

# TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

*Bulletin*

5783  
ISSUE #1



*January - February*  
**Tevet - Shevat**

2023

# MY TREE IN ISRAEL PARTNERSHIP!

BY RABBI FELIPE GOODMAN



One of the most interesting aspects of being The Rabbi of Temple Beth Sholom is that every week we receive requests from different Jewish organizations wishing to partner with us in different areas. Many times, it is difficult to follow up on such partnerships because I find that they do not align with our mission and vision as a congregation. However, once in a while, a program comes along that is so good that it would be impossible, and frankly irresponsible, for me to pass on.

I want to bring your attention to a wonderful organization in Israel called MY TREE IN ISRAEL. Their purpose is very simple, yet beautiful. They want to bring together farmers in Israel with Jewish communities outside of Israel to form a partnership through which the farmers in Israel feel that we value their work, and at the same time, we out here feel a connection and feel the embrace of Israel in our lives.

This is now more important than ever. If you are like me, you are probably concerned about the direction the current Israeli government is taking. A governing coalition filled with ultra-Orthodox parties and religious extremists is not in the best interest of the Jewish people. This project is important because we get to support Israel in a way that is absolutely detached from politics. It is very important that at times like this when we feel there is very little tying us to Israel, we remain connected to the land and its people.

MY TREE IN ISRAEL gives us an opportunity to adopt an olive tree or a grapevine.

By doing so, we support our brothers and sisters who farm the land, and we also get to taste the olive oil from our tree or the wine from our grapevine. It costs \$250.00 to adopt an olive tree, and you will receive six bottles of olive oil. It costs \$360.00 to adopt a grapevine, and you will receive six bottles of wine produced by a boutique winery in Israel. It all ships free to Temple Beth Sholom, where you will be able to pick it up when it arrives. If you would like to receive either olive oil or wine before Pesach, please be sure to fund your sponsorship before **January 15, 2023**.

There is more great news... For every partnership that our members sponsor, our congregation also receives a percentage as a contribution. It is really an incredible and innovative program through which we create a TRUE partnership that is completely free of any political implications.

Please visit [bit.ly/MyTreeTBS](https://bit.ly/MyTreeTBS) to access the link where you can sign up for this amazing and innovative program.

## CLOTHES OFF THEIR BACK

BY ASSISTANT RABBI  
JONATHAN HODSON



When I told the minyanaires that D.J. and I would be going to New York City for a conference, we immediately began talking about the weather.

After all, I had grown up in Texas — then moved to California for rabbinical school, and then moved to Nevada to work at Temple Beth Shalom. Obviously, none of these places were known for their extreme cold temperatures, so I had never bothered to actually buy a proper winter coat.

One of the gentlemen in the group was from the Bronx and was all too familiar with New York's cold weather. He told me he would bring me a warm jacket — and sure enough, the next day he brought in a garment that could fend off anything Jack Frost could bring. Two days later, another member, who had grown up in Chicago, also brought me a coat. I stood there amazed that two people could be so menschy, and could care so much for their rabbi, that they would literally give me their clothing.

Last month, we started the story of Joseph and his brothers in our Torah cycle. Much of the conflict in the story arises because Jacob loved his son Joseph more than anyone else, and to demonstrate this — he bought him a multi-colored garment to wear. In antiquity, dyes were hard to come by, so this item would have been hard or expensive to acquire.

However, the act of giving the coat oftentimes gets overlooked — because of all the chaos it causes. To give someone a piece of clothing is actually a very beautiful and intimate gesture, and to give someone your clothing is especially endearing.

I have thought about the act of giving clothes, and this winter, I encourage us to donate our gently used clothing items to charities around town who will put them to good use. In this way, we too can show the world that we love our neighbors more than anything else. Not only will we be like Joseph, but we'll actually be like God.

