

Please enjoy this two-month edition of the *ORacle*. It is packed full of information for summer, COVID-19 updates (p. 7-8), and the High Holy Days (p. 9) — and yes, *already*!

A Note From Our President:

Dear Congregation,

This is an exciting and challenging time — figuring out how to safely reopen our building for worship services. The COVID-19 Task Force and the Reopening Task Force have been meeting, reviewing CDC and Safe Washington guidelines, and working hard on plans for getting us back in the building safely. Ventilation improvements have been completed and other efforts are in process (like getting our streaming system up and running and getting our Board greeters trained). We are a diverse community with many perspectives. Developing a safe and equitable approach is complex. We hope to be having services in person in the next few weeks, with streaming. We appreciate your patience as we work out the specifics. Watch *ORbits* and FB for more information soon.

In the meantime, please note that as good citizens, we are implementing contact tracing protocols. To facilitate this effort, please make an appointment with the office, in advance, to conduct any Temple business on site. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

L'shalom,
Melanie

Sunday, June 13 Membership Meeting



As required by our bylaws, we meet every June to review and vote on our budget, and to share other happenings with the entire congregation. This June we will be meeting on Zoom (I really miss the great schmooze and nosh!) on **Sunday, June 13 at 10:00 am**. Mark your calendars and watch your mail and *ORbits* for more information about the upcoming meeting, including the agenda and the Zoom link.

Please join us as we discuss the budget, the status of our facilities planning, the upcoming High Holy Days, our reopening efforts and other TBO projects. We hope that you will choose to participate in this meeting and get up to date on what's happening at TBO. Since it is a Sunday morning meeting we welcome pjs and coffee, no need to dress fancy for us! If you have any questions about the meeting feel free to contact Melanie Field.



From Our Rabbi

Keep Being Curious

As we begin to emerge from these hard COVID times I know I am not alone in reflecting on the positive practices I have taken on this past year. I have been thinking about those things that I would like to integrate into my life as I move forward. I am typically a goal-oriented person but I have found myself enjoying things in a more playful way the past fourteen months. Perhaps I will have the chance to sing *How Can I Tell You*, the Cat Stevens song I took time to learn last month, but I did not learn it to share. I learned it just because. Simply for myself.

Our Jewish tradition encourages learning for the sake of learning. This value is called *Torah lishma*. It is not surprising that the brilliant modern Talmud scholar and philosopher, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz (1933-2020), had “what to say” about this value. He admits that his area of study and passion, the Babylonian Talmud, has little practical use today, and that many of the situations it described were even obscure in ancient times. Despite this it is a Jewish tradition to study the Talmud in its entirety and Talmud study has only grown in popularity. While Talmud study has been a centerpiece of Jewish learning since the early medieval period, participation in the daily page of Talmud study has become widespread across the Jewish spectrum with the modern innovation of podcasts. Taking on the entire Talmud is a commitment. If one studies a page a day it takes seven and a half years to get through all sixty-three tractates. People do this simply for the sake of learning.

Rabbi Steinsaltz taught that *Torah lishma* is essential to our unique theology as Jews. While most religions have expectations about belief and about doing the right things, they do not obligate one to study. We study our sacred texts as an independent activity that is not directly connected with belief or action.

Jewish tradition holds curiosity as a high value and that angels are not curious because they already have knowledge. Whether we choose to study Torah, Talmud, music, art, or animal husbandry, if we study them simply for the sake of learning, we are celebrating what makes us essentially human.

Rabbi Rachel Kort

Park Dates with Rabbi Kort

I’ve missed being together! As we begin to reopen, I am excited to spend time with you in person in Snohomish County. Fully vaccinated members are cordially invited to join me to walk and talk or sit and schmooze in one of our gorgeous local parks. In keeping with the CDC mandate, masks are not required. ! I am also still available for phone or Zoom visits with those who are not vaccinated.

Please sign up at [Sign Up Genius](#) (found in *ORbits*) or contact Sarah in the office (office@templebethor.org) to schedule time together and for exact meet-up locations. If Wednesday mornings or a Shabbat morning doesn’t work for you, feel free to email me directly (rabbikort@templebethor.org) and we can find another time to connect.



Dates:

Wednesday, June 9: Mill Creek—Pine Meadow Park

Saturday, June 12: Everett—Legion Memorial Park (great playground)

Wednesday, June 16—Edmonds, Marina Beach Park

Wednesday, June 23—Mukilteo, Lighthouse Park (great playground)

Looking forward to spending time together in person.

