arbor Facebook Group](#)

YOUTH, FAMILIES & TEENS

- [Hebrew Day School - Curated Educational Resources for All](#)
- [PJ Library Resources for Quarantined Families](#)
- [Strategies for Helping your Child Cope with COVID-19 \(Michigan Medicine Pediatrics\)](#)
- [BBYO & AZA On Demand](#)

HEALTH INFORMATION & UPDATES

- [U of M Michigan Medicine COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Washtenaw County Health Department](#)
- [State of Michigan COVID-19 Information](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)



APRIL/MAY DONATIONS

Back Door Food Pantry

In memory of Gail Rosenblum, from Jack & Fran Weinstein.
In memory of Hershel Rubin, from Jack & Fran Weinstein.
In memory of Allen Menlo, an enthusiastic volunteer, from Edward & Ellie Davidson.
In memory of Stella Sigal, from Steven & Kathy Rhodes.
Joseph Hankin
In honor of Regina and Avishay Hayut. Thanking them for their kindness and generosity, from Danny & Barbara Burstein.
In appreciation of Melissa Reid, for her invaluable assistance to the Back Door Food Pantry, from Fred & Rebecca Hankin.

BDFP | Mitzvah Day Drive

Gary & Rachel Glick

Building Fund | Genesis

Miriam, Debby, and Dan Shaw
In memory of Jacob Fauman, my amazing immigrant father, who overcame anti-Semitism in Poland and then in America, and raised three very accomplished children, from Bonnie and Michael Fauman.

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In honor in our marriage and with thanks to Cantor Hayut, from George & Sally Brieloff.
In appreciation of Cantor Hayut, from Beth Menlo Salk.
In appreciation of Cantor Hayut's lovely voice on our cozy Zoom services, from Arthur & Karen Lindenberg.
In honor of Cantor Hayut for her leadership at this time of great difficulty, from Grace Boxer.
With thanks to Cantor Hayut for supporting congregants in need during the Covid crisis, from Douglas & Joy Ensor.
Deborah Schild
Constance Colthorp Amrine
Corey & Terese Bertcher
Shoshana Eisenberg

Caring Community Fund

Fred & Rebecca Hankin
John Wasciuk & Anne Heybey Wasciuk
In appreciation of Naomi Goldberg, who braved COSTCO for Arthur and I to pick up prescriptions and glasses, from Karen & Arthur Lindenberg.

General Fund

David & Susan Gitterman
In appreciation of Marianne Aaron for the lovely ketubah that she created for our son Adam and his fiancé Emily, from Dave & Susan Gitterman.
In memory of Allen Menlo, from Ronnie Shapiro.
In memory of Corinne Szabo, mother of Nancy Szabo, from Ronnie Shapiro.
In memory of Shirley Levitt, from Donald and Julia Levitt.
Stephanie Newell
Michael & Barbara Lott
In memory of Lisa Perschke's father, from Marcia Polenberg Ramsay.
In memory of Madeline Heumann at the time of her yahrzeit, from Daniel & Lynn Heumann.
Gary & Rachel Glick
In memory of Yvette Glick on her yahrzeit, from Gary & Rachel Glick.
In memory of Dr. Allen Menlo, charter member of TBE and Back Door Food Pantry stalwart, from David and Susan Gitterman.
In memory of Dr. Melvyn Korobkin at the time of his yahrzeit, from Daniel Korobkin.
In memory of Corinne Szabo, mother of Nancy Szabo, from a friend.
In memory of Edith Goldman and Marcy Walker at the time of their yahrzeit, from Bruce & Linda Sokolove.
In memory of Roberta Lewis, mother of Toby and (Greg) Lewis, from James & Trina Fuller.
In memory of Harold Shumacher, brother of Ruth Petit, from Ronnie Shapiro.
In memory of Roberta Lewis, mother of Toby (Greg) Lewis, grandmother of Casey and Ian Lewis, from Dave and Susan Gitterman.
Ronald & Stephanie Chervin

Landscape Fund

In memory of Ben Bonnewit, Rachel Bonnewit-Sons, and Roza Trompeter-van Dam, from Ed & Hanneke Bonnewit.