L'Shalom

Rabbi Jonathan Hodson

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY BILL MASON



**W**ow! Amazing! Terrific! The Six13 Group Concert at TBS was a huge success! I will admit to some trepidation about the concert format for our annual Gala Event, but it turned out to be an unforgettable experience. It took some effort to secure the group (The Six13 Group) and arrange for room and board, but it was all worth it. We selected a date, and tickets sold out quickly. The event was a tremendous success. The Six13 Group was very entertaining and professional. They made the event very family-friendly and enjoyable. When D.J. got up to sing with the group, they cemented the event as something iconic for TBS.

A special thank you needs to go out to Rabbi Goodman and D.J. for their guidance and help in making this happen. Thank you to Terri Weisbord and the Event Committee for their extraordinary efforts in planning and executing the concert so successfully. Thanks to Kim Memar and her team of volunteers who helped with the setup and take-down of the event, and to their amazing efforts on putting the silent auction together. Thanks also to Ken and Kitty Heck for their patience and for working with us to cater the event. And a thousand thanks to everyone for their help and participation in the event. It was wonderful to spend such an entertaining evening with the TBS community.

Regarding Temple Membership, we have seen a slight fluctuation in enrollment. Last month, we were slightly down, but this month we are slightly up from last month and the month before. The Board is looking to re-establish our Membership Committee, so please contact us if you're interested in being part of this team. We appreciate your support.

I will let the other representatives give their reports for our related entities. I'll just say that the number of members and our USY/Kadima groups are at or near record levels and that the number of children participating in our Religious School is more than our pre-pandemic levels. Congratulations to D.J. Sinai and Rabbi Hodson for their hard work and dedication. It is also especially important to note that the Temple Beth Sholom ECC has fully recovered from the effects of the pandemic and continues to be a leading institution in the Las Vegas Valley. Thank you to everyone at the ECC for their tireless efforts.

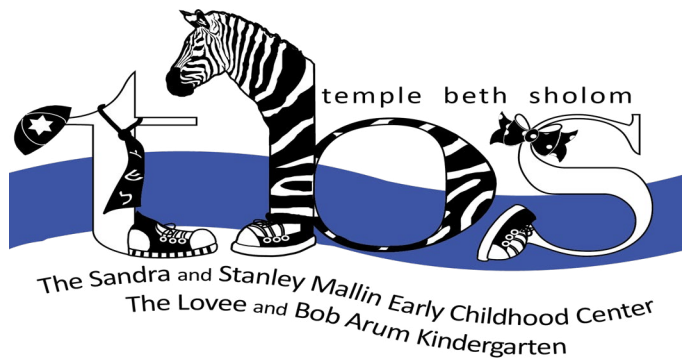
As always, please check your Temple Bulletin for updates on events and happenings here at Temple Beth Sholom.

Please remember that Together, Bolder, Stronger, we will continue to grow and strengthen Temple Beth Sholom.

Very truly,

**Bill Mason**  
*President*  
*Temple Beth Sholom*

**WELCOME NEW TEMPLE MEMBERS!**  
**TANIA & MALCOLM KAMMER**



**BY JENNIFER ZUKOWSKI  
SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

**A**s we begin preparing for the 2023-2024 school year, I can't help but take a moment to reflect on the current school year and everything we have accomplished thus far.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced us to shift almost every aspect of our daily operations, and this school year, we were finally able to start working towards shifting back to the way things used to be.

We have welcomed families back into the school building for drop-off/pick-up, and it is so wonderful getting to see everyone's smiling faces again. A new version of our beloved weekly Shabbat luncheon has returned and has been a huge success. School-wide events have been revived, and the sense of community is returning. It brings us so much joy to be getting back to some of the things that families love most about our school.

We can see the comfort level of the community increasing as our admission numbers have steadily increased as well. We are almost back to pre-pandemic enrollment!

We are forecasting that the demand for our 5-STAR, N.A.E.Y.C. Accredited program will be at an all-time high for the upcoming school year. Registration will be opening soon, and we look forward to the opportunity to serve so many families.