Rabbi Rachel Kort

From Our President

Gratitude for New Habits Members of the Board Learned/Adopted During the Pandemic



I am a very lucky President – TBO has an amazing governing board and I get to work with them! We begin each monthly board meeting with a sharing question. The question in April was “What are some positive changes or new habits you are hoping to take with you from the past year of COVID into the future?” Their answers were so inspiring and interesting I am going to share them, with their permission but anonymously, with all of you.

In no particular order these new habits, skills, and routines included:

- meal planning and eating at home
- baking bread
- taking piano lessons
- serious decluttering
- more reading
- instituting a weekly family movie night
- taking a daily walk
- having quieter/less busy weekends
- learning how to use video platforms comfortably
- regular/frequent family Zoom calls
- having more patience with oneself, more grace, practicing self love
- treasuring time with kids
- loving working from home – more efficient work environment and less time spent commuting!
- stopped wearing a watch and started wearing extra comfy hiking socks *every* day
- connecting more with family
- driving less
- more time spent gardening
- self care
- more relaxation
- building better communities, becoming an ally for social change and imagining a better world

Some of these are ordinary daily activities and some are more profound. Maybe you already have or will try working one or more of these ideas into your life. Whether it

is one of the items listed above or something else, see if you can think of something that you are doing differently now during pandemic time that you would like to try to keep in your life, even when we get beyond these pandemic times. It is healing to take a moment to find something to be grateful for in these difficult times. New healthy fulfilling habits can be a point of pride and gratitude.

Wishing all a summer filled with hope and gratitude,

Melanie Field

Sharing *Simchahs*

See page 4 for some wonderful *simchahs*! Do you have a *simchah* that occurred during our year+ of COVID? If you would like we would love to share these with the congregation! Photos happily accepted as JPG but are not required.



K'hilah/Mishpachah — Family and Community

Simchahs to Share with the Community!



Max Young, child of Amber Waldbaum, and grandchild of Jerry and Cheryl Waldbaum, will be called to the Torah on June 5. They are an eighth grader at Brier Terrace Middle School where their favorite school subjects are band and English. Their favorite extra-curricular activities are painting, cooking, and playing video games. Favorite Jewish activities include going to camp and hanging out with friends. When asked what studying for their b'nei mitzvah taught them about themselves, Max responded, "That I can get stuff done if I just sit down and make myself do it." Their special *Tikkun Olam* project was to "dissolve gender norms and enforce more inclusive language, practices, and ideas in the Temple." Max would like to thank their mom for "raising me well and encouraging me along the way."

We also have THREE new PhDs to Share with the Community!

On May 2, 2021 **Randy Jergensen** received a doctorate degree in Jewish Studies from Spertus College in Chicago during the school's first virtual commencement ceremony. Dr. Jergensen was recognized for his dissertation, "Covenantal Judaism, a Postmodern Jewish Theology."

"When we can get back into the synagogue I have a published copy of my dissertation for the library. I like to think I'm not so vain as to assume that members of the community will clamor to read it, but because it was inspired by one of my old third grade Religious School students (and I call that out in the book)." — *Randy*



Sunita Chepuri completed her PhD in Mathematics at the University of Minnesota in August 2020. Her area of specialty is combinatorics. She currently has a post-doctoral fellowship position at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



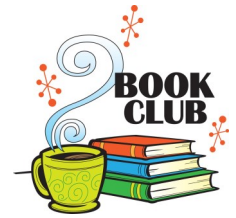
David Roan will be finishing his PhD this month. The title of David's thesis is "The Effects of Forest Restoration on Aquatic Ecosystems in the Redwoods of Northern California." He is in the Fisheries & Wildlife Department at Oregon State University.



Mazel Tov to All!

K'hilah/Mishpachah — Family and Community

Temple Beth Or Book Club Gathering



The next TBO Book Club meeting will be Sunday, June 20, 10:00 am. All are welcome. The book, *Three Floors Up* by Eshkol Nevo, is set in an upper-middle-class Tel Aviv apartment building and examines the interconnected lives of its residents, whose turmoil, secrets, unreliable confessions, and problematic decisions reveal a society in the midst of an identity crisis. Contact Ellie Hochman for more information.

Learn How to Play Mah Jongg!



learn and play.

Ever think, "Someday I'd like to learn how to play Mah Jongg?" Of course you've been at least tempted. It's fun! Good news! A class for new players is forming.

