

Elements

Temple Beth Or has all the Elements of a great Jewish Community!



June~July 2020 / Sivan—Tammus—Av 5780 *ORacle*
and information about our

Semi~Annual General Membership Meeting
on June 28, 2020 at 10:00 am

Please see page 12 for meeting details.

*Behold how good it is, and how pleasant,
when we can be together and create unity.*

Psalms 133:1

Rabbi Kort's Message

We are Temple Beth Or

Years ago, I had an internship at a synagogue with a large message board, the kind where you use a magnet on a poll to change the letters. Alas, the senior rabbi never let me set the sign... I've been reading some great synagogue message boards on social media during shelter in place. SERVICES CANCELLED; PRAYER CONTINUES. WE ARE PRAYING AND LISTENING TO THE SCIENTISTS. If we had a message board at our beloved building, I would write: THIS IS TEMPLE BETH OR AND **WE** ARE TEMPLE BETH OR TOO.

Despite not being able to gather in our building over the past few months we have remained a strong community. We have been reminded that it is our membership that builds *k'hilah k'doshah*, sacred community. I want to take this space in *Elements* to share some of the many ways we have continued to thrive as a sacred community since March.

We continue to support one another in times of joy and sorrow. Our community came out in force via Zoom to mark lifecycles with our members. You helped create a sacred space of worship for **Erica Elsemore** to offer her leadership as a bat mitzvah. You shared your joy for her achievements and she lifted our spirits with her brave and beautiful voice. You created a sacred space of support for our member, **Dan Paquette**,

who lost his mother to COVID-19. Dan, with his words and vulnerability, gave our community the opportunity to know his mom and personalize the importance of slowing the spread of disease.

With many helping hands making phone calls and with the leadership of **Lori Wolff**, Mitzvah Corp led by **Vicki Schwartz**, and Membership led by **Leslie Elsemore**, we were able to be in touch with our members to check in and offer conversation and support.

While many congregations made the difficult decision to forgo Religious School for the year, **Amy Paquette**, our Youth Education Director, worked with our incredible Religious School faculty to move our program online. Just like in our building, Sunday morning begins with *K'hilah*, community time. While the students continue to plow ahead with Hebrew learning in a one-on-one setting, families have shared that maintaining relationships has been the most important aspect of virtual Religious School. Thank you to Amy who has offered exceptional leadership during these last months.

This has not been an easy time to be a leader, and time and time again, I find myself inspired by the leaders of our community, of whom there are many. To quote **Amy Asin**, Vice President, Strengthening



Congregations for the Union for Reform Judaism, "these times have been quite extraordinary and YOU have been quite extraordinary. In this moment, where there are no perfect answers, you have been willing to lead. You have helped make very narrow places, the literal translation of the word *Mitzrayim*, a little less narrow."

Not only has our President, **Vicky Romero**, and the Governing Board worked to ensure that our immediate needs are met during this time of crisis, Vicky continues to lead looking towards our strong future as a congregation. Our Strategic Planning Committee, led by **Paul Vexler**, is moving forward and *Atidaynu*, our leadership development program, led by **Sonia Siegel Vexler**, is continuing their learning virtually.

Being a sacred community means being there for each other, caring for one another, and learning and growing together. Despite not physically being able to be together, we are still here as Temple Beth Or because **we are Temple Beth Or**.

L'shalom,
Rabbi Rachel Kort



Dear Members of Temple Beth Or,

What is the design on the front page of this *Elements*, you might wonder? It is our “Word Cloud” taken from the words **you** used to describe Temple Beth Or (TBO) in the membership survey we completed and submitted for the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Benchmarking Project in March. We are just receiving some of the information now, so we will give you a report when completed. TBO can certainly be proud that we scored very high compared to other like-congregations. That does not mean that we

don’t have areas on which to work. Along with our mentor, we will identify areas of concentration and share them with the community.

As I write my message to you, I am well aware that COVID-19 is on everyone’s mind. How could it not be? Of course, the \$50 million question is: what about the High Holy Days (HHD)? My definitive answer is: we’re working on it. No matter the final decision about how we will celebrate – and make no mistake, we **WILL** celebrate – we will experience a meaningful, beautiful HHD. Please know that we are not making this decision lightly. We have a TBO COVID-19 Task Force led by **Ron Green**. Ron is a highly respected pulmonologist and is bringing together a strong team, including at least one person who works on their company’s coronavirus safety team. Our Jewish tradition teaches that the mitzvah of *pikuach nefesh*, upholding the sanctity of life, is the greatest of mitzvot and will be the task force’s primary concern and goal. The committee will make a recommendation to the Governing Board after evaluating the Puget Sound area’s risks and safety.

