



# The Light

October 2024

☆ Today...and for Generations ☆

Volume XXXIX, Issue 9

## Simchat Torah & Bring Them Home Dinner



The month of *Tishri* includes several meaningful times for us to gather. In October, we will share the sweetness of apples and honey to greet the new year, break our fast after a contemplative Day of Atonement, and shake the *lulav* and *etrog* while sharing gourmet desserts in the *Sukkah*. This year, we will also mark the first anniversary of the *Simchat Torah* massacre, as they call it in Israel, when, on the day of our rejoicing of the Torah, Hamas attacked our Jewish homeland and took 251 hostages. Now, one year later, it is believed that 101 hostages are still being held in Gaza: 66 alive and 35 bodies.

As is often the case, our days of joy are often mitigated by moments of anguish. This is the reality of Jewish living, according to Hebrew poet Naomi Shemer's song "*Al Kol Eleh*" The song's lyrics speak of the reality that most of life has both a sweet and bitter side and that both come from the same source.

Thus, this year's *Simchat Torah* celebration will feature the honey of fine Israeli dishes and the sting of telling the stories of the hostages who we sorely miss. We will welcome the names and stories of some of the hostages as sacred guests to join us in spirit as we read their Torah and sample their favorite recipes. This evening will not just be a meal; it will be a heartfelt commemoration of



the Israeli hostages, honoring their lives, their hopes, and their favorite foods that connected them to family, friends, and their homeland. We will prepare and share some of their cherished recipes, celebrating the flavors they love and reflecting on food's decisive role in bringing people together.

During this event, we will reroll our Torah scrolls in their names and remember the values of our people.

Please RSVP to the Temple office to ensure we have enough food for everyone. If you would like to help prepare one of the recipes or assist in other ways, kindly reach out to Donna, and we will give you some cooking assignments.

Let us come together as a community, to renew our commitment to Torah and to strengthen our bonds in these challenging times. May our prayers and

our presence be a source of comfort and strength to those still enduring captivity and their families.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמוֹי, הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה  
שְׁלוֹמֵינוּ יַעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל  
וְאָמְרוּ, אָמֵן

*Oseh shalom bimromav Hu ya'aseh  
shalom aleinu v'al kol Yisrael  
V'imru Amen.*

"May the One Who makes peace in the heights make peace upon us and upon all Israel. Amen."

I look forward to sharing a meaningful New Year with you all,

*Shalom,*  
Rabbi Judy Chessin



## THE LIGHT

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Temple Beth Or  
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Judy Chessin

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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:

Sarah Adams, Arlene Graham, Neil Kahn, Benjy Klein, Ron Solomon, Laurie Verson, and Peter Wells.

Our Congregation extends its deepest sympathies to

Karen and Kevin Bressler and family on the passing of her sister Bernadette D. Lanham.

Michael and Wincha Gelbert and family on the passing of his father Howard Z. Gelbert.

Bonnie Gewertz and family on the passing of Theodore "Ted" Gewertz.  
Ellen Holroyd on the passing of Faye Cornog.

*Mazel tov* to Darren Hertz and family for his being named the new head coach of Wittenberg University Men's Basketball team. Go Tigers!

Gary and Andrea Abrams on the marriage of their daughter Erica Abrams to Jason Kirschtel.

## October 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.

### October 4

Joel L. Bernstein 10/2  
Lou Droz 10/2  
Morton Gross 10/2  
Dr. Harry H. Epstein 10/3  
Aliya Rachel Lindsay 10/3  
Stephen MacPherson 10/3  
Lester Stein 10/3  
Margot Marx 10/4  
Allan Schulman 10/4  
Richard Clair 10/5  
Adam Solganik 10/5  
Jacob Scholom 10/6  
Stephen Weckstein 10/6  
Stanley Markovitz 10/7  
Philip Holstine 10/8

