



## PURIM SPIEL

IT'S THE 20TH  
CENTURY, OY!

TWO SHOWS TO  
CHOOSE FROM!

ADMISSION IS FREE, BUT DONATIONS APPRECIATED  
BOTH SHOWS ARE KID FRIENDLY!



SATURDAY  
MARCH 23  
7 PM IN  
TBO  
SANCTUARY

PRODUCED AND  
PRESENTED  
ENTIRELY BY YOUR  
TEMPLE BETH OR  
COMMUNITY!



SUNDAY  
MARCH 24  
1 PM  
DURING  
RELIGIOUS  
SCHOOL

ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE  
CONTACT  
DAN PAQUETTE



**House of Light**

**3215 Lombard Ave, Everett, WA 98201**

**425.259.7125**

**TempleBethOr.org** 

**Founded 1985**

## Our Rabbi

*K'hilah/  
Mishpachah*

*Torah*

*Avodah*

*Tzedakah/  
Tikkun Olam*

*Leadership*

# Celebrating Bar and Bat Mitzvah As a Beth Or Community

Did you know that Madonna's son, Rocco, had a bar mitzvah!? The party was lavish. That was to be expected. There were some beautiful touches to the event that would make anyone's rabbi *kvell*, like having a Torah scroll commissioned for the occasion. But there is a surprising fact about Rocco's bar mitzvah that entertainment media seemed to miss. Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin, author of *Putting God on the Guest List: Reclaiming the Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah*, noticed this bar mitzvah "might be the first...in history in which none of the cast of characters is Jewish. Madonna isn't. Guy Richie isn't. Rocco surely isn't." What does it mean to become a bar or bat mitzvah outside the context of Jewish community?

In Hebrew, bar/bat mitzvah means "son/daughter of the commandments." Our tradition teaches that at age thirteen young adults take on responsibility for their own commitments to observing the foundations of Jewish life. The bar or bat mitzvah ceremony centers around the student offering their strength to their Jewish community by leading worship, reading from the Torah, and sharing one's unique teaching of the weekly Torah portion. If an essential element of becoming a bar or bat

mitzvah is a celebration of leadership within one's Jewish community, then the community must play a critical role on a child's bar or bat mitzvah journey.

Some of the first services that I had the privilege of enjoying with our Beth Or community this past summer were beautiful Shabbat worship led by our newest b'nei mitzvah: Annabelle Heiman, Maya Douglass, and Aron Seigal. I was not only struck by the hard work and commitment exhibited by these three young adults, but also by the pride our Beth Or

***If an essential element of becoming a bar or bat mitzvah is a celebration of leadership within one's Jewish community, then the community must play a critical role on a child's bar or bat mitzvah journey.***

community took in these thirteen year olds' achievements.

I want to take the opportunity in this month's *ORacle* to invite our Beth Or community to enhance the meaning of bar and bat mitzvah in the lives of our students. We are blessed to have five students who will be called to the Torah as b'nei mitzvah over this coming summer: Izabell Russakoff, Ilana O'Neal, Ben Feinberg, Maggie Feinberg, and David Zieve. When you see these students practicing their prayer leadership skills



at services over the next few months, take time to get to know these amazing 7th graders by asking them about their *Tikkun Olam* Projects or their thoughts on the weekly Torah reading. These are simple ways to show our emerging adults that they are a part of an extended Jewish family through our Temple.

I am excited to share that our upcoming b'nei mitzvah cohort at Beth Or is one of the largest in our history! As these 5th & 6th grade students and their families begin their journey towards bar and bat mitzvah, I would like to ask for

your help in joining with me to offer this cohort a special blessing from our community at Shabbat Services on March 8, 7:30 pm.

I wish all of our b'nei mitzvah students and their families *mazel tov*. May we, as a community, help provide each of our young adults becoming bar and bat mitzvah meaning, perspective, and a lasting connection to our timeless traditions.

L'shalom,  
*Rabbi Rachel Kort*

# EAT LEARN EXPERIENCE

Here is your chance to bring Temple Beth Or members, friends, and family together through meals, learning, and experiences, and at the same time raise funds for TBO!

We are looking for donations for this newest TBO Fundraiser: *Eat, Learn & Experience!*

**Eat** – Do you have a favorite meal that you would like to prepare and serve to TBO members? You select the menu, the date (or mutually agreed upon date) and the setting. Enjoy the company of old or new friends as they enjoy your meal.