Our June Semi-annual General Membership Meeting will be virtual. We are working to make this as seamless and effortless as possible for all our members who choose to participate, and I hope you do, as we will be approving next fiscal year’s budget, along with hearing reports from Strategic Planning and the COVID-19 Task Forces.

While there will be opportunities for all to participate, it will not be business as usual and we will need to modify how we do so. [Please see page 12 for more information about the agenda and logistics of participating in the Zoom meeting.](#) Also please review the budget insert and come prepared to vote on it. If you have questions, you are welcome to contact our Finance VP, Bob Goodmark, or Assistant VP, Ken Moses.

One of the reasons I accepted the position as president of TBO was the opportunity to work with our then new rabbi, **Rabbi Kort**. It almost seems odd to say “new,” as it feels like she has been a part of our community for so long. It has been a wonderful experience for me. In addition, I’ve had the pleasure of working with amazingly dedicated Board members, committee chairs, *Atidaynu* participants, and many, many others. It has been an honor.

The Psalm on the front page of this *Elements* is so true. No matter how we gather, we will be together creating unity.

LaBriyut—to health,
L’shalom,

Vicky Romero

President’s Message

K'hilah (Community) *Mishpacha* (Family)

Nurturing
our
interactive,
multi-
generational,
extended
family

Next Chapter Activities

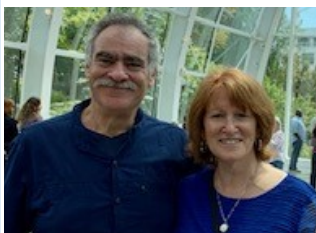
Next Chapter is a *chavurah* (from the word *haver* meaning friendship) for adults seeking to form a social community with others who are at the stage of life experiencing a home without children and for people looking to build friendship and community with others who don't have children at home. The group comes together to learn, socialize, and have fun. Next Chapter will hold an electronic event on Saturday, June 6 hosted by **Melanie Field, Vinaya Chepuri, Janis Warner** and **Norm Black**. More information will be in ORbits.

In August we visited the Hibulb Cultural Center on the Tulalip Reservation. The tour was organized by **Kathie Roon**. Afterwards we feasted on salmon caught and barbecued by **Tony Roon**.

In September we gathered at **Barb and Mike Ingram's** to celebrate the publication of **Deborah Nedelman's** book *What We Take for Truth*. Deborah read a section and shared thoughts about writing a book. A potluck lunch was enjoyed by all.

In March **Norm Black** and **Janis Warner** organized a trip to the Museum of Flight. Unfortunately we needed to cancel before we could take flight.

Comments from members (edited, as they had SO many good things to say!)



- I love Next Chapter activities because it is great to see people in a social context from my generation where we have so many similar issues in our lives to share. There are many people who I do not see often and yet they are a part of my extended family and the opportunity to spend a little time making one-on-one connections with people in these long term relationships is priceless. **Vicki Schwartz** and **Al**

Friedman

- We really enjoy the Next Chapter events. They provide an opportunity to connect with friends in a meaningful way, learn something new on tours, cultural field trips, and share new and different experiences. **Leslie** and **Tom Elsemore**



- We like Next Chapter because the events and get togethers are fun and engaging with lots of variety. And of course, there's always good food. Above all, it takes our connection to TBO to another level of community and sharing. -**Julie** and **Dave Maltos**

• Next Chapter gives us an opportunity to socialize with our friends at TBO. It is a great way to stay connected. - **Barb** and **Mike Ingram**

Contact **Sonia Siegel Vexler** for more information.





Meet our newest members, Mary Jane and Marvin Blustein!

We recently moved from Olympia to Lynnwood to be nearer to our children and grandchildren, Erin, Alan, Ruby and Tilly Jacobson. We are very involved with our families both nearby and living elsewhere, especially since we retired and moved from

the Chicago area.

We both taught at the high school level and **Mary Jane** later became an administrator.

We like to read a lot and enjoy watching PBS, the Cubs, and the Bears. **Marvin** takes short trips on his motorcycle and Mary is into genealogy and belongs to a non-fiction book group.

Our favorite holiday is Pesach. We look forward to becoming a part of Temple Beth Or.

Please welcome the **Blusteins** to our community!

Summer Camp

Everyone, especially children, are disappointed that the URJ camps are closed for this summer. The URJ website blog (reformjudaism.org/blog — Q: “How to Talk to Your Kids”) can give you tips on talking to your children about the cancellations.



Camp Kalsman is suffering along with so many of us. The camp leadership had already spent approximately 50% of anticipated income from summer camp in preparations for the campers arrival this year. Kalsman, along with many other camps is in financial danger due to COVID-19 closures. Donations to the camp can be sent to: campkalsman.org/give/ or 3805 108th Ave. NE, Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98004.

