



February 2024

☆ Today...and for Generations ☆

Volume XXXIX, Issue 2

## "Be Happy, It's Adar!"



According to our sages, "*Mishenichnas Adar marbin b'simcha*," "When (the Hebrew month) Adar enters, we increase joy." I don't remember a less happy

*Rosh Hodesh* – New Moon Adar (February 6). The war in Israel rages on with diminishing hope of hostage rescue. Our American political divisions increase as we move nearer our contentious elections, and antisemitism is at an all-time high both here and abroad.

Ironically, I doubt that our rabbis, who told us how happy we should be this month, had it much better than we did. The rabbis of the 3rd century were hardly naive enough to think that Purim and a few glasses of anticipated wine would spark joy. They, too, lived in tough times. The emerging Byzantine Empire did not treat the Jews of the Roman Empire well, and in the Holy Land, Jewish communities were threatened to convert to Christianity or die.

So, what did the rabbis mean about happiness increasing this time of year? The Talmudic passage is not actually about what a happy month we are entering but rather about the misery of another month, the lunar month of Av, the calendrical opposite of Adar.

In the late summer Hebrew month Av, we recall one of the most cataclysmic catastrophes that befell our people, the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the exile of our people from the holy land.

After a lengthy discussion that details all the woes Jews commemorate on *Tisha B'Av*, the ninth day of Av, the rabbis state, "When Av enters, joy decreases." And in an apparent afterthought, Rav Yehudah, the son of Rav Shmuel bar Shilat, said in the name of Rav, "Just as when Av enters, we decrease joy, thus when Adar enters, we increase joy."

If we have a month to bask in our 'oys,' does it not behoove us to find a time to bask in our 'joys'? The Talmud viewed happiness as prescriptive rather than descriptive. A happy life is not a pain-free life. It is a life where we can see the blessings in the world alongside its sorrows.

It would be naive to candy-coat the harsh realities of a post-October 7 Jewish world. And yet Adar might be a time also to consider the shining resilience of a previously divided Israeli civil society, the relative bi-partisan support our nation has shown the Jewish state, and the condemnation of increasing antisemitism from both the political right and left. Finally, for many Jews, this horror has brought them closer to their Jewish roots, community, and home-



land. Jewish solidarity is at a new high. The Jewish passion for life and peace, even in war, is a sharp contrast to our enemies' tolerance and encouragement of death and violence. And so, a brighter, better future will ultimately prevail for us as it did for Jewish generations past.

"*Mishenichnas Adar marbin b'simchah*," There is great wisdom in the Rabbis' hope that Adar can bring future optimism and the dream of new life which lies on the other side of these conflicts. And if we don't reach happiness this coming month, at least our calendar affords us an Adar II (a leap month) to try again.

May Adar I & II increase our joy and hope.

Shalom,  
Rabbi Judy Chessin



## THE LIGHT

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Caryl Weckstein

## Our Lives

*Do you have news or need prayers? Contact the Temple office at 937-435-3400 to share a birth, marriage or seek get-well wishes. Your congregation cares about you!*



The congregation sends a hearty *Mazel Tov* to Rabbi Ben Azriel and Dr. Rachel Podell Azriel as they welcomed their new baby girl, Eliana Abigail.

The congregation sends prayers of *Refuah Shlema* to:

Arlene Graham, Benji Klein, Ron Solomon, Laurie Verson, and Peter Wells.

The Congregation extends its deepest sympathies to:

Helen Markman and Kara Markman on the passing of husband and grandfather Steve Markman. Steve was a past Ohio Department commander of the Jewish War Vets Post 587.

Melissa and Harold Guadalupe and family on the passing of her mother Carol Rawitz Layman. May her memory be a blessing.

Our entire congregation mourns the loss of Lorraine D. Fortner, our own para-Rabbi and beloved Temple member. On Sunday, February 18th, we will celebrate the life of Lorraine Fortner with a service beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Temple Beth Or, 5275 Marshall Road. Immediately following the service, friends, colleagues, and her Dayton family are invited to greet Lorraine's family members and share memories in Levin Hall.

