

April 2019 / Adar II — Nisan 5779

Volume 30, Issue 4

Chag HaPesach!



e **AT**

L **EARN**

e

XPERIENCE

Bringing Temple Beth Or members, friends, and family together through meals, learning, and experiences, and at the same time raising funds for TBO!

Enticing meals, interesting learning programs, and time of your life experiences have been donated by Temple Beth Or members and now it's everyone's turn to be a part of this newest fundraiser!

A few examples of what you will find in the inclusive catalog coming your way:

- * Experience a real steamboat—the *Amity*—and cruise on Lake Stevens while enjoying a top-notch brunch.
- * 3-2-1 Blast off! Learn to fly model rockets and watch them soar through the sky! Perfect for ages 6 to 12—and anyone else! Take your own rocket home for future flights.
- * DIY Shofar! Where else could you learn to make your own kosher shofar? Complete with lessons on how to play it!
- * Elegant Provencal Grand Aioli dinner, *tres chic*! Twelve people will gather for a unique way to dine in the Pacific Northwest.

These programs and many more are ready for your perusal in the catalog coming your way, available at Temple Beth Or, and on our website at templebethor.org/e-l-e. Including yourself in one of these programs will support TBO, provide a unique way to bond with other TBO members, and offer a terrific meal, learning discovery, or experience.



House of Light

3215 Lombard Ave, Everett, WA 98201

425.259.7125

TempleBethOr.org 

Founded 1985

*Our
President*

*K'hilah/
Mishpachah
Torah
Avodah
Tzedakah/
Tikkun Olam
Leadership*

Why?

This month Rabbi Kort has enclosed a Passover supplement for our community instead of writing an article, so I will take the opportunity to share some thoughts.

For those who don't know me, my husband, Harold Dash, and I joined Temple Beth Or before it was Temple Beth Or. In 1984, about 20 couples gathered in the home of Rennie and Janet Karr to talk about forming....well, something. Not sure what, but it was a group of Jewish adults and families who wanted to get to know each other and give some sort of Jewish "experience" to our children. We landed on forming a congregation with a religious school. Only after that did we choose to join the Reform Movement. We met in various places for services and religious school until the Montefiore Congregation "sold" us our current building for \$1.00, and they threw in two Torahs – such a deal! As a non-Jewish spouse, I ironically became the first "pre-Katan" teacher – almost as ridiculous sounding as buying a building and two Torahs for a dollar!

I share this story with you in part because I'd like you to

get to know me and am hoping to get to know many more of you. I have also been thinking quite a bit about some conversations the Governing Board has had with Paul Vexler, chair of our new Strategic Planning Committee. While we all gravitated to the what's and how's of planning, Heidi Piel introduced us to the concept of "why." Sounds pretty simplistic but in reality is far from it. **Why** does Temple Beth Or exist? **Why** did I join? Certainly not because I was a Jew who wanted connections to my Judaism. Harold was



becoming a Jew by Choice enough of a reason for me to stay? While I receive spiritual fulfillment and renewal from services and liturgical music, the percentage of people of all religions in our area who affiliate suggests that I might not find it necessary. And it certainly isn't because my *bubbe* would expect it of me!

*Why does Temple Beth Or exist?
Why did I join?
Why do I stay?*

I stay because it is my community, my extended family. There are other reasons, but that is

raised in a Jewish household and wanted those connections here in the Pacific Northwest, whereas I was not Jewish at the time. But I did want a spiritual education for my children and was comfortable with Reform Judaism. Over the years I realized that Reform Judaism fit with my personal beliefs and was happy to become a Jew by Choice – converted by our previous rabbi and now fellow congregant, Rabbi David Fine. *But why do I stay?* My kids are long gone, having attended Religious School through Confirmation. Is

the driving one. I care about this community, including friends and those I don't even know — yet.

So **why** do **you** stay? Your reasons may be entirely different from mine but they are equally valid to me and the community. Have you really thought about **why** you stay? We would like to know. Please email Paul or me and tell us. As we embark on strategic planning, we need to focus on growing our important connections and meaningful resources. And **why**.

L'shalom,
Vicky Romero

Everyone Should Have a Place at the Passover Seder Table

To ensure everyone has a place to eat the matzah and tell the story, Temple Beth Or is holding a no-host Passover seder. This is for TBO members (or those getting to know TBO) and is happening at **6:30 sharp, Friday, April 19** at Temple Beth Or.

For your enjoyment, brisket, turkey, chicken, not-chicken (vegan) matzah ball soup, *charoset*, matzah, kugel, *Haggadot*, and more will be provided. You will be asked to bring a side dish, wine, or a dessert to share.

The cost is \$18 per person for those over 13 years of age. *If cost is an issue please contact Heidi Piel for assistance.* **Due to TBO space limitations the size of our table is limited and will be filled by reservation on a first-come, first-served basis.**

The service will be more modern than traditional, a little bit funky and a whole lot of fun. The evening is kid friendly and will have special surprises just for those 13 years and younger. We hope to see you sitting across the table.