### October 11

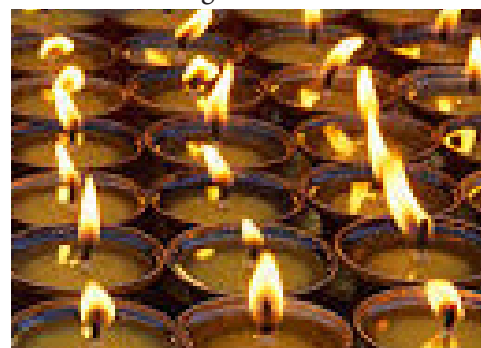
Alma Slotkin 10/9  
Eugene Weiss 10/9  
John Legner 10/10  
John L. Reger 10/10  
Mary Louise Dreety 10/11  
Daniel L. Leary 10/11  
Gladys Maharam 10/12  
Elaine London 10/13  
Ruth Wise 10/13  
Jennifer Berks 10/14  
William Feitelberg 10/14  
Allen London 10/14  
Helene Sureck 10/15

### October 18

Leroy Bloomberg 10/16  
Evalyne Halasz 10/16  
Louise Verson 10/17  
Sylvia Finkelstein 10/18  
Zelda Kleinman 10/18  
Sol Scott 10/18  
John Self 10/18  
Alexander Charles Scott 10/21

### October 25

Mary Feitelberg 10/23  
Rabbi Janice Garfunkel 10/25  
Sonya Fastoff Schwartz 10/28  
Veronica Warner 10/28  
Carol Denmark Felman 10/29  
Thelma Ginsburg 10/29



# 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:

*Claudia and Bill Fried's 45th Anniversary*  
Helene Adler

### General Fund

In Honor of:

*B'Nai Mitzvah of Evie Polk and Adam Snyder*  
Cathy Clark  
*The marriage of Aly Fligel Smith*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein

In Memory of:

*Kayla Klein*  
Benjy Klein  
*Lori Etta Ellman*  
Marianne Ellman  
*Malcolm Block, beloved father and grandfather*  
Janet and Barry Block & Family  
*William A. Clark*  
Mary and Gary Youra  
*Martin Dicker*  
Sue and Ron Nelson  
*David Char*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein  
*Lorraine Fortner*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein  
*David London*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein  
*Steve Markman*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein  
*Eric Segalewitz*  
Caryl and Don Weckstein  
*Bernadette D. Lanham*  
Fran and Ralph Schwartz

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:

*Jerry Sherman*  
Jan Sherman

### Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

*Radene Goldberg Stump*  
Audrey Sachs

### Adult Education Fund

In Honor of:

*David Morter*  
Arlene Graham  
*In Memory of:*  
*Susan Klenke*  
Arlene Graham

### Building Fund

In Memory of:

*Aaron Lauber*  
Ellen Lauber

### Todah Rabba

A special thanks to all those who helped lead summer Shabbat services:

**Addie Dillon**

**Claudia Fried**

**Marty Jacobs**

**Marilyn Marx**

**Stuart Merl**

**Renee Peery**

**Mary 'Mahira' Rogers**

## Thank you to our Donors!

### Pillars

Marni Fligel  
Vicky and Robert Heuman  
Martin and Martha Moody Jacobs  
Dr. Milton Nathan and Ritva Williamson  
Laurie and David Verson

### Builders

Marsha and Stephen Goldberg  
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Mary and Gary Youra

### Friends

Deb Char  
Miriam and Victor De La Cruz  
Kim Dinsmore  
Claudia and Bill Fried  
Felix Garfunkel  
Paula Gessiness and Jay Holland  
Michael Glantz  
Karen and John Granby  
Joan and Arthur Greenfield  
Susie Hand  
Bill Kell  
Karen and Matthew Lindsay  
Marilyn Marx  
Sharyn Reger  
Annie and Craig Self  
Jo Anna Szymborski

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.