Start lessons on Monday nights starting June 7 at 7:00 pm over Zoom for now, so you'll ready to play in person when we reopen.

Contact **Elaina Rose** for more information if you'd like to

A special message from Deb Henry....

I feel blessed with the love and support from these members of our Temple's Mitzvah Corps during my recent cancer surgeries:

Susan Cross, Vicky Romero, Leslie Elsemore, Carolyn Wexler, Rebecca Hicks, Vicki Schwartz, Nancy Sosnove, Tina Roth, Barb Ingram, Naomi Katsh Barger, Melanie Field, Lori Wolff, Wanda Bresnick, and Sonia Siegel Vexler.

We have such a caring community. For more information about how you can be a part of the Mitzvah Corps please contact Carolyn Wexler.



K'hilah/Mishpachah — Family and Community

Spotlight On Several Committees

Atidaynu

The goal of *Atidaynu* is to build a cadre of capable new leaders to ensure the future of our congregational community. The Temple leadership is hoping we can offer an *Atidaynu* Leadership Program in the fall of 2022. If you are interested in participating in the next cadre, please contact **Sonia Siegel Vexler**.

Camperships Committee

Billy and Mary Sturman, of blessed memory, were originally members of the Montefiore Congregation. Their children established the Billy and Mary Sturman Campership Fund to help children of Temple Beth Or attend an accredited Jewish sleep-over camp. We thank them and the **Milton and Miriam Waldbaum Family Foundation** for their vision in recognizing the lifelong benefits of Jewish camping and understanding that quality camping experiences can be very costly. **Sonia Siegel Vexler** is the chair of this committee.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force

To fully look at ourselves as individuals and as a community through the lens of diversity, equity, and inclusion, Temple Beth Or started this task force. During this past year, the task force asked the Board to complete a Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) assessment as a starting point for reflection and conversation. The task force, in partnership with the Social Action Committee, also, started a 10-week Challenge. We plan to continue the Challenge in the fall. June 20, the members of the DEI TF will lead the book group discussion on the book, *Caste*, by the University Press. Members of the task force are **Cecelia Black, Janet Robertson, Maggie Feinberg, Melissa VonAschen-Cook** and **Sonia Siegel Vexler**.

Next Chapter

Next Chapter is a *chavurah* for older members to come together socially. Members suggest different social events and make them happen. During the pandemic we've met twice via Zoom. If anyone has any ideas for group activities please contact **Sonia Siegel Vexler**.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is responsible for proposing a slate of candidates to the Board and then to the congregation at our semi-annual meeting in December. The Committee members look for strategic thinkers and leaders with financial, communications, and/or people skills, who want to serve the Temple by spending a term or more on the Board. If you are interested in serving on the 2022 Board, please contact Sonia Siegel Vexler. Committee members are **Dan Paquette, Deb Halliday, JonaRose Feinberg, and Sonia Siegel Vexler**.

Temple Retreats

It was the hope of Temple leadership to offer another overnight retreat at Camp Kalsman. The pandemic threw a wrench into these plans. We hope to be able to offer another retreat in the fall of 2022. If you are interested in helping plan this event, contact **Sonia Siegel Vexler**.

K'hilah/Mishpachah — Family and Community

Please note: ALL recommendations regarding COVID protocols are subject to change.

Let's Keep Our K'hilah Safe!

As of this writing, masks must be worn by all – including those who are vaccinated. Please make sure your mask is worn properly (covering your mouth AND nose) at all times.

Have you been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or had any of the following symptoms in the last 14 days?

- New cough
- New shortness of breath
- Fever and/or shaking chills
- New body aches
- New headache
- New sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- New nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

If so, please do not attend services or enter the building at this time.



Update From The Reopening Task Force

The Reopening Task Force is focused on getting us ready for the time when we can be together again in person. We have improved our ventilation system — fans on timers have been installed in the sanctuary and the bathrooms. These fans will circulate air from the outside. The timers will allow for air exchange before and/or after people have been in the building. Additional hand sanitizer stations are being established to facilitate frequent hand hygiene. Signage is being installed in the restrooms to encourage additional thorough hand washing. Further signage is being displayed to remind folks about how to wear a mask properly. Properly worn masks are required to enter the building and while in the building.