Members Helping Members Fund

Grace Boxer
Deborah Schild

In honor of Tom Waldinger's birthday, from Tim & Dorene Markel.
In honor of the 65th birthday of Thomas Waldinger, from Gail Campanella.
In honor of Tom Waldinger, from Robin & Rod Little.
Brian & Deborah Pappas
Kirk Brower & Claire Weiner
Joan Cohen Jones & Stephen Jones
Anne Lawrence
Theodore & Wendy Lawrence
David & Margaret Hannon
Hugh & Anne Solomon
Robert & Carol Milstein
In memory of Roberta Lewis, mother of Toby Lewis (Greg Lewis) and grandmother of Casey and Ian Lewis, from Grace Boxer.
David & Barbara Heilveil
Kim Stone & Anne Dohrenwend
Fred & Rebecca Hankin
Corey & Terese Bertcher
Kenneth & Emily Wachsberger
Many thanks to Candace Bulkley for doing our Passover shopping, from Harriet & Gary Charson.
Thank you TBE office staff! from Shoshana Eisenberg.

Memorial Garden Care Fund

Shoshana Eisenberg
James, Jr. & Bonnie Keen
In loving memory of Caryn Simon, from Betsy Mark and Mark Soverinsky.

Mitzvah Day

Gary & Rachel Glick

Music & Spirituality Endowment

In honor of Marilyn Jeffs' 90th birthday, from Grace Boxer.

Oneg Fund

In memory of Charles Fry and Jack Ludington at the time of their yahrzeit, from Martin & Kathryn Ludington.
In memory of Arthur Greenspoon, from Margaret Pooler.
In memory of Ben Bonnewit, Rachel Bonnewit-Sons, and Roza Trompeter-van Dam, from Ed & Hanneke Bonnewit.
In honor of Rabbi Levy and Jo Ellin Gutterman's visit, from Greg & Toby Lewis.
In memory of Richrd Meisler, from Miriam Meisler.
Greg & Toby Lewis
Susan Harris
In memory of Martin Godel at the time of his yahrzeit, from Jay Silverman & Lois Godel.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor of Rabbi Whinston for his leadership at this time of great difficulty, from Grace Boxer.
In memory of David Markowitz, from Odie Elden.
In memory of Lloyd Elden, from Odie Elden.
In appreciation of the wonderful support by Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut at the time of my husband Yehuda Oren's passing, from Gale Oren.
In memory of Donald Deskins at the time of his yahrzeit, from Sheila Deskins.
Edward & Ellie Davidson
With thanks to Rabbi Whinston for his support at the time of my husband Stephen Gill's passing, from Nanette Gill.
In honor of our marriage and with thanks to Rabbi Whinston, from George & Sally Brieloff.
In appreciation of Rabbi Whinston, from Beth Menlo Salk.
In memory of Roy Stancroff at the time of his yahrzeit, from Steve Stancroff & Tamar Springer.
In memory of Tova Springer at the time of her yahrzeit, from Steve Stancroff & Tamar Springer.
In memory of Barbara Gilder Quint at the time of her yahrzeit, from Douglas & Leslie Quint.
In appreciation of Rabbi Josh and his family for the online morning music from Aaron and Rachel Levy & Dean and Miriam.
With thanks to the Whinston family for Boker Tov, from Kirk Brower & Claire Weiner.
With thanks to Rabbi Whinston for supporting congregants in need during the Covid crisis, from Douglas & Joy Ensor.
David Uhlmann & Virginia Murphy
Thank you from Iowa, from Seven Geifman.
Rod & Robin Little
Paul Estenson & Rochelle Flumenbaum
Steven & Kathy Rhodes
Constance Colthorp Amrine
In appreciation of Rabbi Whinston and all of the efforts he is making for our community, from Ronnie Shapiro.
Corey & Terese Bertcher
Mary Taylor
Jerrold & Elise Herman
Jack Billi & Sheryl Hirsch

DONATIONS CONTINUED

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Deb Gaudette

In appreciation of your inspiration, leadership and Zoom competence during our lockdown, from Arthur & Karen Lindenberg.

In memory of my mother, Corinne Szabo, and with deep appreciation for Rabbi Whinston, his support and compassion at this time and always, from Nancy Szabo & Steven Ratner.