# 5785: A Time for Renewal Amid Life's Extremes



*Shanah Tovah,*

As Rachel and I reflect on this past year, our hearts are so full — with gratitude, grief, and hope. This year has brought us moments of immense joy, especially with the birth of Eliana. Becoming parents has

been the most beautiful, overwhelming, and heart-expanding experience ever. Our lives are forever changed, and we are so grateful to share this joy with all of you, our Temple Beth Or family.

But alongside this profound happiness, we also feel the weight of deep sorrow. Like many of you, we are still grappling with the tragic events of October 7th. The terrorist attack in Israel shook us to our core, and the grief and pain it brought to our community and the world are still fresh. It is hard to find the right words to express the heartache of seeing so many lives lost, and families shattered. The wounds from this attack are ones we carry together as a Temple Beth Or family.

This past year has been a mix of extreme highs and painful lows—welcoming new life while mourning the loss of others. It has been a reminder of just how unpredictable and fragile life can be. One moment, we are celebrating, and the next, we are trying to make sense of unimaginable loss. As *Kohelet* 3:4 says: "There is a time to weep and a time to laugh." We have experienced both as a Temple Beth Or family, sometimes all in the same breath.

As we enter this *Rosh Hashanah*, I have been reflecting a lot on how we hold space for these conflicting emotions. How do we bring joy and hope into the new year while still carrying grief? There is something powerful in knowing we are not alone—in joy, in pain, in uncertainty. This High Holy Day season allows us to start fresh, to reconnect with one another and with what matters. We will gather for prayer, reflection, and meals, carrying all the emotions we have been through—joy, sadness, hope, and fear. And as we do, we will lean on each other, as a Temple Beth Or family as we always have, and as we always will.



So, as we prepare for 5785, I want to take a moment to say thank you—for the love, the support, and the kindness you have shown us. Rachel and I are so grateful to be part of this community, to raise our child here, and to face whatever comes next together with all of you. May this new year bring healing where there is pain, peace where there is turmoil, and love and laughter where there is joy to be shared. From our family to our Temple Beth Or family, *Shanah Tovah U'metuka*—a sweet, healthy, and peaceful new year.

*B'tikvah* (In Hope),  
Rabbi Ben Azriel



## Updated Temple Logo

Introducing a new Temple Beth Or logo design to celebrate our 40th year.

We hope it is a year of color, brightness, light and peace. A special thanks to Thea Monjot for her beautiful design.

# October 7<sup>th</sup> Marking One Year

*United in Remembrance*



**Monday, October 7, 5:30 – 7PM**

*Doors open at 5:30PM with a Minyan led by Beth Abraham Synagogue. Program begins at 6PM.*

**Boonshoft Center for Jewish Culture & Education**

525 Versailles Drive, Centerville, 45459

The entire Dayton Jewish community is invited to join us as we commemorate the one-year anniversary of the October 7th attacks on Israel. This program is an opportunity to remember those who lost their lives, pray for the hostages, and to support the people of Israel.

RSVP is required by October 6.

***NO PURSES, BACKPACKS, OR BAGS OF ANY KIND WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING.***

*Participants Include: Beth Abraham Synagogue, Beth Jacob Congregation, Chabad of Greater Dayton, Dayton Jewish Chorale, song leader Mary “Mahira” Rogers, Hadassah Dayton Chapter, Hillel Academy of Greater Dayton, the Jewish War Veterans, Temple Beth Or, and Temple Israel*

**Questions?** Contact Jeff Blumer at [jblumer@jfgd.net](mailto:jblumer@jfgd.net).

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## October 7th Commemoration



One Partnership \* One Heart

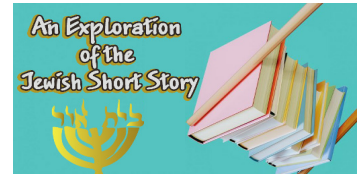
**Sunday, October 27** via Zoom, 11:30AM - 12:30PM

Virtually stand shoulder to shoulder with our Partnership2Gether communities and the Western Galilee to mark this tragic day through interactive community gatherings connected live, via video links, with ceremony, song, and listening to remembrances from those most impacted. **Questions?** Contact Jeff Blumer at [jblumer@jfgd.net](mailto:jblumer@jfgd.net).