The congregation is sorry to report the passing of Carla Scherr. We send condolences to her children Marty and Ruth Scherr.

## February Yahrzeit Remembrances

Temple Beth Or remembers our loved ones on the Sabbath nearest the anniversary of their passing or *yahrzeit*. The following names will be read during services this month.

### February 2

Leonard Rich 2/1  
Stanley Fink 2/2  
Beatrice Westerman 2/2  
Willie Schloessinger 2/3  
Marsha Remer 2/4

### February 9

Elsie Goodman 2/7  
Martin Horwitz 2/7  
Miriam Schlezinger 2/7  
Anita Joy Feinstein Cochran 2/8  
Charlotte L. Gorsky 2/8  
Edward L. Katz 2/8  
Rita Sheinker 2/8  
Marvin Solganik 2/8  
Don Kayner 2/9  
Jackie Raymond 2/9  
Dr. Edgar Alvin Slotkin 2/9  
Henry Hochman 2/10  
Rob Schilling 2/10  
Fred Simon 2/10  
William W. Bernstein 2/11  
Leon Schiffman 2/11  
Gordon Kimbrell 2/12  
Arnold Weiss 2/13

### February 16

Judith Meltzer 2/14  
Dorothy Rosenbaum 2/14  
Jacob Constantine 2/15  
Ethel Farber 2/15  
Janet Hirschfeld 2/15  
Sanford Bloomberg 2/17  
Mark Constantine 2/17  
Pasquale Charles Conte, Jr. 2/18  
Henrietta Lotney 2/19  
Cheryl Keen 2/20

### February 23

Salomon Baier 2/21  
Sidney Phillips 2/24  
Elsbeth Schloessinger 2/25  
Jerry Goldstein 2/26



# We Couldn't Do It Without You!

Temple Beth Or could not accomplish anything without teamwork. Thanks to every contribution of prayer, time and funds, we can fulfill our mission of being a warm, welcoming place for ALL.

## Financial Donations

### Security Fund

*In Honor of:*

*The inscription on the Liberty Bell*

Cynthia King

*In Memory of:*

Steve Markman

Arlene Graham and Family

Paula Gessiness and Jay Holland

### General Fund

*By:* Bettman Family Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Foundation of Greater Dayton