New protocols are being developed to include attesting that you do not have COVID symptoms or exposure. A listing of symptoms will be posted to facilitate this process. In addition, a system for logging those who enter the building is being created to be able to conduct contact tracing, should that be necessary. Refresher training is being provided to greeters and an emergency plan is being created to enhance our safety and security.

The Reopening Task Force has been collaborating with other TBO committees and the COVID-19 Task Force as we begin to conduct limited in person life cycle events. The community recently came together for a funeral at the cemetery and we are planning for a family only b'nei mitzvah in the sanctuary in June. These initial steps are helping us to prepare for future activities including an outdoor Shabbat service on July 17 for the larger community and we are working towards indoor services starting back this summer. We are also starting to look ahead to the High Holy Days and how to create a safe environment in which we can worship and celebrate our most sacred Holy Days. If you have questions or input for the Reopening Task Force, feel free to contact Wanda Bresnick.

K'hilah/Mishpachah — Family and Community

Please note: ALL recommendations regarding COVID protocols are subject to change.

Let's Work Together Towards Safely Reopening

In March of 2020 when we switched to virtual services, we did not imagine that over a year later we would still be apart. Many of us are tired of Zoom and all the COVID-19 restrictions. We're ready for our community to come together in person. In order for this to safely happen, we all need to do our part to stop the virus.

We now have an effective tool that is helping us do that – **COVID-19 vaccines!**

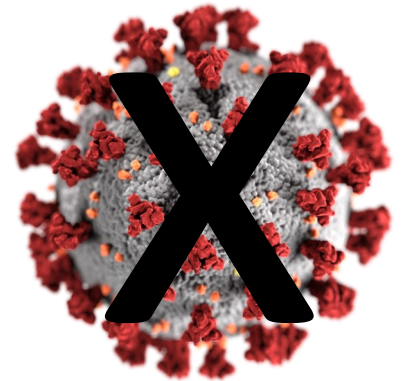
IT TAKES EVERYONE!

Getting vaccinated adds an important layer of protection for you, your family, and our community. Here are some facts from the CDC about the COVID-19 vaccines:

All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the U.S. are **highly effective** at preventing the disease. They protect both the person vaccinated and those with whom they come in contact.

The most common side effects are pain in the arm at the injection site, feeling tired, headache, body aches, chills, and fever. These typically last one to two days.

Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools we have available — wearing masks, staying at least six feet apart, avoiding crowds, washing your hands frequently, and getting vaccinated.



We want everyone in our community to be safe and to be able to worship and celebrate together.

“Vaccination is one of the strongest tools we can use in the fight against this pandemic. Please join my family and me and get vaccinated as soon as you can,” says Melanie Field, TBO President.

Currently, everyone 12 years and older is eligible to be vaccinated. While getting vaccinated is a personal choice, we encourage each of you to help end this pandemic through vaccinations. Vaccinations open the door to so much more. According to the CDC once you are fully vaccinated you can safely spend time indoors, unmasked with other vaccinated folks, gather indoors with unvaccinated people of all ages from one other household, and travel within the U.S. without needing to quarantine.

To locate vaccination sites near your home go to <https://prepmo.doh.wa.gov> or to www.covidvaccinewa.com. If you are having trouble locating a site call Sarah in the TBO office for resources.

PLEASE DO YOUR PART.

Wanda Bresnick
Reopening Task Force

Avodah — Worship

High Holy Days 5782



Our Beth Or High Holy Days team has begun planning our fall holidays with leadership meetings with our President, Melanie Field, and Rabbi Kort. We are working to organize a hybrid schedule of virtual services with some in person options, study sessions, and celebrations. Of course, we will follow the thoughtful guidance of our COVID-19 Task Force to ensure the health and safety of our membership. To this end we are remaining flexible and anticipating our plans will become reality with “God’s laughter” kept at a minimum.

Jerry and Cheryl Waldbaum are coordinating the evening and day of Rosh Hashanah and **Doug Wallis** is leading the planning for Yom Kippur. Currently for Rosh Hashanah, the plan is Erev Rosh Hashanah on September 6 will be virtual via Zoom only. At the moment, on Tuesday, September 7, we plan to have a morning service at Camp Kalsman followed by a boxed lunch (or bring your own), followed by *Tashlich*, and a variety of afternoon activities (social, Jewish learning, hiking).

Doug and his committee, along with the COVID Task Force, will be working on the logistics for virtual and in person attendance for all of the Yom Kippur services.

