

SEMI- ANNUAL MEETING



General Membership Meeting

Sunday, June 23, 10:00 am at TBO

All members are invited and encouraged to join us for our semi-annual meeting. We will enjoy a light breakfast while hearing about accomplishments from this past half-year and our future plans. Per bylaws, the members need to discuss and approve our fiscal budget for 2019-2020. We were so pleased by the attendance at the Special Membership Meeting at the end of April. Let's keep this ball rolling!

Terri's Retirement Shindig!

SAVE THE DATE

Terri, our office maven, will be retiring from TBO in September. We will miss her big heart, smiling face, and warm, welcoming phone voice. We are planning an event to honor her service to our community. Join us on **Sunday, July 14, from 1:30 to 4:00 pm** for a casual family potluck picnic at the Machias Chicken Ranch, home of Susan and Michael Cross, near Snohomish. Coincidentally, this date is *exactly* 15 years from the day Terri first started with us!

We will be doing some grilling and everyone is asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert item to share. Watch for an invitation and more details soon.

The planning team is looking for additional input and assistance. If you are interested in joining the group or helping with the event, please contact Melanie Field or Heidi Piel.



House of Light

3215 Lombard Ave, Everett, WA 98201

Founded 1985

425.259.7125

TempleBethOr.org



Our Rabbi

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Summer Journeys

June is here and so is the summer travel season! Do you have travel plans this summer? Whether you are going near or far, staying at a resort or in a rustic cabin, it is an opportunity to embrace an important Jewish value: self-discovery.

God's call to our patriarch Abraham established the centrality of a journey of self-discovery in our tradition. Abraham's journey, which is essentially the start of our journey as a Jewish people, begins with God's call: "*Lech lecha*." We typically translate this command as "go forth," but the Hebrew embodies a journey of self-discovery. "*Lech lecha*" literally means, "go to yourself."

For those of you who don't know already, I love to travel. My first time away from home was to attend Jewish summer camp in the Canadian San Juan Islands (before URJ Camp Kalsman was built). My first time traveling outside of North America was to the Czech Republic and Israel on a Jewish heritage tour as a teen. As much as I learned about Jewish tradition and being a part of Jewish community through these immersive experiences, my biggest takeaway from

summers spent far from home as an adolescent was self-confidence. This dynamic of travel still holds true for me today as an adult. When I travel and leave my typical routine I find I have more headspace to think about my life back at home and my priorities there. Going away allows me to go deeper inside myself.

This July, I am thrilled that my travel plans include spending a week up at URJ Camp Kalsman in Arlington (July 21-28). I want to thank you, my Temple Beth Or community, for supporting my time away from the Temple so I can support our students and PNW youth as they learn, grow, and find themselves at camp. While my time at Kalsman is primarily a time for me to give back, I know that being away in this special setting will be transformative for my rabbinate and me. I'm looking forward to working collaboratively with local Reform rabbis, cantors, and educators and being inspired by the camp faculty, the next generation of Jewish leadership, who are primarily in their late teens and twenties.

When we are together at Temple Beth Or this summer,



I would like to suggest a way we can all support the Jewish value of self-discovery. When we find ourselves talking about vacation or summer camp over sweet treats at the *Oneg*, instead of asking "How was your trip?" or "How was camp?" let's ask "What did you learn about yourself while you were away?"

Nesiyah tova—wishing all a great *and meaningful* journey!

L'shalom,
Rabbi Rachel Kort

**If you have a child who will be away for an extended period this summer, I would like to write them a postcard to let them know that their Rabbi and Beth Or community is thinking about them on their journey. Please send me the dates they will be away and a mailing address:

rabbikort@templebethor.org

Rabbi Kort invites you to call upon her for help or support, or just to talk.

Office Hours: Please contact Rabbi Kort directly to make an appointment. She is typically available to meet in Everett on Wednesdays and the Fridays when she is leading Shabbat Services.

Phone: 425-954-1223; Email: RabbiKort@TempleBethOr.org

Rabbi Kort's sermons and writings can be found on the TBO website under "About Us/Rabbi."

LIFE & LEGACY Donors' Testimonial

Years ago, I was attending the funeral of a Temple member. When his widow rose to speak to those attending she mentioned how grateful she was for us being there and supporting her. Because even though she and her husband had supported the Temple in their earlier years they had not been around as much in later years. A little later I went up and told her that I was grateful to her and her husband. She was surprised and wanted to know why. I said that because of their help, there was a Temple for myself and others.