**Learn** – Are you proficient at a skill or have expertise in a particular area? TBO members are ready to learn from you! Some ideas are: teaching new computer/smart phone skills, how to play bridge, preparing for retirement, making a perfect cup of coffee. Group lectures or individual lessons welcome!

**Experience** – Do you have a special place such as a beach or lake home, that you are willing to offer for a weekend? Organize an outing to share your love of hiking or kayaking? Do you have a timeshare that often goes unused that you can donate? Are you a boater or private pilot and can you offer a ride in your exciting mode of transportation? These are some examples of items that can be made available to bring new experiences to some lucky TBO members.

Generous donations have already been made for this fund-raising program. Here are some of the exciting things that have been provided: BBQ dinner with all the fixin's! Two hour guided kayak trip, no experience necessary. Learn to play bridge. Learn to bake the perfect pie. A cruise on a steam ship. Make your own shofar and learn to blow your own *teki'ah* and *shevarim!*

Please go to [templebethor.org/e-l-e](http://templebethor.org/e-l-e) for more details and to complete an online donor form, or contact Janis Warner or Barbara Black for more information. The sky is the limit! **Please submit your ideas by March 15, 2019 for inclusion in the catalog.**

Our Rabbi  
K'hilah/  
Mishpachah

Torah

Avodah

Tzedakah/  
Tikkun Olam

Leadership

## Next Chapter Visits the Seattle Art Museum

Join other Next Chapter members as we experience Jeffrey Gibson's national exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum on April 28 at 2:45 pm. A docent will provide insight into the artist and his work. Jeffrey Gibson's *Like a Hammer* is a major museum exhibition presenting a significant selection of this contemporary artist's exuberant artwork created since 2011.

If you are a SAM member there is no cost. If you are not a member the admission fee is \$21 for adults or \$19 for seniors. **We need a final headcount by April 20.** Please mail a check payable to Julie Mackoff to the TBO office, 3215 Lombard Ave. Everett, 98201. If you are a SAM member, please send your name and membership number (on the back of your card) also.

An early dinner will follow at Chiang's Gourmet 7845 Lake City Way NE. More details about the dinner to follow. Carpooling information will be provided at a later date.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Mackoff.

## TBO BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the TBO Book Club will be held on Sunday, March 10, 10:00 am, at the home of Vicki Schwartz. The book is *Florida* by Lauren Goff. Contact Ellie Hochman for more information.

*Our Rabbi*

*K'hilah/*

*Mishpachah*

**Torah**

*Avodah*

*Tzedakah/*

*Tikkun Olam*

*Leadership*

## Leadership Training Underway at TBO

“*Atidaynu: Our Future*” is a Temple Beth Or leadership course that began in October 2018. Sixteen congregants are meeting once per month on Wednesday nights for eight months to explore various topics. The goals of the program are to: build a cadre of capable new leaders to ensure our future, help current and future leaders be more prepared for leadership rolls, assist future leaders in developing skills needed to be successful congregational leaders, provide opportunities to grow Jewishly, create a feeling of connectedness and a sense of ownership of Temple Beth Or, and have fun. This leadership course is different than what one might experience in a secular organization, in that it emphasizes what it means to be a *Jewish* leader, including how to fuse both the spiritual and practical, and how to connect to the sacredness of the work. It is facilitated by Sonia Siegal Vexler, who has led the course three times prior, the last time in 2005.

Cultivating new and existing synagogue leadership is an important element to ensuring the future vitality of our congregation. As important issues arise it is critical to have capable, knowledgeable leaders that can guide our decision making. After completion, participants will be asked to consider using their new skills in a leadership position, if not already in one. Whether it is participation in a time-limited task force, a committee, or service on the congregational Board, this role will be an opportunity to share their time and talents to support our Reform congregation and the entire Reform Movement.

— Carolyn Henri

## Religious School Update

Every year the Religious School takes on the responsibility for the mitzvah of *Mishloach Manot*, spreading the joy of Purim throughout our community. This year we are changing things up a bit in order to include ALL of the community and support the Religious School.

How it works:

**March 1:** Order forms will be sent to your mailing address and a form can also be downloaded on our website. You'll be invited to order *Mishloach Manot* baskets filled with fun surprise goodies to fellow Temple Beth Or members.

*\$5 to send one basket*

*\$180 to send to entire congregation*

**March 15:** Last chance to place your order!

**Week of Purim (March 20):** You'll have the opportunity to pick up *Mishloach Manot* (or we can deliver it to you) and see who sent you a basket! Each member household will receive one basket, with a list of those who chose to send to you!