Heidi Piel has graciously offered to coordinate and lead our study and preparations for this High Holy Day season. Again as we did last year, we are hoping to offer a number of opportunities for adult and family learning. Look for class details in the registration packet.

Heidi is looking for study leaders on a diversity of topics: arts and crafts, cooking, Talmud, singing, spiritual practice/preparation, or any other topic you would like to explore as part of your High Holy Days experience. Anyone who feels so inspired should call, text, or email Heidi to discuss topics, what is required, and dates/times.

In line with our congregation’s current focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion, **Sonia Siegel Vexler** will lead a book discussion Rosh Hashanah afternoon. The focus is based on Isabel Wilkerson’s new book, *Caste*. Sonia advises if you plan to borrow books from your public library add your name to the waiting list now! If anyone has a hard copy they are willing to share, please contact Sonia.

Many capable and hard working members have already volunteered their help but there is plenty of room for more members to participate in a myriad of ways — by sharing your muscle, vocal talent, technical knowledge, teaching ability, love of Jewish learning, challah-baking skills, and offering general help for those tasks we haven’t even identified. Please contact any of us to let us know of your interest and availability.

Selichot is August 28 this year, Rosh Hashanah Sept 6-7, Yom Kippur September 15-16. Expect your registration materials in late July. Look over the materials carefully and watch for updated TBO communications regarding COVID-19 protocols. There probably will be changes from the time you receive the packet and when services actually occur. ***Everyone will be required to RSVP and register for ALL in person services/activities.***

Cheryl and Jerry Waldbaum

Doug Wallis

Avodah — Worship

Virtual Shabbat and Worship Service Offerings in June



Please find Zoom invitation links in *ORbits*.
For those who use dial in, the phone number is +1 253-215-8782 US (Tacoma).
Meeting IDs and Passcodes are included below.

Shabbat Morning Service and B'nei Mitzvah of Maxwell Young with Rabbi Kort, Taryn Webber, and Noah Zeichner

Saturday, June 5, 10:00 am

Our Shabbat morning service will be led by Maxwell Young and Rabbi Kort and will use our prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*. This Shabbat service will include a Torah reading, Torah teaching, and an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. While we cannot all physically be together, our community will gather and Max will share their leadership and Torah virtually.

Meeting ID: 836 7217 0467 **Passcode:** 110777

Shabbat Service with Rabbi Kort and Shoshana Stombaugh

Friday, June 11, 7:30 pm

Join us for a more formal Shabbat worship experience using our prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*. This Shabbat service will include a *drash* (sermon), and an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. This service is geared towards our adult and b'nei mitzvah student community and will last just over an hour.

Meeting ID: 858 7322 4938 **Passcode:** 456761

Shabbat Candle Lighting with Rabbi Kort and Dan Steingart

Friday, June 18, 5:45 pm

Join our Temple Beth Or family as we welcome Shabbat with singing, a healing prayer, candle lighting, *Kiddush*, and opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. This service is great for all ages and will last less than 30 minutes.

Meeting ID: 881 9108 9839 **Passcode:** 052378



Pride Shabbat

Friday, June 25, 6:00 pm

Temple Beth Or is proud to be one of the sponsors of Pride Shabbat with the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle. Last year over 500 participants gathered together in celebration and solidarity. This year the service will again be held over Zoom.

Registration is required. The link to register is: bit.ly/prideshabbat2021. For those using dial in, please call the TBO office to register.

Avodah — Worship

Virtual Shabbat and Worship Service Offerings in July



Please find Zoom invitation links in *ORbits*.
For those who use dial in, the phone number is +1 253-215-8782 US (Tacoma).
Meeting IDs and Passcodes are included below.

K'hilah--Community Shabbat with Rabbi Kort, Noah Zeichner and Taryn Webber

Friday, July 2, 5:45 pm

Join us for a multi-generational Shabbat experience. Our evening together will include candle lighting, singing, contemporary and traditional prayers, and time with community. There will be an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. This service is great for all ages and will last about 45 minutes.

Meeting ID: 813 0248 8794 **Passcode:** 226163

Shabbat Service with Rabbi Kort and Shoshana Stombaugh

Friday, July 9, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a more formal Shabbat worship experience using our prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*. This Shabbat service will include a *drash* (sermon), and an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. This service is geared towards our adult and b'nei mitzvah student community and will last just over an hour.