*In Honor of:*

*Congratulations to the Reger family in honor of their grandchildren*

Caryl and Don Weckstein

*Claudia and Bill Fried*

Diane and Frank Gentner

*In Memory of:*

Judie Kell

Bill Kell

Irving Troy

Gerald Troy

Rhonna Troy

Gerald Troy

Lynda Troy

Gerald Troy

Shirley Nathan

Annette Nathan and Marc Gilbert

Paul Nathan

Annette Nathan

Andrew Nathan

Annette Nathan

David Nathan

Annette Nathan

David London

Caryl and Don Weckstein

David Char

Caryl and Don Weckstein

Susan Pachman

Summer and Eric Pachman

Wanda Hirsh

Marvin Miller

Sylvia Miller

Marvin Miller

Reuben Miller

Marvin Miller

Marcus Garfunkel

Felix Garfunkel

Frieda Garfunkel

Felix Garfunkel

Beverly Goldberg

Dale A. Goldberg

*In Memory of:*

Lorraine Fortner

Ellen Holroyd

Jane and Gary Hochstein

Sharyn Reger

Jane and Alex Briskin

William W. Bernstein

Rebecca and Robert Bernstein

Dennis Rich

Jeff Rich

Eric Segalewitz

Heath Gilbert

Arlene Graham and Family

Louisa and Phil Dreety

Ellen Holroyd

Jane and Gary Hochstein

Sharyn Reger

Suzanne Shaw

Harriet and William Fenberg

Dr. Milton Nathan and Ritva Williamson

Bruce Burgermaster

Felix Garfunkel

Jane and Alex Briskin

Irene and Gary Fishbein

Steve Markman

Ellen Holroyd

Jane and Gary Hochstein

Betsy Silver

Harriet and William Fenberg

Felix Garfunkel

Dr. Milton Nathan and Ritva Williamson

Shelley Wilcox

Allen Reis

Jane and Alex Briskin

Irene and Gary Fishbein

Elsie Goodman

Sharyn Reger

Jerry Goldstein

Sharyn Reger

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

*In Memory of:*

Eric Segalewitz

Gary Holstine

Joan and Art Greenfield

Karen and John Granby

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Gary Holstine

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Harriet Lilienthal Holstine

Gary Holstine

Bertha Marks Holstine

Gary Holstine

### Music Fund

*In Honor of:*

*Marshall's purchase of Bill's Donuts*

Caryl and Don Weckstein

*In Memory of:*

Lorraine Fortner

Arlene Graham and Family

Paula Gessiness and Jay Holland

### Education Fund

*In Memory of:*

Steve Markman

Wendy Spitz

### Campership Fund

*In Memory of:*

Eric Segalewitz

Dena Briskin

Lorraine Fortner

Dena Briskin

### Building Fund

*In Memory of:*

Eric Segalewitz

Paula Gessiness and Jay Holland

Sharon Lindquist-Skelley

and Thomas Skelley

Steve Markman

Sharon Lindquist-Skelley

and Thomas Skelley

Lorraine Fortner

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Lillian Skelley

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and Thomas Skelley

Myra Lindquist

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and Thomas Skelley

Karl A. Lindquist

Sharon Lindquist-Skelley

and Thomas Skelley

Anita Feinstein Cochran

Sharon Lindquist-Skelley

and Thomas Skelley

*For a Speedy Recovery:*

Allin Lindquist

Sharon Lindquist-Skelley

and Thomas Skelley

Temple's many funds provide a meaningful way to mark the life cycle events we all experience. From a birth to a graduation, from the recovery from an illness to a promotion or marriage, we all experience joy and sadness throughout our lives. To express your caring and concern, please send your tribute card and minimum \$10 donation to the Temple office. All donations are tax deductible.

# Annual Art & Music Cafe March 2nd



Join us on Saturday, March 2nd, 2024 for the Annual Art and Music Cafe fundraiser!!!

Showcasing musicians and singers in open-stage setting, surrounded by painters, photographers, wood and glass crafters and more!

This special event is in partnership with the Temple Beth Or Adult Education Committee, providing opportunities for those talented adults within our local Jewish Community to showcase their talents for this 'artsy'-themed fundraiser event.

**\*\* Presenters\*\*** Exclusive table space is still available for this March event. In addition, musicians are also encouraged to sign up ahead of time in order to reserve their spot for this fun and spirited event.

Please contact Mary Rogers at maryrogers2017@yahoo.com for more info, before January 31st.

Tickets are \$25 and includes hot hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and non-alcoholic beverages (adults only please).

Please RSVP your attendance by no later than Monday, February 26th, to the Temple Beth Or office, or on line through the temple website.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2024 'Art and Music Cafe' fundraiser!



**Makor** came out in great number to help at Hannah's Treasure Chest on January 14.

## Thank you to our Donors!

### Pillars

Marni Flagel  
Lorraine Fortner  
Vicky and Bob Heuman  
Martin and Martha Moody Jacobs  
Marc Low\*  
Dr. Milton Nathan and  
Ritva Williamson  
Carla Scherr\*  
Jan Sherman  
Laurie and David Verson

### Builders

Marsha and Stephen Goldberg  
Pamela and Stuart Merl

### Leaders

Felix Garfunkel  
Michael Glantz  
Larry Glickler  
Joan and Art Greenfield  
Melissa and Harold Guadalupe  
Gary Holstine  
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Dale Goldberg and Mark Dlott  
Arlene Graham  
Karen and John Granby  
Sharon and Israel Guterman  
Teri and Michael Halasz  
Susan Hand  
Marilyn Marx  
Barbara Mendelson  
Gail Moore  
Sharyn Reger  
Caryl and Scott Segalewitz  
Ira Segalewitz  
Mary and Gary Youra

# PARENT GROUP

## Upcoming events

Early 2024

**04**  
FEB

9:45 am to 11:00 am  
**Financial Literacy for Kids**

Join Temple Beth Or's Parent Group for a discussion with Joshua Lake of Beyond Wealth Advisors about the changing landscape of College 529 Plans, teaching kids financial literacy, learning and financial strategic planning. Coffee and bagels will be provided.