All money will be used to support Religious School programming, curriculum, and our growing *Madrichim* (“guide” also used for youth directors) program.

**Questions? Want to help pack or deliver baskets?** Contact Amy Paquette.

## Service Schedule

Friday, March 1

Family Shabbat

Service

7:00 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Noah Zeichner

Friday, March 8

Evening Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Shoshana Stombaugh

Wednesday, March 20

Megillah Reading and

Purim Services

7:00-8:00 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Neil Weinstein

Saturday, March 23

Morning Shabbat

Service

*Aufruf* of

Avi Fine

and

Erin Goldstrom

10:00 am

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Judy Magidson

## Unique Services and Learning Events

### Special Guest at Shabbat Services, March 1, 7:00 pm

Our very own Nathaniel Balk will share stories of his time serving with the Peace Corp in Morocco. Nate's talk will highlight experiences of shared humanity and will bring to life our Jewish value of *Betzelem Elohim*—that all individuals are created in the Divine Image.

### Megillah Reading and Purim Service, Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 pm

Join Rabbi Kort & Neil Weinstein for a festive holiday service and an opportunity to hear *Megillat Esther* like you've never heard it before! The Story of Esther will be presented in a different way for each chapter: traditionally chanted, as a graphic novel, a Mad Lib, and more!

### Aufruf Blessing During Shabbat Services, March 23, 10:00 am

*Aufruf* Blessing (which in Yiddish means "calling up") is the Jewish custom of an engaged couple being called up in the synagogue for an *aliyah*, the recitation of a blessing over the Torah, to celebrate their upcoming wedding. Erin Goldstrom, daughter of Norm and Cheryl Goldstrom, and Avi Fine, son of our members Beth Burstein and Rabbi David Fine will have this honor at this service.

### Enhancing Your Passover Seder, Sunday, March 31, 10:00 am

Join Rabbi Kort for a morning of learning and hands-on demonstrations. Leave with a toolbox of contemporary ways to deepen meaning around your seder table. This session will be helpful for those hosting or being hosted, new seder leaders and veterans, those attending family seders or exclusively adult seders. In other words, this is an Adult Learning experience for all adults in our Beth Or community. Session will begin at 10:00 am. All are welcome to join our Religious School for *Kehilah*—Community Time (singing, stories, and prayer) beginning at 9:45 am.

**URJ YOUTH TEEN PROGRAMS EARLY BIRD** Know a teen interested in traveling to Israel or participating in a social justice program this summer? Nominate them for NFTY in Israel or Mitzvah Corps. Teens can choose from different specialty NFTY in Israel trips. Mitzvah Corps engages teens in community-connected social justice efforts through travel and relationship-building. For more information and any questions, contact [Youth@URJ.org](mailto:Youth@URJ.org).

**URJ Kutz Camp** brings together the most passionate Reform Jewish teen leaders from around the world for a summer of leadership development, deep learning, and joyful Judaism. Teens can choose from five immersive experiences. Know someone who would be a great fit? Nominate them at [KutzCamp.org/Nominate](http://KutzCamp.org/Nominate). For any questions, reach out to [KutzCamp@URJ.org](mailto:KutzCamp@URJ.org).

*Our Rabbi*

*K'hilah/*

*Mishpachah*

*Torah*

*Avodah*

*Tzedakah/*

*Tikkun Olam*

*Leadership*



Our Rabbi

K'hilah/  
Mishpachah

Torah

Avodah

Tzedakah/

Tikkun

Olam

Leadership

## Social Action News

The Temple's Mission Statement establishes our priorities. One of those priorities, *tikkun olam*, is what the Social Action Committee (SAC) is all about.

With *tikkun olam* as a priority, our congregation is saying it's important to us to transform ourselves and our world through *tzedakah* (fairness), social justice, and *g'milut chasadim* (acts of loving kindness).

While it is easy to say that *tikkun olam* is a value we all should promote it's a challenge to figure out how to make it happen. The SAC wrestles with this all the time. We need the congregation's input to help us understand what *tikkun olam* means to you and how we can implement it. Tell us what you think we can do to not only place *tikkun olam* front and center in our values but to put that value into effective practice.

There are several ways you can assist the committee. You can join us to help us make decisions. Or, you can simply offer your thoughts to us on how to make *tikkun olam* real in all of our lives. For more information on joining the SAC or to offer your insights into *tikkun olam* contact any member of the Committee. We are:

Naomi Katsh, Chair, Dave Gross, Glen Pickus, Miriam VonAschen-Cook, Melissa VonAschen-Cook, Janis Warner, Nancy Wilkinson, and Willie Wright.