# Adult Education

## An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story October 9

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))



## Join our Grief Support Group

Have you experienced the death of a loved one?  
Have you experienced a life changing loss?

### Are you experiencing sadness, guilt or anger over these losses?

If your answer to any of these important questions is yes, then Temple Beth Or may be able to help

We are starting a grief support group in November.

Andy Chaet is a new member at Beth Or.

He is a certified Grief Support Specialist and Bereavement Coordinator/Counselor.

He has been providing grief support in the hospice and community settings for 13+ years.

He has provided services for children as well as attending to sudden loss of coworkers and classmates.

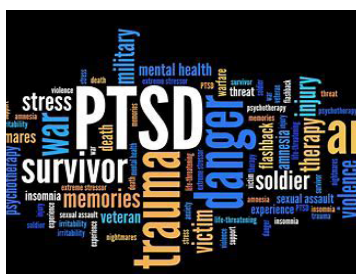
He is excited to share his knowledge and experience with our congregation.

If this group is something that interests you, please call the Temple at 937-435-3400.

*All personal information will be held in complete confidentiality.*

## Honoring Veterans, Healing Wounds: PTSD Awareness

Temple Beth Or is honoring the Greater Dayton Veterans' Community on Sunday, November 10, 2024, from 9:30 AM - 12 Noon with an important and timely program on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD affects thousands of our Veterans and can be a result of a single (or multiple) traumatic event and injuries. The effects of PTSD on our Veterans are long-lasting and frequently debilitating. Veterans' families can also be adversely affected.



This PTSD program will describe the causes, symptoms, and treatments of this condition. Also, this program will explore community and national resources avail-

able to support veterans and their families. The presentation will review how citizens can support our veterans and their families as they cope with the effects of PTSD.

Our speaker is Dr. Steve Taylor who is a Psychiatrist working for Kettering Health/Beavercreek Behavioral Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Taylor helps individuals afflicted with PTSD. Dr Taylor also served for 16 years in the United States Air Force and served in many different locations worldwide.

This program is free and open to the public. To register, please visit the Temple Beth Or Adult Education page:

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

Refreshments will be provided.

There will be several raffle prizes for our veterans.

# October Chai-Lights

**Wednesday, October 2, 7:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**  
*Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:* In person and Streaming Service, *Oneg Shanah* to follow.

**Thursday, October 3**

10:00 a.m. *Rosh Hashanah Service:* In person and Streaming  
1:00 p.m. Family Interactive Service

**Friday, October 4, 6:15 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.* Followed by *Oneg Shabbat.*

**Saturday, October 5, 10:00 a.m. In Person & Zoom**

In-person Apocrypha Study: Join Rabbi Chessin and our study group at Temple Beth Or. Bring a pot-luck brunch item to share. LIVE and ZOOM.

**Monday, October 7, 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. at CJCE**

One year community wide commemoration of October 7th attack on Israel at the Boonshoft Center for Jewish Culture & Education.

**Wednesday, October 9, 7:00 p.m. On Zoom**

An Exploration of the Jewish Short Story: Please see page 6 for information.

**Friday, October 11, 7:30 p.m. In Person & Streaming**

*Kol Nidre Service:* Live and streaming.