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I still am grateful to them and others from the past, for whenever I have needed the Temple it has been there. Nobody knows exactly how they will be remembered after they are gone; but I will always remember a day when I found myself very grateful to a couple of people I had never met before and how they helped build my future.

One tries to help the community when they can. Giving to the Temple not only helps for the present, it also helps build a foundation for the future. The LIFE & LEGACY program will ensure that my last act is a gift for the future.

Jeff St. George

L'dor V'dor Membership

The Membership Committee has been working on a new “L'dor V'dor Member Policy” that has been approved by the Board. We want to share the new policy with all our TBO Community: “Temple Beth Or is committed to the continuation of Jewish life in Snohomish County, and in the spirit of *l'dor v'dor* (generation to generation) we want to honor the next generation of Beth Or families. Therefore, when a child of a current Beth Or member seeks to join they will be offered the opportunity to waive their dues for the first year of membership under this *L'dor V'dor* Membership Policy.” Applicants will still follow the normal application process even though no dues commitment is expected for the first year. At the end of the one-year period they would continue as a dues-paying member per existing dues policies. We look forward to welcoming more “L'dor V'dor” members. For more information, please contact Leslie Elsemore, Membership Committee Chair, or the Temple office.

Reminder: If your family wishes to opt out of being in pictures of TBO events, you may get the new **Temple Beth Or Photo and Video Opt-Out Form** from the office.

“Atidaynu, Our Future” Class Graduation

While all Shabbat services are special, at the May 10 Shabbat service we celebrated the graduates of **Atidaynu, Our Future**. This group of 16 dedicated members received the priestly blessing from Rabbi Kort during the service. The Rabbi also wove quotes from their d'vars Torah which they presented during their classes. These people, young and 'older,' will be well-prepared future leaders in whatever capacity they choose for our Temple. Many thanks to Sonia Siegel Vexler for creating and running this amazing program.

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

Great news! We have extended the registration date to August 31!

For those of you uncertain about your summer plans, you now have more time to include one of the wonderful programs donated by Temple Beth Or members.

Sold out programs: Middle Eastern Mezze, Progressive Dinner, and Pie Making Workshop
Limited availability: Provencal Lunch on Sunday, August 4, \$54
Several spaces left for Poker Night on June 29, \$18, Learn to play Contract Bridge, \$54, and much more!

If you have misplaced your catalog there are a few available in the foyer of TBO. The entire catalog is also available on the TBO website.

Thank you for donations made by talented and generous members. Thank you for members that worked quickly to sign up for programs. For more information please contact Janis Warner, Elaina Rose, or Barbara Black.

IF THERE IS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY...

Please contact one of the Bereavement Coordinators or the Temple Beth Or office. If you don't reach the first person you try, continue down the list of contact people until you speak with someone.

In the event of a death, we will provide all possible guidance and assistance to members of Temple Beth Or.

Susan Cross
Carolyn Wexler
Melanie Field

Amy Paquette
Melanie Bober

Our Temple Beth Or Funds provide beautiful ways to acknowledge or remember someone special, and at the same time ensure that Temple Beth Or continues honoring the past and building the future. The generosity of our donors helps to support the overall well-being of our congregation. Your donations to our Temple Beth Or Funds will be recognized in ORbits (received by email) approximately every two months.

Service Schedule

For June

Saturday, June 8
Shavuot Havdalah Service

7:00 pm

Led by Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Shoshana Stombaugh

Saturday, June 15
Morning Shabbat and
Annual Religious School
Service

10:00 am

Led by Rabbi Kort

and Students

Music Leader

Noah Zeichner

Friday, June 21
Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

Led by

Rabbi Kort

Music Leader

Bernie Busch

Saturday, June 29
Morning Shabbat Service
and

Izzy Russakoff

Bat Mitzvah

10:00 am

Led by

Rabbi Kort

and

Izzy Russakoff

Music Leader

Bernie Busch

Social Action News

Tzedakah Fund

At its last meeting the Social Action Committee (SAC) voted to make the following donations from the Temple Beth Or Tzedakah Fund:

- \$500 to the Northwest Immigrants Rights Program: This donation will help the organization with its mission to promote justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services, systemic advocacy, and community education.
- \$500 to the Anti-Defamation League — Pacific Northwest (ADL-PNW): For over 70 years, the ADL-PNW has worked to build a better world. This donation will help them with their current efforts to fight anti-Semitism and to protect our civil rights.