K'hilah
(Community)
Mishpacha
(Family)

Nurturing
our
interactive,
multi-
generational,
extended
family

Bereavement Update



In this time of social distancing, experiencing the loss of a loved one can be even more difficult and heartbreaking. The comforting rituals of our tradition are restricted during the pandemic era. Unfortunately, members in our community have experienced losses of loved ones over the last few months. While certainly not the same as being in a room filled with people offering hugs, we have done our best to translate some of the mourning customs to virtual environments. **Rabbi Kort** has hosted a beautiful and well attended Zoom shiva service and *kaddish* is said during our periodic virtual services. We hope that these alternative measures are able to offer some peace and healing to those who are grieving. If you have questions about these practices or need bereavement support, feel free to contact **Susan Cross** or another member of the Bereavement team.

Torah

Lifelong
learning,
searching for
meaning and
seeking
comfort and
healing

Atidaynu: Our Future

Atidaynu: Our Future is TBO's premier leadership development program created by Sonia Siegel Vexler. It is designed as an eight session program, culminating in a Shabbat "graduation." The group met monthly for three hours starting in September. In March they stopped and regrouped and they are now completing the program by Zoom. Each of the participants was nominated by a Board member or a committee chair because they were identified as a person whose commitments and talents can make a real difference in the life of Temple Beth Or. **Rabbi Rachel Kort** and **President Vicky Romero** also attended the sessions.

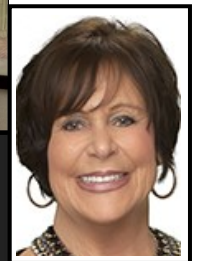
The program is facilitated by **Carolyn Henri** and **Sonia Siegel Vexler**. Participants had the opportunity to engage in conversation about leadership, build meaningful relationships with co-participants, develop and deepen skills necessary for congregational leadership, develop a personal toolkit of congregational leadership skills specifically designed for sacred leadership, and reflect on their own Jewish journey. They also learned the story of our congregation.

Thank you **Carolyn Henri**, **Carolyn Wexler**, **Leslie Elsemore**, **Michele Goodmark**, and **Ron Green**, for providing dinners, and to **Deb Halliday** and **Lori Wolff** for offering to provide dinners for sessions we weren't able to offer.

If you are interested in finding out more about ***Atidaynu***, contact **Sonia Siegel Vexler**.



**Atidaynu
Class of
2020**



Shown above are the people who participated in this program (left to right): Sonia Siegel Vexler, Carolyn Henri, Vicky Romero, Jessica Hill, Jennifer Mendelson, Anne Gurien, Kaye Gorlick, Julie Mackoff, John Bennett, Rabbi Kort, Melissa Von Aschen-Cook, Peter Zieve, Rebecca Hicks, James Feinberg.

Religious School

As I write this, my final report to the community as Education Director of Temple Beth Or, I am filled with both great sadness and excitement. I anticipated that this would be a quiet and uneventful year. We have amazing faculty, fantastic *madrichim*, and a Rabbi who is a brilliant educator. What could possibly go wrong?

Well, nothing did go wrong! In fact, it became even more wonderful. During a year where we all thought things would be “business as usual,” we learned the following lessons:

1) We are creative and resilient! Before anyone knew of the pesky virus, COVID-19, our Religious School was trying new things. Under Rabbi Kort's leadership, we experienced new types of Sukkot and Simchat Torah observances. Religious School blended into the larger community for an evening of food, learning, and celebration. Moving into fall and winter, classes enjoyed Religious School, Confirmation went on more field trips, teachers learned through Limmud, and even Adult Hebrew was taught along with Religious School.

When COVID-19 shut down the physical school we didn't know if that was it for the year. When the decision was made to try an online school I wasn't sure if I would be scrambling for faculty. For many of them, the idea of teaching online with Zoom was new. However, our intrepid and creative staff came together and we pivoted to the online school experience. Together, kids baked matzah, learned about the moon, sang songs, read stories, watched videos, shared their pets, and so much more. **Together, we are undaunted.**

2) We really enjoy each other! The one thing I heard from parents and kids is that they missed seeing each other. And, after the first few Zooms, many of our students mentioned how nice it was to reconnect. How amazing that we have a school full of really cool kids. **Community is our strength!**

3) We are committed! Our Religious School is only as strong as our families. I am continually impressed and in awe of the willingness of our families, despite all the craziness in the world, to show up and continue to support the efforts of raising the next generation of Jewish adults. I am certain that on Sunday mornings there are parents who would rather rest than get up early before another week of juggling work, while simultaneously trying to assist their kids through an online school experience - and yet - we see active attendance every Sunday. B'nei mitzvah students had to make tough choices about moving the dates of *simchahs*, a life-cycle that many planned for thirteen years. Yes, students showed up ready to continue to learn. **We are unstoppable.**

There is a special picture that we posted in honor of those who died and survived the Holocaust. It is our Religious School students holding a sign that says “We Remember.” That is my take away from this year. I will never forget the children, the staff, the *madrichim*, and the TBO leadership that made this year unforgettable in all the right ways.