TO SAVE YOUR PLACE—call or email Heidi Piel or Amy Paquette.



Our President

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Avodah

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Leadership

Update on the Safety and Security Committee

Compelled by recent events in the news, the TBO Safety and Security Committee has been working to enhance the security of our membership and our facilities. We owe a debt of gratitude to Tim Downie for focusing our energies and conducting security reviews with public safety officials. We have already implemented many of their recommendations, including:

- a new two-way radio system to enable communication throughout the Beth Or campus, particularly during Religious School when our students and staff are spread across multiple buildings,
- augmented exterior lighting,
- enhanced Board Greeter and Community Greeter programs to increase awareness and security during services. Please sign up on the Shabbat Volunteer Tracker Google Sheet. Go to the Temple website/ Members/ Member Resources to find the Tracker Google Sheet,
- additional adult supervision and perimeter monitoring during Religious School,
- review and update of the Religious School Safety and Security Plan (in progress).

James Feinberg has volunteered to serve as the Chair of the Safety and Security Committee (thank you, James!), which is continuing its efforts in both the short and long term. In the next few months, you may notice:

- new directional signage throughout the main building,
- “No Trespassing” signs in key locations around our campus,
- window blinds for ground-floor windows, including classrooms and portables,
- posted guides for greeters, *oneg* hosts, and other volunteers that include directions for responding to circumstances which may arise.

There is more to be done to keep our Temple warm, welcoming, and safe, both in developing policies and in implementing changes. We are looking for those interested in volunteering their time to assist with policy and planning by serving on the Safety and Security Committee and also those willing and able to assist with one-time physical improvements. If this might be you, please contact James Feinberg (tbo@jamesf.com).

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Be a Part of the New Strategic Planning Committee

Paul Vexler is looking for people who are interested in serving on the Strategic Planning Committee. The committee will be comprised of 8 - 12 members and needs to represent most, if not all, of our congregation's important functions such as religious practices, finance, and youth education. We also need "at large members" of various ages, genders, and persuasions. Experience in planning is welcome but not necessary. If you are interested, please contact Paul.

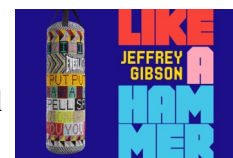
Seven Easy Ways to Leave a Legacy

1. **Simple Bequest in a Will or Trust Provision:** You can make a bequest in your will or add a provision in your trust for a gift to Temple Beth Or.
2. **IRA or Other Qualified Retirement Plan:** You can contribute to our existing endowment by naming Temple Beth Or as one of the beneficiaries of an existing IRA or other qualified retirement plan. You can choose a dollar amount or percentage.
3. **Life Insurance Policy:** If you hold an existing life insurance policy or purchase a new life insurance policy, you can name Temple Beth Or as owner and/or one of the beneficiaries. The cost of such a policy depends on your age and health.
4. **Grant from a Donor Advised Fund (DAF, Private Foundation or Supporting Foundation):** Recommend a grant from your donor advised fund, or make a grant from your private foundation or supporting foundation to Temple Beth Or. Grants can be made during your lifetime and/or after your death.
5. **Cash or Marketable Securities:** Make a present-day gift of cash or marketable securities to Temple Beth Or's LIFE & LEGACY Endowment Fund.
6. **Real Estate or Other Property:** You can donate real estate or other property to our LIFE & LEGACY Endowment Fund.
7. **Life Income Plans — ways to both leave a legacy and earn income, including:**
 - A. **Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)** — immediate or deferred: Transfer cash or property, create lifetime payments for yourself.
 - B. **Charitable Lead Trust (CLT):** Donate assets to a trust, pay income to a charity, transfer the remainder to family to reduce taxes.
 - C. **Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT):** Donate assets to a trust, receive income, transfer the remainder to a charity to reduce taxes.

If you are interested in any of these options, please talk to your tax advisor and/or estate planner. To learn more about Temple Beth Or's LIFE & LEGACY Endowment Fund, contact Bob Goodmark, Barbara Black, Amy Paquette, Sonia Siegel Vexler, Harold Dash, or Eldon Wexler.

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.



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

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.

Service Schedule

For April

Friday, April 5

Family Shabbat

Service

7:00 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Noah Zeichner

Friday, April 12

Evening Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Shoshana Stombaugh

Friday, April 26

Evening Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Bernie Busch

Izabell Russakoff's *Tikkun Olam* Projects

Born with a rare syndrome, called PHACE, that affects multiple systems of the body, Izabell Russakoff is no stranger to hospitals. Maybe that is why two of the three nonprofits she is supporting with her bat mitzvah *Tikkun Olam* project are medical facilities.

Izabell chose **The PHACE Community** because it builds community, raises awareness, supports research, and shares medical information and advancements for PHACE Syndrome. It also hosts a conference where PHACE families can attend and meet specialists who treat and research PHACE syndrome and where families connect with each other creating strong and lasting friendships. She chose **Fred Hutch** because they work to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer, HIV/AIDS and other diseases. She stated, "I want them to find better treatments for cancer. I lost my uncle to cancer and I want to see a cure." Finally, she chose to raise funds and awareness for **Seattle Children's Hospital's Uncompensated Care Fund** because "I feel like the hospital is a second home to me. They have saved my life many times. Seattle Children's provides necessary medical care to all children in our region, regardless of a family's ability to pay. I want people to know they can come to the hospital and have amazing care and not worry about the cost because the hospital has this program."

