



November 2023

☆ Today...and for Generations ☆

Volume XXXVIII, Issue 10

## "There is nothing as whole as a broken heart."



The events of this past month have broken our hearts. On October 7, 2023, Jewish history changed for all time. The atrocities, murders, torture, and kidnap of our brothers and sisters in the land

of Israel will impact world Jewry forever.

Our hearts are broken as we mourn the loss of innocent Israelis and other nationalities who were tortured, mutilated, raped and then inhumanely slaughtered.

We can't bring ourselves to look at gruesome pictures of the torture, beheading, and burning these innocents endured, and we are heartsick that we live in a society in which Israel has to release such images to bear witness against the distorters of fact and truth deniers.

We are heavy-hearted over the more than 200 hostages, including babies, children, seniors, and holocaust survivors who are held somewhere in Gaza as human shields and political pawns.

We are sick at heart over the injured and orphaned and those traumatized families running endlessly to saferooms to shelter from incoming rockets. We lament the plight of the brave soldiers of IDF who risk their lives daily to fight as "just" a war as possible.

We take to heart the suffering of the innocent civilians in Gaza for what Hamas has brought down upon them. They, too, are the victims, pawns on the international game board of diplomacy used to garner worldwide sympathy by terrorist organizations whose leader-

ship hides in safe opulence in neighboring nations.

We are heartsick that Israel will now have to finish off a very long and drawn-out war, one for which the media, the UN, and the world will have limited patience. For all their talk of support today, international leaders are already encouraging Israel to seek a ceasefire.

Yes, our hearts are broken, but as Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Kotzk said, "There is nothing as whole as a broken heart." And so, just as Israel has not given up, neither will we. We will hold on to our grief, even as we live our Jewish lives boldly and fully, for to live as a proud Jew is an act of resistance.

Now more than ever, we must send our children to *Makor* to develop pride in their faith and learn about the over 4,000-year-old Jewish claim to the Holy Land. How about, during this war, we begin to light candles on *Shabbat*, even if we've never done it before?

Even if you have to do it at an unconventional time, and let's add a third candle for the people in Israel to bring a bit more light into this dark world.

We can **Educate**, for we may be the only ambassadors and educators our classmates, neighbors, and friends know. They too often believe the loudest voices on the internet and learn their history on TikTok.

We can **Donate**: There are countless places to contribute, whether through *Magan David Edom* for ambulances <[afmda.org/](http://afmda.org/)>; Israel on Campus Coalition <[israelcc.org](http://israelcc.org)> to support beleaguered Jewish students; or United *Hatzalah* <[israelrescue.org](http://israelrescue.org)> to support volunteers who are treating the wounded.

Perhaps the most effective is contrib-



uting to the Jewish Federation's Nationwide Emergency Fund <[Jewishfed.org/2023-Israel-emergency-fund-donation](http://Jewishfed.org/2023-Israel-emergency-fund-donation)>.

Finally, we can **Advocate**. Let's urge elected officials to stand with Israel, thank them for their support, and repost their encouraging social media messages. We can write letters to the editor or call out irresponsible media coverage of the war in Israel, report disinformation on social media platforms, and stand up against hate crimes against Jews and Muslims.

Our hearts might be broken at the prospect of a bloody and drawn-out war. But such pain makes us human. When we are broken, we enter a universe where we are made whole by our efforts to repair ourselves and the world.

Wholeheartedly praying for a successful outcome to this war,

Rabbi Judy Chessin



## THE LIGHT

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## 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 prayers of *Refuah Shlema* to:

David Char, Arlene Graham, Bill Kell, Benjy Klein, Carla Scherr, Ron Solomon, Laurie Verson, and Peter Wells.

The Congregation is saddened to report the passing of Madalyn Ammons, And sends its sympathy to Susan Hand on the passing of her father, Marvin Fiore.

Temple Beth Or sends a hearty *Mazel Tov* to Sharyn Reger on the birth of a new granddaughter, Reese Elaine Reger, born to David and Katlyn Reger

## November 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.

### November 3

Jeffrey Chiger 11/1  
Leo Goldberg 11/1  
Ida D. Jaffa 11/1  
Jean Levi 11/1  
Susan Cauper Tonra 11/2  
Richard Schuman 11/2  
Esther Constantine 11/3  
Arthur Maharam 11/3  
Danny Engel 11/4  
David Fishman 11/4  
Samuel Lauber 11/4  
Joseph David Goldberg 11/5  
Claire Parnes 11/5  
Phyllis Goldberg 11/6  
Becky Simmons 11/6  
Joseph Arthur Katz 11/7  
Clare Sturkey 11/7