**21**  
APR

9:45 am to 11:00 am  
**Kids and Technology**

Join Temple Beth Or's Parent Group for a discussion with Temple Beth Or's own tech guru, Evan Weiss. We will cover Parental controls, family sharing strategies, and helpful software for all age groups. Coffee and bagels will be provided.



**Today... and for Generations**

# Adult Education

## **Chai Mitzvah Returns February 8th 7:00 p.m. on Zoom** (Designed to “grow your Judaism”)



**What is Chai Mitzvah?** *Chai Mitzvah* is a personal Jewish journey to share with friends. Groups exist in 39 states and 6 countries. The new curriculum is entitled, "Because We Were Slaves: The Jewish Struggle for Justice in Making America Home." In this time of grief over war in the Middle East, and seemingly increasing polarization in the USA on a variety of important issues, this study provides an opportunity to take time to examine our history in America as a people and ourselves as we try to live Jewish core values.

**What is involved?** Reading a short overview of the topic and then participating in a group ZOOM discussion.

**What is the cost?** Nothing -- Temple Beth Or's Adult Education Committee (AEC) is delighted to offer this to you without charge.

**How does the group function?** You are welcome to register for one or more sessions. We take turns facilitating the discussion (with a partner if preferred).

**How do I register?** Visit <https://templebethor.com/chai-mitzvah/> or call 937-435-3430

## **An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story: February 28**

Welcome to a brand new year of Jewish Short Stories (and we mean short)! Please join the Zoom discussion from 7:00-8:30 pm the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Discussion will center on one short story that has Jewish content and/or is authored by a Jewish writer. We intend to have fun and learn from each other's understanding of the stories. You are encouraged to register for as many monthly discussions as you can make time for. A big WELCOME to new participants—come check us out! A hearty WELCOME BACK to each and every participant who will continue to participate!

To register visit <https://templebethor.com/adult-education>.

To download content: Visit: <https://templebethor.com/an-exploration-of-the-jewish-short-story/>

Questions? Contact (Ruth Schumacher 937-672-3368; [ruth.schumacher@wright.edu](mailto:ruth.schumacher@wright.edu))

FEBRUARY – “Twice” Wednesday, February 28

Israeli author, Bella Shai's “Twice” asks, “What is the difference between giving in and giving up? Join what is sure to be a lively discussion of this deceptively simple story line.

MARCH – “The Shawl” Wednesday, March 27

“Shawls are used in order to keep warm, to complement a costume, and for symbolic reasons. One famous type of shawl is the tallit, worn by Jewish men during prayers and ceremonies. In Christianity, women have used shawls as a head covering.” In the story titled “The Shawl” by Cynthia Ozick, the shawl becomes magic in the midst of the unspeakable struggles in the Holocaust camps. A disquieting but important story we won't soon forget. . .and we shouldn't.



The Adult Education Committee (AEC) of Temple Beth Or believes that congregants represent a rich set of skills, abilities and interests that can benefit others. Please contact the AEC ([ruth.schumacher@wright.edu](mailto:ruth.schumacher@wright.edu); 937-672-3368). We want to support YOU!

# February Chai-Lights

**Friday, February 2, 6:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**  
"Rock of Ages" *Shabbat*: Marc Rossio rocks the house as he and Rabbi Chessin lead a creative and musical *Shabbat* Service.