With 2020 in the rearview mirror, we are excited to see what changes will come in the 2023-2024 school year, and we hope you join us. If you have any questions about the programs we offer, please reach out to me at 702-804-1333 ext. 122 or [jzukowski@bethsholomlv.org](mailto:jzukowski@bethsholomlv.org).



***TBSECC Staff***

# THE JUDY & RONALD MACK SCHOOL FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RABBI JONATHAN HODSON  
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR



On December 3rd, the Judy and Ronald Mack School for Religious Studies hosted our third annual “Hot Chocolate” Havdallah at Temple Beth Sholom.

Students were invited to celebrate the end of Shabbat and the beginning of the new week by participating in an invigorating Havdallah ceremony, followed by food and games. In addition to board games, card games, and life-size tic-tac-toe, students were able to play video games on a full-sized projector screen!

Outside, there was a campfire to cook marshmallows for s’mores, and inside, there was plenty of hot chocolate and cookies to keep everybody warm. It was a great event for all!

This year, Temple Beth Sholom’s Religious School hosted our annual “Hanukkah Bingo” event with more participants than ever! Besides acquiring more toys than in previous years, this year we sought to outdo ourselves by offering the grand prize of the highly coveted Playstation 5.

In addition to sodas and pizza, participants could purchase a variety of Bingo cards that would help them win a multitude of prizes. As this is the sole fundraiser for the religious school, we really tried to make it a successful event, and it was!

We hope to keep hosting Hanukkah Bingo for many years to come.





BY D.J. SINAI  
YOUTH/MUSICAL DIRECTOR

# YOUTH

The KADIMA & USY Youth Department at Temple Beth Sholom continues to grow and thrive as we made our way through November and December! Now with over 80 members in our youth group, there is not a moment that isn't full of fun and excitement! Since our last update, the youth groups have been very busy with events and programs that are accessible to all Jewish students in the Las Vegas Valley in grades 4-12.

We start every month on the first Friday with our monthly Friday Night Shabbat dinner. Each month, members of Kadima and USY join together for this special dinner, followed by Kabbalat Shabbat with our Ruach Ensemble. This dinner is sponsored by parents and features an array of foods for the teens to enjoy. If you have yet to attend Shabbat services and see this lively group of teens singing and praying, I encourage you to join us!

After the first week of November, USYers donated boxes of candy, donated from members of our Temple, Religious School, and Early Childhood Center to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Las Vegas. Each year, after October 31, USY hosts this fundraiser to bring a smile to the families that utilize the services offered by the Ronald McDonald House as part of their Tikkun Olam project. Thank you to all who donated!

On November 20, over fifty members of our youth group came together at Dave & Buster's for a fun afternoon of games, food, and prizes! We had so much fun with each other and some really great memories were made. We had two hours to play to our heart's delight, all at a reasonable cost thanks to our fundraising efforts.

All programming through our youth department is highly discounted, as well as financial aid being available to our members, thanks to you and donations made to our department throughout the year.

In December, we broke into two separate groups for some really awesome programming. The Kadimanics (grades 4-6) had a great time ice skating at the Las Vegas Ice Center, while the USYers (grades 7-12) had the ultimate time with a party bus scavenger hunt! We rented two 25-passenger party buses, filled them up with teenagers, and drove around town looking for clues - what a great event!

Of course, our USY weekly lounge nights continue every week full of various programming including tournaments, Olympic games, paint and cooking classes, learning with other Jewish teens, escape rooms, and so much more. These weekly events happen in our amazing youth lounge and are always open to new and prospective members. If you know anyone who is interested in learning more about the youth programming at Temple Beth Sholom, please email me at [djsinai@bethsholomlv.org](mailto:djsinai@bethsholomlv.org).



# WOMEN'S LEAGUE



By Judy Forman | Women's League President

**H**ope you all enjoyed a special Chanukkah with family and friends. The Women's League is thrilled that we have some interesting tidbits to share with you all.