### November 10

Selma Farnbacher 11/9  
Ruth Kaufman Baer Cooley 11/10  
Eve Israel Naiman 11/10  
Helen Reger 11/10  
Anna Adler Farber 11/11  
Carl K. Tepper 11/11  
Henry Joseph Marx 11/12  
Goldie Bloomberg 11/13  
John Factora 11/13  
Eve Wolf-Knight 11/13  
John Legner 11/14  
Albert Israel Sheinker 11/14  
Phyllis Stein 11/14

### November 17

Canuto Ligot 11/15  
Melvin Verson 11/15  
Katharine Farnbacher 11/19  
Andrew Glendening 11/19  
Doris E. Scherr 11/19  
Gertrude Kahn 11/20  
LaDonna Sowry 11/20  
Erin Constantine 11/21  
Allan Goldman 11/21

### November 24

Sam Baer 11/22  
Felice Arst 11/23  
Raymond Lemberg 11/23  
Jerome Wise 11/24  
Jane Scheidecker 11/26  
Salvatore Forcina 11/27  
Cindy Hart 11/27  
Leatrice Phillips 11/27  
Charles Throckmorton 11/27  
Esther Chesler 11/28



# 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

### General Fund

By: Jeanne Nathan

For Security:

By: American Legion Post 615,  
Waynesville, OH  
Jean Trebnik

In Memory of:

William A. Clark  
Mary and Gary Youra

Numa Lavy

Karen and Matt Lindsay

Aliya Lindsay

Karen and Matt Lindsay

Thomas Lindsay

Karen and Matt Lindsay

Jill Beckerman

Scott Beckerman

Allen Beckerman

Scott Beckerman

Louise Dreety

Louisa and Phil Dreety

Helen Reger

Sharyn Reger

Claire Parnes

Annie and Craig Self

Gertrude Kahn

Mary and Ron Kahn

In Appreciation of:

Rabbi Ben Azriel Leadership of Makor

Anonymous

In Celebration of:

Maxine and Gerald Halasz's New House

Sandy and Bob Lachman

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:

Mark Elovitz

Alan Elovitz

Kenneth Schumacher

Ruth Schumacher

In Appreciation for:

Streaming of High Holiday Services

Linda and Dennis Patterson

Tanya and Jason's lovely Wedding

Ceremony

Cathy Chessin and Andy Podolnick

High Holiday Services

Carin Solganik

Rabbi Judy Chessin's Leadership

Anonymous

Leo Goldberg

Marsha and Stephen Goldberg

Phyllis Goldberg

Marsha and Stephen Goldberg

### Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

Joseph David Goldberg

Audrey G. Sachs

### Music Fund

In Honor of:

Ira Segalewitz

Anonymous

### Education Fund

In Memory of:

David G. London

Jane Katsuyama

### Campership Fund

In Appreciation of:

Rabbi Chessin and the High Holiday  
Services

Paula and Lee Manders

## Thank you to our Donors!

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Arlene Graham

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Yana and Jeffrey Kleinman

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Sandy and Bob Lachman

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### Friends

Andrea and Gary Abrams

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Dale Goldberg and Mark Dlott

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Sharon and Israel Guterman

Teri and Michael Halasz

Marilyn Marx

Gail Moore

Sharyn Reger

Caryl and Scott Segalewitz

Ira Segalewitz

Mary and Gary Youra

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.

# The Complexities of War



Israel once again grappling with the realities of war. The people of Gaza are once again struggling

with an oppressive terrorist organization in Hamas, which rules over them. Our hearts go out to the brave men and women in the Israel Defense Forces who are risking their lives for the safety the land of Israel and the people of Gaza who are victims themselves of Hamas. We are also deeply concerned for our brothers and sisters in the southern and central communities of Israel and cities who have borne the brunt of terrorist acts.

During these tough days, parents and families can be faced with difficult questions from children. Questions about war and violence can be challenging to navigate. Our children look to us for guidance and it is our duty to provide them with comfort, understanding, and accurate, age-appropriate information. Some tips for navigating these difficult conversations:

## **Age-Appropriate Discussions:**

When discussing the situation in Israel and the hostage situation in Gaza with children, it is important to tailor conversations to age and maturity level. Younger children may not be ready for detailed discussions and but rather they are seeking confirmation that they themselves are safe in their home.

## **Create a Safe Space:**

It is important to create a safe space where children feel comfortable expressing thoughts and emotions. Encourage kids to ask questions and share feelings. Be patient and understanding, and avoid dismissing concerns.

## **Balanced Information:**

Provide information that is appropriate for their age. Explain the



situation in simple terms and avoid sharing graphic details. Emphasize that Israel is working towards peace and safety for all peoples.

## **Be Honest and Reassuring:**

It's crucial to be honest with children, but also reassure them that there are many people, including our leaders, working to bring peace to the region.

## **Highlight Acts of Kindness:**

Share stories of kindness and unity within Israel and from the international community. This can help children see that even in difficult times, there is hope and goodness.