Working with her father, Executive Chef Steve Russakoff, Izabell will be putting her family baking skills to work. Coming soon will be the opportunity to purchase brownies, cakes, and other delectable items. In addition, she will be offering dance classes, ceramic classes, and a cooking class in conjunction with her teachers who have donated their time to support her cause.

"I don't have a financial goal, I just want to make as much as possible" said Izabell. You can donate directly and find out more by going to her Go Fund Me page at gf.me/u/rcb52c.

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Tikkun Olam Project Facilitates Healing and Wholeness In Our World

Join our bat mitzvah student, Lana O'Neal, in raising money to pay the bond for mothers separated from their children at the border. Lana is raising money for **Immigrant Families Together** by selling t-shirts & sweatshirts at: www.bonfire.com/families-belong-together-8/. Lana created this beautiful design and, to date, has raised over \$2500. This amount can fully pay a bond and return a child to their parent.

Immigrant Families Together also provides:

- ♦ government and foster agency-approved housing when needed to expedite reunification,
- ♦ food and furnishings to families,
- ♦ transportation within the city, and
- ♦ assistance in obtaining lenient visitation rights and release of children held in foster care.

Support Lana in healing our world by providing wholeness and look good doing it.

If you have any questions contact Tammy Weissberger or Heidi Piel.



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Leadership

Leadership Nus

Nus from the Governing Board

At the March Governing Board (GB) meeting the following business occurred:

Strategic Planning:

1. The GB had a lively discussion of “why” as a driver of beginning discussions regarding planning for the future, including whether or not our Mission Statement answers that/those why question(s).
2. We also talked about aspects of growth, demographics of our congregants, and importance of member engagement as opposed to membership numbers.

Motions: There were several motions approved, some of which were proforma (i.e. changing of leadership signatories, etc.). Among those of interest were:

1. For privacy and confidentiality reasons, the administrative assistant shall not be a member of TBO. Note: this has been an “unofficial” policy for many years.
2. An addendum to the Rabbi’s contract was added to give her the option to attend Camp Kalsman for one agreed upon week during the summer as a part of her rabbinic scope of work.
3. The GB approved a plan for the TBO directory to be on our website in a members only, secured space. Members will each have individual passwords. Note: Al Friedman is also working on increasing website security through WordPress.
4. The GB approved an opt-out policy for those who do not want their photos, video, or audio recordings published. Copies of the opt-out form can be requested through the Temple office. Important aspects of this policy include:
 - A. As an opt-out policy, all member photos may be published unless we have an opt-out form completed and verified in the Temple office.
 - B. The policy requires a digital photo of those opting out be sent to, and receipt acknowledged by the office in order for it to be in effect.
 - C. This is acknowledged to be a joint responsibility of the member opting out and the Temple. Do not get in group photos, etc. if you choose to opt-out.
 - D. It is acknowledged that every effort will be made to honor the opt-out.
 - E. Going forward, member children will also be covered under this opt-out, rather than through Religious School registration information.

Friendly Reminders

- ⇒ Please do NOT borrow supplies from the Temple.
- ⇒ The Temple directory is for personal use of our members only; not for business or commercial use.

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

Staff

Religious School Principal

Amy Paquette

Administrative Assistant

Terri Schweigert



April 2019

Adar II — Nisan 5779

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30-8:30pm	2	3 By-Laws Committee Mtg. 7:00-8:30pm	4	5 Family Shabbat Service 7:00pm	6 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>
7 No Religious School Governing Board Mtg. 10:15am-12:15pm At the PUD Bldg. Life & Legacy Reception 2:30-4:00pm <i>Offsite</i>	8 Membership Committee Mtg. 10:00am	9	10 <i>Atidaynu:</i> <i>Our Future</i> 5:30-9:00pm (by invitation only)	11	12 Evening Shabbat Service 7:30pm	13
14 No Religious School Book Club 10:00am <i>Offsite</i>	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Pesach 1st Night</i> No-Host Seder 6:30pm Reservations required	20 <i>Pesach 1st day/2nd Night</i>
21 <i>Pesach</i> No Religious School	22 <i>Pesach</i>	23 <i>Pesach</i>	24 <i>Pesach</i>	25 <i>Pesach</i>	26 <i>Pesach</i> Evening Shabbat Service 7:30pm	27
28 Religious School Next Chapter goes to SAM 2:30pm	29	30	<i>The annual Temple Beth Or Donor Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 4, at the home of Vicky Romero and Harold Dash. An elegant, delicious meal will be prepared by Executive Chef and TBO Member Steve Russakoff.</i>			

Please note: In order to inform our membership and prevent scheduling conflicts, please email our calendar guru at 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).