The Women's League of Temple Beth Sholom has been busy making sure you have a wide variety of events this year. If you haven't been to an event this past year, there is still time to meet our wonderful group of women.

It is not too late to join the Women's League or to invite your friends to join. We are a wonderful group of friendly, caring, and active women. If you don't have time for events, you can still support our efforts. We are proud of all we do for our members, Temple Beth Sholom, and the community!

## PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

1. With the help of Marsha Cohen, October's Breast Cancer Campaign was extremely successful. Boxes and boxes of personal items were donated to women's shelters.
2. The Challah bake presented by Whitney Sadow was a tasty learning experience, where we went home with an uncooked Challah to bake later that night or the next day. YUM!
3. If you didn't join us, you must go and see the Rita Abby Studio and Gardens. It is a beautiful site to see. Don't miss it!
4. Paid-up membership on November 16, a Murder Mystery will be over by the time you read this. What a great time the ladies had figuring out who had done it.

5. In December, there was a Chanukkah Ladies Lounge Get-Together, where the ladies came to relax, connect, gossip, and have fun while exchanging gifts. Of course, jelly donuts were served.
6. So far, January is looking to be a wind-down month, without any events. As I was writing this, a book club seems to be on the horizon. The Women's League book club invites you for Sunday, January 15th, 10:00 am at TBS, to discuss a book called "Fortunate Ones." Read it, join the club and participate.

Upcoming in March will be a special Torah Fund event. The program will be "Women in the Media." Details to follow, watch your e-vites.

Again, the Women's League is a place where you can meet old friends while making some new friends. And, when you see Rabbi Goodman, give him a MAZEL TOV for 25 years of service at TBS!





# MEN'S CLUB

By Ken Heck | Men's Club President

The Men's Club has an exciting year planned for 2023! The next few months will see the Men of TBS going to Top Golf, making our own barrel of wine, and watching Clayton try to defend his title at our 4th annual Chai Roller Poker Tournament.

Don't miss out on the fun, and join us for these exciting events.

For more information, please contact: [ken.heck@heckwm.com](mailto:ken.heck@heckwm.com) or visit [BethSholomLV.org](http://BethSholomLV.org) to see what the Men's Club has in store and discover the full calendar of events and activities that we have planned for you!



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## B'NEI MITZVAH



### **NOAH BEHRENS** **JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2023**

Noah Herbert Behrens is the son of Jack and Andrea Behrens and the younger brother of Emma.

Noah is a 7th grader at The Meadows School, where he is a member of the Robotics team and the National Junior Honor Society. He enjoys playing flag football, basketball, and tennis. During his free time, Noah usually plays tennis, hangs out with his friends, or plays video games.

For Noah's Bar Mitzvah project, he chose to collect gently used tennis racquets to donate to The Inspiring Children Foundation, Mark Hennessy Community Outreach & Tennis Program. Noah says, "Tennis is a big part of my life, so I wanted to make the sport of tennis and all its benefits available to those who don't have access." Noah collected over two dozen racquets.

We are so excited to share Noah's Bar Mitzvah with family and friends near and far.



### **ELYSE WEINSTEIN** **JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

Elyse is a seventh-grade student at Sig Rogich Middle School. There, she is the secretary of the National Junior High Honor Society, a member of the Kindness Club, and a math tutor. She regularly volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House in Las Vegas and makes donations to the house every year on her birthday.

For her Bat Mitzvah project, Elyse is collecting dental hygiene products and assembling care packages for the Ronald McDonald House Care Mobile. The Care Mobile is a dental clinic on wheels that serves children in Nevada and the surrounding states. Elyse hopes to become an orthodontist, and this project is an opportunity for her to combine her future career interests with her commitment to helping children in need.

In her free time, Elyse enjoys reading, swimming, and spending time with her brother Benjamin. She also attends overnight camp at Camp JCA Shalom in California. Elyse looks forward to her Bat Mitzvah and to volunteering at the TBS religious school in the coming months.