## **Use Spiritual Resources:**

Encourage your children to pray for peace, not just for Israel but for the whole world. Discuss the importance of unity and love.

As we address these issues with our children, we should also take care of our own emotional well-being. The stress of war and uncertainty can take a toll on all of us.

In addition to these suggestions, I would like to highlight several resources available to you. There are various organizations and professionals who specialize in helping families and children during times

of crisis. They offer guidance, counseling, and educational materials that can be of great help. Some of these resources include:

## **Talking about Israel in Crisis:**

[tinyurl.com/tboisraelincrisis](https://tinyurl.com/tboisraelincrisis)

## **Talking about Violence in Israel:**

[tinyurl.com/tboisraelviolence](https://tinyurl.com/tboisraelviolence)

## **Diverse Narratives:**

[tinyurl.com/tbodiverse](https://tinyurl.com/tbodiverse)

## **PJ Library: Talking about Scary Situations:**

[tinyurl.com/tboscarysituations](https://tinyurl.com/tboscarysituations)

Our Temple Beth Or family can also provide resources and support. Please reach out to me or Rabbi Chessin for specific resources for your family.

And of course, let us remember the strength of our Temple Beth Or community. By approaching these conversations with love, understanding, and the support of one another, we can help our children navigate the complexities of war and conflict while instilling in them the values of peace and unity.

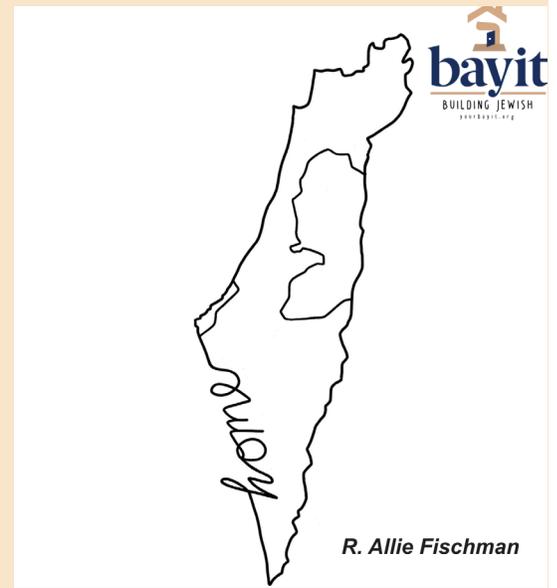
*B'shalom,*

Rabbi Ben Azriel

## ***For Jews and Palestinians in Diaspora***

**We're over here:  
Too far to help, but not too far to feel.  
We're not living in a war zone  
But we can't sleep either  
Because when someone harms you  
We feel pain.  
Holding you from afar –  
Never really apart.**

***R. Rachel Barenblat***



### **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**

This year, our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held at Temple Beth Or on Monday, November 20, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. Join the clergy and members of Temple Beth Or, St. Charles of Borromeo Church, David's Church, the Dayton Mercy Society, and Christ United Methodist Church in an ecumenical service for our shared American holiday. This year, we will celebrate "Peace in a Broken World." Our choir will combine with the choirs of the other faiths to raise our voices in prayer. Please bring a jar of peanut butter to help out the Kettering Backpack Program.



For everyone's safety, the Sheriff's Department has asked that you please leave any bags or purses in your vehicle.

If you would like to contribute to a festive reception after the service, please sign up here:

**<http://bit.ly/interfaith-thanksgiving>**

# Adult Education

## An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story: November 22

Please join the Zoom discussion from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Each month's discussion will center on one short story that has Jewish content or is written by a Jewish author. We intend to have fun and learn from each other's understanding of the stories. You are encouraged to register for one session or as many monthly discussions as you would like.



To register, call 937-435-3400 or visit:

<https://templebethor.com/adult-education>

## November 12th: A Day in the Life of a Jewish Verse

Jewish law (*halacha*) determines the Jewish position on any topic. But can the 5 Books of Moses provide clear direction in troubling contemporary dilemmas such as abortion? The term "*Halakhah*" is translated as "Jewish Law," although a more literal translation is "the path that one walks." Led by Rabbi Judy Chessin, *A Day in the Life of a Jewish Verse* will trace the *halachic* journey of one Hebrew verse on fetal life through its long, meandering path from the Torah to contemporary conclusions. Learners will both survey the expanse of centuries of Jewish legal literature and generational dialogue and will explore Jewish legal views of abortion.

Please join us on Sunday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in person at Temple Beth Or. This event is open to Temple Beth Or members and their guests. Please register by November 11.