**Saturday, February 3, 10:00 a.m. In Person & Zoom**  
In-person Apocryphal Study: Join Rabbi Chessin and our study group at Temple Beth Or. Bring a pot-luck breakfast item to share. LIVE and ZOOM.

**Thursday, February 8, 7:00 p.m. On Zoom**  
*Chai Mitzvah*: Visit page 6 for more information.

**Friday, February 9, 5:30 p.m. In Person**  
Family *Shabbat*: Join Rabbi Chessin for a fun-filled family *Shabbat* service as we welcome the month of Adar. Our students will lead the service as we learn about the Jewish calendar and leap months in a Family Feud style *Shabbat*.

**Friday, February 16, 6:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**  
Musical *Shabbat* Service with Choir: Join Rabbi Chessin and the choir under the direction of Mary 'Mahira' Rogers for a musical *Shabbat* Service.

**Saturday, February 17, 10:00 a.m. On Zoom**  
Apocryphal Study. Join Rabbi Chessin and our study group online.

## Friends and Family CPR and Stop the Bleed Courses

**Sunday, February 25th,  
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Levin Hall**

The Adult Education Committee is pleased to offer the Friends and Family CPR/Choking/First Aid and Stop the Bleed Courses. The courses will be taught by Scott Henry, Washington Township's Fire Department Public Information Officer and CPR/First Aid/Stop the Bleed Instructor. These courses are being offered at NO CHARGE to Temple Beth Or members and the community.

The American Heart Association's Family & Friends CPR Course teaches the lifesaving skills of Adult hands-Only CPR, Adult CPR with breaths, Child CPR, Adult and Child AED use, Infant CPR and choking relief for Adults, Children, and Infants. Basic First Aid will also be included. This course lasts approximately two hours. CPR can be practiced on the floor, table tops, or chair - "knees friendly".

The CPR/Choking/First Aid course is designed for people who want to learn CPR, but DO NOT need a course completion card in CPR for their job. This course is ideal for schools and students, parents, grandparents, babysitters and others interested in learning how to save a life.

**Wednesday, February 21, 6:30 p.m. at North China**  
Men's Group: Dinner at North China.

**Friday, February 23, 5:30 p.m. In Person**  
*Purim Katan* and *Shabbat* Pot-luck Dinner: Join Rabbi Chessin in Levin Hall for a *Shabbat* feast and celebration of what would have been Purim if we didn't have a second Adar! Please bring a main dish, side dish or dessert to share and prepare for fun.

**Saturday, February 24, 10:00 a.m. Streaming Online**  
Musical *Shabbat* Morning Service: Join Mary 'Mahira' Rogers and Renee Perry online for a musical walk through a *Shabbat* Morning Service.

**Sunday, February 25, 9:30 a.m. in Levin Hall**  
Friends and Family CPR and Stop the Bleed: See information below on this page.

**Wednesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. On Zoom**  
An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story: Israeli author, Bella Shai'er's "Twice" asks, "What is the difference between giving in and giving up? Join what is sure to be a lively discussion of this deceptively simple story line. Please see page 6 for more details and to register.

The Stop the Bleed course lasts approximately one hour and is a grassroots national awareness campaign and call-to-action. Stop the Bleed encourages bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.

No matter how fast professional emergency responders arrive, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, therefore it is critical to quickly stop the blood loss. Participants will learn multiple ways to control bleeding in an emergency, including applying direct pressure, packing the wound with bleeding control gauze and applying a tourniquet.

This offering is limited to 20 participants. You may attend one or both courses and will receive a separate Certificate of Attendance for each class attended. Visit <http://templebethor.com/adult-education> to register.

Light refreshments will be available. Contact Karen Granby, Adult Education member, for questions at [kraceby@aol.com](mailto:kraceby@aol.com) or (937) 286-6902.



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**TEMPLE BETH OR'S ANNUAL  
CORNERED BEEF LUNCH**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12**

**MAKE YOUR  
BUBBIE PROUD!**

**Volunteer the week  
of the event**

**BE A TRUE  
MENSCH!**

**Sponsor the event**