## Leadership Nus

### Nus from the Governing Board

At the February Governing Board meeting the following business occurred:

1. Paul Vexler, chair of the Strategic Planning/Long Range Planning Committee spoke to the Board and asked for some direction. The board will seek feedback from the congregation and discuss aspects of planning going forward.
2. The Bylaws Update Committee has begun review of our current bylaws.
3. Motions approved:

A. The Funerals in the Sanctuary Policy was amended at the Rabbi's direction to read, "The presence of cremated remains in the sanctuary is at the discretion of the Rabbi of Temple Beth Or."

B. The Finance Committee's Expenditure policy was modified to make it clearer.

C. The Board approved authorizing the Rabbi to spend a week at Camp Kalsman each summer as a camp rabbi, at her discretion, and for a mutually agreed upon week.

### Temple Leadership

#### Rabbi

Rachel Kort

#### Governing Board

President

Vicky Romero

VP of Finance

Steve Center

VP of Membership

Tim Douglass

VP of Programming

Heidi Piel

Assist. VP's of Finance

Bob Goodmark

Robyn Klarman

Assist. VP's of Membership

Howard Schoenfeld

Janis Warner

Assist VP's of Programming

Beth Burstein Fine

David Gross

Board Secretary

JonaRose Feinberg

Immediate Past President

Mark Bresnick

#### Committees

Adult Education

Heidi Piel

Bereavement

Susan Cross

Calendar

Janis Warner

Communications

Al Friedman

Financial Administrator

Norm Black

Mitzvah Corps

Vicki Schwartz

Next Chapter

Sonia Siegel Vexler

ORacle

Vicky Romero

Religious Practices

Phyllis Busch

Social Action

Naomi Katsh

Religious School Principal

Amy Paquette

Administrative Assistant

Terri Schweigert



# March 2019

## Adar I — Adar II 5779

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

					1 Family Shabbat Service 7:00pm	2
3 Religious School Governing Board Mtg 10:15-12:15 At the PUD Bldg.  Purimspiel Rehearsal 2:30-4:00pm	4 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30-8:30pm	5 Purimspiel Rehearsal 6:30-8:30pm	6 TBO By-Laws Task Force Mtg. 7:00-8:30pm	7	8 Evening Shabbat Service 7:30pm	9
10 Religious School TBO Book Club 10:00 <b>offsite</b>  Purimspiel Rehearsal 2:30-4:00pm	11	12 Purimspiel Rehearsal 6:30-8:30pm	13 <i>Atidaynu:</i> <i>Our Future</i> 5:30-9:00pm  (by invitation only)	14	15	16
17 Religious School Purim Carnival	18	19	20 <i>Erev Purim</i> Purim Megillah 7:00-8:00pm	21 <i>Purim</i>	22 <i>Purim</i>	23 Morning Shabbat Service 10:00am  The 1990's Purimspiel! 7:00-10:00pm
24 Religious School Special Purimspiel Religious School Performance 1:00-3:00pm	25 PTSA Meeting 6:00pm	26	27	28	29	30
31 Religious School		<b>SAVE THE DATE:</b> The annual Temple Beth Or Donor Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 4, at the home of Vicky Romero and Harold Dash.				

**Please note:**

**\* In the event of inclement weather, check the website calendar and/or ORbits to learn if activities or services have been cancelled.**

**\* In order to inform our membership and prevent scheduling conflicts, please email our calendar guru at [calendar@TempleBethOr.org](mailto:calendar@TempleBethOr.org) to place a meeting or event on the official TBO calendar.**



Temple Beth Or  
3215 Lombard Ave  
Everett, WA 98201  
425-259-7125

Return Service Requested

## Temple Beth Or Mission Statement

Temple Beth Or is a warm, compassionate, vibrant, spirited, inclusive, and participatory Reform Jewish community.

We are religiously and geographically diverse,  
serving the northern Puget Sound region of Washington State.

As God's covenantal partners in fulfilling mitzvot, our priorities are:

- ***K'hilah*** (community)/***Mishpachah*** (family) — nurturing our interactive, multigenerational extended family;
- ***Torah*** — lifelong learning, searching for meaning, and seeking comfort and healing;
  - ***Avodah*** — worship and celebration through the observance of meaningful, creative, and traditional rituals;
- ***Tikkun Olam*** — transforming ourselves and our world through *tzedakah* (fairness), social justice, and *g'milut chasadim* (acts of loving kindness).