Meeting ID: 835 8830 6889 **Passcode:** 015005

Outdoor Shabbat Service at Temple Beth Or with Rabbi Kort and Bernie Busch

Saturday, July 17, 10 am

"Thank you God for giving us life, sustaining us, and allowing us to reach this moment."

Join us outside at the Temple for a special morning of singing, Torah, and community. We'll need to be at a distance and wear masks. **Look in your July *ORbits* or call the office in July for registration information.**

Friday, July 23, 5:45 pm

Shabbat Candle Lighting, with Sheryl Shapiro

Join our Temple Beth Or family as we welcome Shabbat with singing, a healing prayer, candle lighting & *Kiddush*. This service is great for all ages and will last less than 30 minutes.

Meeting ID: 817 3555 1566 **Passcode:** 990830

Borrowing Shabbat Prayer Books: *Mishkan T'filah*

Please email **Sarah** in the Temple office (office@templebethor.org) to let her know if your family would like to borrow a Shabbat prayer book during COVID-19 social distancing. She will follow up with you to arrange for you to pick up a book. Books may not be picked up without making prior arrangements.



Tikkun Olam — Tzedakah/Social Justice

Social Action Committee News



Tzedakah Box



**HOUSING
HOPE**
we keep hope alive

The **April - June 2021** Tzedakah Box Fund recipient is **HOUSING HOPE**

In addition to promoting and providing affordable housing in Snohomish County, Housing Hope offers support services including life-skills training, childcare, case management, and employment services.

Donations can be made online at <http://www.housinghope.org> or mailed to:

Housing Hope Administrative Offices
5830 Evergreen Way
Everett, WA 98203

The **July-September 2021** Tzedakah Box Fund recipient is **COMMON POWER**

This organization works to “foster, support, and amplify a democracy that is just and inclusive.” They do this by educational lectures, training advocates and volunteers, partnering with other community organizations, and investing in the next generation of leaders. The current focus is ensuring the safeguarding of voting rights.

Donations can be made online at <http://commonpower.org> or mailed to their 501(c)(3) charitable partner, Fuse Innovation Fund. Make checks out to Fuse Innovation Fund (add in the notes line “for Common Power”)

EIN: 87-0800705

Mail to:

Common Power

PO Box 51125

Seattle, WA 98115



COMMON POWER
Further Together

Advocacy

Senate Bill 1

The Social Action Committee encourages people to contact their Senators to support Senate Bill 1 to ensure voting rights for everyone. Even if you know your senators support this bill, they need to know we are behind them.

We also encourage people to take advantage of all the information on the Union for Reform Judaism Religious Action Center (RAC) website: <https://rac.org/about-religious-action-center-reform-judaism>.

Representing the values of Reform Judaism, The Religious Action Center is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization which works to “educate, inspire, and mobilize the Reform Jewish Community to advocate for social justice.”

Leadership

May Governing Board Meeting Report

1. We had an introductory presentation from the *Atidaynu* Program, the Camperships Committee, DEI Task Force, Membership Committee, Next Chapter, Nominating Committee, and the Retreat Team.
2. We are continuing to work on the newly redrafted Governing Board Nominations and Elections Policy.
3. We reviewed the progress of the Reopening Task Force, including a contact tracing protocol.
4. We approved two motions related to the upcoming b'nei mitzvahs in May and June, regarding appropriate COVID precautions.
5. We approved a motion accepting Rabbi Kort's new contract.
6. We approved a motion to accept the proposed budget and present it to the congregation for approval.
7. We reviewed and discussed the Strategic Planning Implementation Tool.
8. We were introduced to new/returning member Melch (Reginald) Gillins.
9. We heard updates about the High Holy Days, the Educator search, the Security grant and improved technology/cameras.
10. We prepared for the June 13 meeting and discussed greeting and greeter training.

The New Facilities Task Force

The Task Force has been meeting weekly. If you are interested in viewing our recorded meetings, contact Leslie Elsemore for the link.

Security Efforts For A Safe Reopening

Our Safety and Security Committee, chaired by **Miriam VonAschen-Cook**, has been helping us to get ready to safely reopen. Through their efforts, both physical and procedural actions have been taken as follows:

- A grant proposal has been submitted to Homeland Security. We will find out this fall if we are selected to receive this grant of just under \$70,000. It will be used to hire off-duty police officers for security duty during services, replace the doors into the building with security doors, and improve our security camera and lighting systems.
- The fence around our property has been installed. The gates have also been installed and the gaps under the fence have been filled in.
- Through FEMA, greeters and staff have access to training in Surveillance Awareness, Workplace Security, and Active Shooter training.
- An incident report form has been developed and will be readily available at all programs.
- An Emergency Plan is being created to address natural disaster, fire, or active threat scenarios.