Robert & Carol Milstein
In loving memory of my dad, David Mayerstein, from Andrea Ludwig.

With appreciation of Rabbi Whinston, from Andrea Ludwig.

In honor of Rabbi Whinston, your new friends in NY, Mollie, Eric, Eve and Nadav.

Shoshana Eisenberg
Edward & Rochelle Schwartz
Donald & Julia Levitt

Religious Education Fund

In honor of Rabbi Alter for his leadership at this time of great difficulty, from Grace Boxer.

Ronnie Simon Professional Development Fund

In honor of Melissa Sigmond and all of the TBE Office Staff, from Grace Boxer.

Social Action Fund

In memory of Richard Allen Meisler, from Miriam Meisler.
Jonathan Rubin & Gretta Spier

PLEASE NOTE:

TBE so appreciates all those who have donated to us and our community, especially during this challenging time.

We do ask for donations to be made online as staff are working from home and cannot process checks in a timely manner.

[Donate online here.](#)

MAY 2020 YAHRZEITS

May 1 & 2

Max Belitsky
June Bennett
Hannah Cohen
Leon Flumenbaum
Libby Flumenbaum
Brian Freedman
Maurice Friedman
Ida Hiss
Joseph Hiss
Miriam Palay
Allan Sack
Jacob Seeder
Charles Segaloff
Abraham Segel
Sam Shumacher
Paul Vanek
Joan Weinberg
Evelyn Wiss

May 8 & 9

Norma Bernstein
Selma Brunner
Barbara Bull
Elmo Crothers
Pauline DiPietro
Abraham Eisen
William Eisenberg
Bert Epstein
Harriet Fink
Jack Freedman
Abraham Goldsmith
Sylvia Gottesman
Daniel Hirschl
Samuel Honigstock
Ida Horowitz
Ruth Kouffman
Meyer Lipschutz
Milton Lipson
Robin Melnick
Louis Modell
Alene Nagel
Nancy Palchik
Selma Perel
Paul Peters
Frances Rogers
Nurith Rothstein
Helen Rubin
Samuel Sborow
John Segall
Dawn Shavit
Rudy Spring
Maxine Steiner
Eleanor Sunshine
Lisa Thalhimer
Jerome Winegarden
Abe Zitomer

May 15 & 16

Sarah Adelson
Janina Casper
Arlyne Della Donna
Blanche Elden
Abe Feld
Sam Frank
Rozika Frankengerger
Sophie Gorne
Kenneth Hilfman
Robert Holiber
Henry Lieberman
Sally Meltzer
Elinor Ratner
Roland Rhodes
Joseph Rothman
Zelda Scho
A. Harry Schwartzwald
John Scott
William Shields
George Smith
Nathan Solomon
Virginia Tainsh
Samuel Teitelbaum
Anna Vishlitsky
Lena Weiner
Simon Weinstein
Ben Weintraub
Nathan Weisfeld
Leza Zlotnek

May 22 & 23

Gary Alter
Luther Baker
Max Densen
Milton Doner
Robert Gerberg
Lee Geriveck
Steven Gradwohl
Bryna Graff
Sheila Huftel
Maurice Kogan
Irving Kroll
Marilyn Kronick
Hayun'a Litvinskaia
Mollie Matlin
Naomi Mirsky
George Mokotoff
Joy Newman
Milton Ratner
Richard Reid
Lillian Rice
Burton Rosen
Gustava Schleicher
Alex Schumansky
Janet Shapiro
Ruth Shapiro
Elden Shell
Sadye Sokolove
Judith Sommers
Alan Steinberg
Marian Vreeland

May 29 & 30

Blanche Ariew
Gloria Bertcher
Katherine Fredman
Mildred Freedman
Rose Glazman
Robert Graham
Laurel Gutterman
Franka Iglewicz
Shelby Kershner
Ruth Kimball
Leon Lambert
Helena Levy
Harry Lieberman
Martin Lindenberg
Paul Lindner
Jerry Markman
Anne Piehl
Celina Pliskow
Selma Rosenbloom
Allen Schecter
Dorothy Sweeney
Alvyn Tramer
Bernard Unger