Volunteer Opportunity Working With Students

If you are a student looking for a rewarding opportunity to earn community service hours or an adult who is looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity, please consider volunteering for the Interfaith Association of Northwest Washington (IA-NWW) Family Shelter's "After School Homework Club." The club takes place 4:30-5:30pm, Monday-Friday in Everett at the shelter. This is an opportunity to help elementary and middle school age students who live at the shelter. If this is something you are willing and able to do, please contact SAC members Nancy Wilkinson or Naomi Katsh Barger.

IA-NWW Family Shelter Meals

The committee has committed to help prepare Sunday dinner at the shelter approximately six times a year. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Social Action Committee members Nancy Wilkinson or Naomi Katsh Barger. We have the June dinner covered so we are looking for volunteers for August and later.

Tzedakah Box Recipient

The *Tzedakah* Box recipient for April-June is the **Western States Center**, a non-profit organization whose mission is to connect and build the power of community organizations to achieve racial, gender, and economic justice. The Center is based in the Pacific Northwest and Mountain States but works nationwide to strengthen inclusive democracy so that all people can live, love, and work free from fear. They challenge the growth of white nationalism while strengthening communities' skills and determination to withstand the attack. Their vision is to achieve a just society where we all can flourish in sustainable, caring, and connected communities.

For more information visit their web site at

www.westernstatescenter.org/.

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Leadership Nus

Nus from the Governing Board

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

1. Melanie Field presented the proposed changes to the current bylaws and received input from the Board.
2. The GB approved the *L'dor V'dor* Membership Policy, as described on page 3 of this *ORacle*.

Nus from the Special Membership Meeting

There were approximately 50 people in attendance at the Special Membership Meeting held on April 28. The meeting included much discussion and some clarifying questions related to the disposition of the duplex on the north end of our property. The unanimous vote was to tear the building down as soon as practicable.

Bylaws Update

A task force made up of Tim Douglass, Julie Mackoff, Heidi Piel, Dan Paquette, Sandy Voit and Melanie Field has been revisiting the TBO Bylaws. The team has drafted a proposed revised set. The current Bylaws from September 2016 (as well as the proposed revised Bylaws) require that the members of the congregation vote to approve any amendments to the existing Bylaws. This vote will occur at the June 23 membership meeting. Please join us to learn more about the proposed revisions, to ask questions, and then to vote whether or not to approve the proposed revisions.

Proposed revisions include streamlining the Bylaws by removing policy and procedural language. The Board structure has been slightly modified. Many other modest changes are proposed. We hope that these simpler Bylaws will hold up a bit longer and require less revising. A complete set of the proposed changes will be included in the meeting packet. If you have questions feel free to contact any of the members of the Bylaws task force listed above.

Office Nus

The TBO office and copy closet have now been cleaned and organized. Please DO NOT leave anything on the floor or non-TBO business items for other members to pick up. Thanks much to Lori Wolff, Sonia Siegel Vexler, and Michele and Bob Goodmark for helping with this huge project.

Fund of the Month

While the Temple appreciates all donations, those made to the General Fund contribute to our annual budget and/or unexpected expenses. In addition, should you choose to direct your donation, the fund below is in the most need:

Religious School Scholarship Fund

Thank you for your generosity.

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

High Holy Days

Carolyn Henri

Mitzvah Corps

Vicki Schwartz

Next Chapter

Sonia Siegel Vexler

ORacle

Vicky Romero

ORbits

Lori Wolff

Religious Practices

Phyllis Busch

Social Action

Naomi Katsh

Staff

Religious School Principal

Amy Paquette

Administrative Assistant

Terri Schweigert

June 2019

Iyar — Sivan 5779

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Eat-Learn- Experience Event 7:00-10:00pm
2 Religious School Governing Board Mtg. 10:15am-12:15pm At the PUD Bldg.	3 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30-8:30pm	4	5	6	7	8 Erev Shavuot Shavuot Havdalah Service 7:00-8:30pm
9 Shavuot Religious School Last Day	10	11	12	13	14	15 Morning Shabbat and Annual Religious School Service 10:00am Annual Religious School Picnic
16 Eat-Learn- Experience Event 10:00am-12:30pm	17	18	19	20	21 Evening Shabbat Service 7:30pm	22 Eat-Learn- Experience Event 10:30am-1:30pm
23 Semi-Annual Membership Meeting 10:00am-12:00pm	24	25	26	27	28	29 Morning Shabbat and Russakoff Bat Mitzvah Service 10:00am Eat-Learn- Experience Event 7:00-10:00pm
30 Eat-Learn- Experience Event 11:00am-2:00pm HHD Planning Meeting 11:00am-12:30pm						



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).