A huge thank you to Miriam and their committee!

Temple Leadership Rabbi

Rachel Kort

Governing Board

President
Melanie Field

VP of Finance & Facilities Management
Bob Goodmark

VP of Community & Engagement
Tim Douglass

VP of Jewish Life
Jennifer Cail

Board Secretary
Tina Roth

Assist. VP of Finance & Facilities Management
James Feinberg

Assist. VP of Community & Engagement
Wanda Bresnick

Assist. VP of Jewish Life
Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Members-At-Large
Deb Henry
Eric Elsemore
Mila Lowery

Immediate Past President
Vicky Romero

Committees & Task Forces

Adult Education: Vacant

Alternative Options TF: David Fine

Bereavement: Susan Cross

Book Club: Ellie Hochman

Building: Jeff St. George

Calendar: Sarah Davis

Campership: Sonia Siegel Vexler

College and Military Outreach: Sarah Davis

Communications: JonaRose Feinberg

COVID-19: Ron Green

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI):

Sonia Siegel Vexler

Facebook: Deb Henry

Financial Administrator: Norm Black

First Chapter: Michelle Douglass

Fundraising: Michele Goodmark

High Holy Days: Jerry and Cheryl Waldbaum
and Doug Wallis

Hybridization: Glen Pickus

Legacy: Harold Dash

Library: Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Membership: Leslie Elsemore

Mitzvah Corps: Carolyn Wexler

New Facilities TF: Paul Vexler

Next Chapter: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Nominations: Sonia Siegel Vexler

ORacle: Vicky Romero

ORbits: Lori Wolff

Re-Opening TF: Wanda Bresnick

Security: Miriam VonAschen-Cook

Small Groups: Rebecca Hicks

Social Action: Naomi Katsh and

Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Spirituality & Ritual: Vacant

Website: JonaRose Feinberg

Youth Education: Mila Lowery and Tina Roth

Staff

Office Administrator: Sarah Davis

Youth Group: Eian Snyder

June 2021

Sivan — Tammuz 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Executive Brd Mtg 7:00pm	2 DEI Task Force 4:00pm	3	4	5 Shabbat Morning Service and Max Young B'nei Mitzvah 10:00am
6 The Nosh 8:00am Gov/ Brd Mtg. 9:00am DEI Challenge 4:00pm	7 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30pm Mah Jongg Lessons 7:00pm	8	9	10 Office Closed	11 Office Closed Shabbat Service 7:30pm	12
13 The Nosh 8:00am General Membership Meeting 10:00am DEI Challenge 4:00pm	14 Communications Committee Mtg. 6:30pm Mah Jongg Lessons 7:00pm	15 COVID Task Force 7:00pm	16 DEI Task Force 4:00pm	17	18 Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:45pm	19
20 The Nosh 8:00am Book Club 10:00am	21 Mah Jongg Lessons 7:00pm	22	23	24	25 Pride Shabbat 6:00pm Note: pre- registration required	26
27 The Nosh 8:00am	28 Mah Jongg Lessons 7:00pm	29	30 DEI Task Force 4:00pm			

All Activities are virtual as of this publication. Links are in *ORbits*.

The Temple building remains closed with the exception of our Office Administrator, and one weekly cleaning. We will keep you posted regarding reopening.

Check *ORbits*, TBO Facebook page, or the TBO website for the most up-to-date information.

July 2021

Tammuz — Av 5781

Almost all activities are virtual at this time. Links are in *ORbits*.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 K'hilah Shabbat Service 5:45pm	3
4 Independence Day Exec. Bd. 9:00am	5 Finance Committee Mtg 6:30pm	6	7	8 Office Closed	9 Office Closed Shabbat Service 7:30pm	10
11 The Nosh 8:00am Governing Brd Mtg. 9:00am	12 Communications Committee Mtg. 6:30pm ORacle Submission Deadline	13	14 Legacy Committee 10:00am	15	16	17 Outdoor Shabbat Morning Service 10:00am Pre-Registration Required
18 The Nosh 8:00am	19 Membership Committee Mtg. 7:00pm	20	21	22	23 Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:45pm	24
25 The Nosh 8:00am	26	27	28	29	30	31

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Temple Beth Or
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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).