To register, call 937-435-3400 or visit: <https://templebethor.com/adult-education>

## November 13th: Discovering Ripley, Ohio Tales of Bravery and Empowerment from the Underground Railroad

Join Temple Beth Or Adult Ed on a field trip to beautiful Ripley, Ohio, a village of 1,500 on the Ohio River 60 miles east of the Cincinnati. There we will have guided tours of both the abolitionist John Rankin's House— a National Historic Landmark that USA Today picked as Ohio's "hidden gem"—and the house of John Parker, a former enslaved man who risked himself and his family repeatedly to help others escape. Our guides to the village will be Betty Campbell, a Ripley local who has studied and cherished her town's stories for years, and Mary Ann Olding, an architectural historian who has researched Ripley and who mesmerized the Adult Ed group visiting the Freedom Center in Cincinnati in July, 2023.

To register, call 937-435-3400 or visit: <https://templebethor.com/adult-education>

A generous donor is covering the costs of this program for up to 20 people; we will need several drivers.

## Music is Prayer

In March, Adult Education at Temple Beth Or began something new. Each month, the Committee provides a link to a musical selection related to Judaism that we find compelling. We hope you will take a few minutes each month to listen. Go to <https://templebethor.com/adult-education> to access the music.



Additionally, the Committee is interested in your feedback to this initiative. Please take a few minutes to email the Committee with your thoughts about any selections you listen to [ruth.schumacher@wright.edu](mailto:ruth.schumacher@wright.edu). Thank you. And an extra special thank you to those of you who have emailed me.

# November Chai-Lights

**Friday, November 3, 6:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**  
"Rock of Ages" musical *Shabbat* with Marc Rossio and Rabbi Judy Chessin.

**Saturday, November 4, 4:30 p.m. In Person**  
*Bar Mitzvah: Bar Mitzvah* of Carter Bueltel.

**Friday, November 10, 5:30 p.m. In Person**  
Food and Family *Shabbat*: Family Shabbat Dinner followed by Pre-K and grades 1 and 2 Service.

**Sunday, November 12, 10:00 a.m. In Person**  
A Day in the Life of a Jewish Verse: Led by Rabbi Judy Chessin. See page 6 for more information.

**Monday, November 13, 8:00 a.m. In Person**  
Tales of Bravery and Empowerment from the Underground Railroad: More info page 6.

**Friday, November 17, 6:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**  
Join the Choir directed by Mary 'Mahira' Rogers and Rabbi Ben Azriel in a musical *Shabbat*.

**Saturday, November 18, 10:00 a.m. In Person & Zoom**  
Apocryphal Study: In-person Apocryphal Study. Bring a brunch offering to share as we dig into the book of Tobit. LIVE and ZOOM.

**Monday, November 20, 7:30 p.m. In Person**  
Interfaith Thanksgiving: Please see below for more information.

**Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 p.m. On Zoom**  
An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story: Please see page 6 for more details and to register.

**Friday, November 24, 6:30 p.m. On Zoom**  
*Shabbat-tube*: Pre-recorded *Shabbat* Service.

## Artisan Fair and Brisket Lunch

It's almost time for the annual Artisan Fair and Brisket Lunch. This year the event will be on Sunday, Dec. 3rd from 10:00am until 2:00pm. Hanukkah candles, gelt, dreidels and other goodies will be available at the Temple Beth Or booth -- just in time for the 1st night of Hanukkah on Dec. 7th. Plan on spending time browsing the offerings of the many artisans and other vendors who will be displaying their items in Levin Hall.

And when you get hungry, follow your nose to Cafe Or to eat a lunch of BBQ brisket sandwiches and latkes. BBQ Brisket by the pound and chopped liver in half pound tubs will be available to take home. We STRONGLY urge you to pre-order; we have sold out every year!

A children's program will be held for kids ages 3 and older from 10:30 a.m. to noon in our upstairs youth lounge. Parents are welcome to drop off their kids while they shop at the fair. *Makor* and non-*Makor* students are all welcome.

To place an order, visit: <https://templebethor.com/artisan-fair-and-brisket-lunch/> or call the Temple Office at 937-435-3400. The last day to place an order is Nov. 27th. Act now! Supplies are limited.

### Call for Volunteers!

It takes a lot of people to make the Artisan Fair and Brisket Lunch successful. We all can see the volunteers who work at the Temple booth, take food orders, prepare the lunch platters, and make sure you have a place to sit in Café Or. But did you know we need volunteers before the event? Our volunteers also buy supplies, set up Levin Hall and Café Or, make chopped liver, prepare the brisket for the oven, slice the brisket after the first cook, and more. If we all help a bit, the event is more fun for everyone! The Volunteer Committee will be making phone calls soon. Be ready to say yes and help make this wonderful event run smoothly! Who knows, you might also make a new best friend.





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**Monday, November 20**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**at Temple Beth Or**

**Interfaith**  
**THANKSGIVING SERVICE**