## JACOB NIKHMAN FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Jacob Nihman is an 8th-grade student at the Adelson Educational Campus. He and his family moved to Las Vegas in April 2018 from Brooklyn, New York. He has a younger sister, Mia, whom he loves very much. Jacob also has an older brother, Nathan, who recently had his bar mitzvah at Temple Beth Shalom. He adores his wonderful parents, Irina and Michael Nihman. He is doing extremely well academically. Jacob skipped a grade when he was younger and is currently taking geometry. Jacob also enjoys playing hockey and basketball and is a huge fan of the Las Vegas Golden Knights

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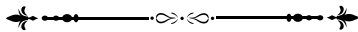
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TBS WOMEN'S LEAGUE  
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### Thank You:

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**D.J. Sinai**, "Keep rocking with those kids!"

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### Thank You:

**Myra & Larry Dorf**  
Glenn Primack  
**Rabbi Felipe Goodman**  
**Rabbi Jonathan Hodson**  
**D.J. Sinai**  
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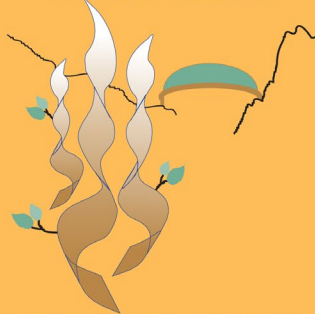
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# JANUARY 2022

\* CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	shabbat
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>1</b>	9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>2</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>3</b>  10:00 am Circle of Prayer	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>4</b>  6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>5</b>  6:30 pm Intro to Judaism  7:30 PM Hebrew Literacy w/ Larry Weiderhorn	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>6</b>  6:30 pm USY/KADIMA Shabbat Dinner  7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Ruach Ensemble   4:24 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>7</b>  Jacob Gonzalez is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>8</b>	9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>9</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>10</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>11</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night 6:00 pm WLTBS Making Challah	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>12</b>  7:30 PM Hebrew Literacy w/ Larry Weiderhorn	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>13</b>  7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat   4:30 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service Halelu <b>14</b>
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>15</b>	9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>16</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>17</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>18</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>19</b>  7:30 PM Hebrew Literacy w/ Larry Weiderhorn	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>20</b>  7:30 pm Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat   4:37 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>21</b>  Noah Behrens is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>22</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>23</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>24</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>25</b>  6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>26</b>  7:30 PM Hebrew Literacy w/ Larry Weiderhorn	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>27</b>  7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services   4:45 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>28</b>  Elyse Weinstein is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>29</b>  2:00 pm Documenting History Through Art	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>30</b>  10:00 am WLTBS Holocaust Resource Center Tour & Special Talk w/ Susan Dubin	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>31</b>				

# FEBRUARY 2022

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	shabbat
			7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>1</b>  6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>2</b>  6:30 pm Intro to Judaism	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>3</b>  6:30 pm USY/KADIMA Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Ruach Ensemble  4:52 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>4</b>  Kennedy Gottesman is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Service <b>5</b>  10:00 am Men's Club Meeting	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>6</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>7</b>  10:00 am Circle of Prayer	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>8</b>  12:00 pm WLTBS Celebrating Chinese New Year at Chinglish 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>9</b>  10:00 am WLTBS Book Club	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>10</b>   4:59 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>11</b>  Jacob Nihman is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>12</b>  10:00 am Boker Tov Sunday	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>13</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>14</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>15</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>16</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class 6:30 pm Intro to Judaism	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>17</b>  7:30 pm Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat  5:06 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>18</b>
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>19</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>20</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>21</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>22</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>23</b>  4:30 pm Holocaust Resource Center Class	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>24</b>  7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Services  5:13 PM	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service <b>25</b>
9:00 AM Morning Minyan <b>26</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>27</b>	7:30 AM Morning Minyan <b>28</b>				



## OUR TEAM

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Lovee & Bob Arum  
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