**Saturday, October 12**

10:00 a.m. Morning *Yom Kippur Service,* live and Streaming  
12:30 p.m. Family Interactive Service  
2:00 p.m. The Heart of Israel, Thoughts from Rabbi Azriel's Journey  
4:00 p.m. *Yizkor*  
5:30 p.m. *Ne'ilah*  
Followed by light Break-the-Fast

**Friday, October 18**

5:30 p.m. Gourmet Dessert in the *Sukkah*  
(Please bring a sweet offering to share)  
6:15 p.m. Service in the *Sukkah*

**Saturday, October 19, 10:00 a.m. In Person & Zoom**

In-person Apocrypha Study: Join Rabbi Chessin and our study group at Temple Beth Or. Bring a pot-luck brunch offering to share. LIVE and ZOOM.

**Friday, October 25**

*Simchat Torah Dinner and Service*  
5:30 p.m. hors d'oeuvre and *Shabbat Blessings*  
6:15 Service and dinner with Israeli hostages' favorite recipes.



## Temple Beth Or invites you to join us for the High Holy Days.

In-person and live streaming services

***Erev Rosh Hashanah, Wednesday, Oct. 2***  
7:30 p.m. Evening Services

***Rosh Hashanah, Thursday, Oct. 3***  
10:00 a.m. Morning Services

12:00 p.m. Luncheon: All the Best Deli, *Donations Appreciated*  
1:00 p.m. Family Interactive Program

***Kol Nidre, Friday, Oct. 11***  
7:30 p.m. Evening Services

***Yom Kippur, Saturday, Oct. 12***

10:00 a.m. Morning Services  
12:30 p.m. Family Interactive Program  
2:00 p.m. The Heart of Israel:  
Thoughts from Rabbi Azriel's Journey  
4:00 p.m. *Yizkor*  
5:30 p.m. *Ne'ilah*

Modest Break-the-Fast to follow: Bernstein's Fine Catering

Visit [templebethor.com](http://templebethor.com) for service times & updates

***Sukkot Shabbat & Dessert, Friday, Oct. 18***

Join us for *Shabbat Services* at 6:15 p.m.  
followed by Dessert in the *Sukkah.*



***Simchat Torah & Bring Them Home Dinner, Friday, Oct 25***

Join us at 5:30 p.m. for a special dinner prepared from the favorite recipes of the Oct. 7th hostages, many of whom are still missing or deceased, followed by a *Simchat Torah Shabbat Service* at 6:15 p.m.



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[www.templebethor.com](http://www.templebethor.com)  
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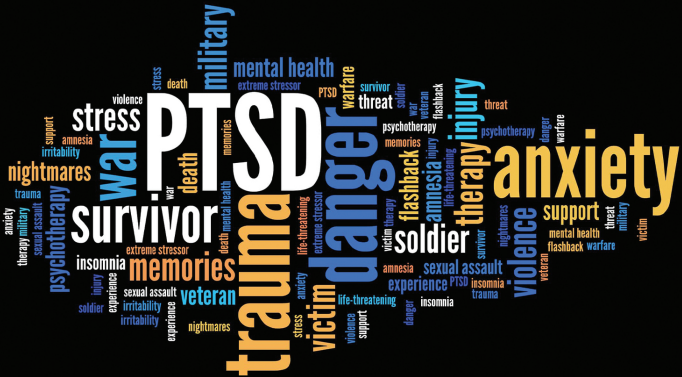
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# Honoring Veterans, Healing Wounds: PTSD Awareness

Temple Beth Or invites you to a special program honoring the Greater Dayton Veterans' Community

**Sunday, November 10, 2024**  
**9:30 a.m. - noon**  
**Free & Open to the public**

Join us for an important and timely program on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), featuring Dr. Steve Taylor, a Psychiatrist with extensive experience in helping individuals afflicted with PTSD. The program will cover causes, symptoms, treatments, and available resources for veterans and their families. This free event is open to the public. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to support our veterans and their families as they cope with the effects of PTSD. Refreshments will be provided, and there will be several raffle prizes for our veterans.



9:30 a.m. Refreshments  
10:00 a.m. Program followed by questions

**RSVP at [www.templebethor.com](http://www.templebethor.com)**