Amy Paquette

Director of Youth Education



“And the Youth Shall See Visions”

Torah

Lifelong
learning,
searching for
meaning and
seeking
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Interim Religious School Plans for 2020-21

Temple Beth Or remains committed to offering quality Jewish learning and experiences for our children and families for our 2020-21 year. We believe it will be critical for this program to be prepared to support a variety of social distancing measures in order to provide ways for *all of our families to stay healthy, feel comfortable, and participate in Beth Or life.*

We are committed to:

- Building and strengthening relationships among our children and families.
- Creating opportunities for rich and relevant Jewish learning and experiences.
- Maintaining relationships with our excellent TBO education faculty. We will work to engage all of our faculty in our interim program.
- Continuing to support Hebrew learning with the current one-on-one Zoom format.

Components of Interim Religious School:

- One-on-one Zoom format will be used for Hebrew School
 - * in 4th-7th grades,
 - * and will be a tuition-based program.
- Judaics curriculum will be offered for our Religious School families and our entire Beth Or community in a small group format (see next page for more information).
 - * Small groups will be an integral learning and relationship-building component for our Religious School families in the 2020-21 year.
 - * It will be non-tuition based, as a benefit of Temple membership.
- Monthly multi-generational Shabbat experience will provide a space for *K'hilah*, community. We will include a virtual option for participation until social distancing measures are completely lifted.
 - * All families are encouraged to participate as a component of 2020-21 Religious School.
- Monthly formal Shabbat or holiday worship will be an integral part of the program. 4th-7th grade families are encourage to participate in worship as a component of 2020-21 Religious School; this worship experience will support students' Hebrew learning.

Additional Components of Youth Education: We are planning and have budgeted for tot programming, post-b'nei mitzvah learning and BOTY youth group programming.

Leadership: We will hire a designated coordinator for our Hebrew program. With respect to Judaic elements of Religious School, Rabbi Kort will guide this interim year in partnership with lay leadership.

We plan to meet virtually in June to discuss our interim plans, answer questions, and receive input. Feel free to reach out to any of us for additional support.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Rachel Kort; rabbikort@templebethor.org

Beth Burstein Fine, Board Member At Large, Educator Search Quarterback;
babfine@gmail.com

Jennifer Cail, Vice President of Jewish Life; jhkimball@hotmail.com

Jessica Hill, Youth Education Committee Chair; happyhills06@gmail.com

Small Groups

We believe it to be critical to look ahead at programming for the upcoming 2020-21 year and be prepared to support a variety of social distancing measures in order to provide ways for all of our families to stay healthy, feel comfortable, and participate in Beth Or life. In the fall we will launch a new initiative, Small Groups, that offers the flexibility to support social distancing while engaging our community in relationship building and meaningful learning.

What will our Small Groups look like?

- Small Groups will be supported by Rabbi Kort and a designated Small Group Task Force, and we will work to place anyone who would like to be in a Small Group ranging from 2-12 participants.
- Small Groups will meet about once per month.
- Small Groups are a short-term commitment. You will be asked to commit to a Small Group for about four months. At the end of this period, folks will have an opportunity to switch groups or keep existing groups going.
- We'll provide Small Groups with a dynamic curriculum on the theme of our Jewish calendar that will include a variety of activities to choose from each month including:
 - * Video teachings by Rabbi Kort and our Religious School faculty
 - * Traditional and contemporary texts with guided discussion
 - * Hands-on experiences
 - * *Tikkun Olam* opportunities

Small groups are not a structure unique to Beth Or, it is a structure used in many faith-based organizations to promote community and learning. How is a small group different from a traditional *chavurah*?

- While *chavurot* are primarily social in nature, small groups center around relationships and learning.
- Our rabbi and lay leadership will provide Small Groups with ongoing support.
- If you are already engaged in a *Chavurah*, we hope you will continue to meet and, in addition, choose to participate in a Small Group.



Maddy Young's *Tikkun Olam* Project: Bringing More Inclusive Language to Temple Beth Or

Hi everyone, I'm **Maddy Young**. As you may know, I'm nearing my b'nei mitzvah. For my *Tikkun Olam* Project, I'm addressing the issue of LGBTQ inclusion in our community. Not that it's necessarily an issue, I'm just helping to make TBO a more openly safe space. This happens to be a joint project between **Lili Jarol** and me. I'm doing my part by helping incorporate the use of more inclusive language in our community. You might have noticed that in the Rabbi's sermons, she tends to say "people" instead of "men and women," among other things that are more inclusive. I'd like to see that

everywhere, from everyone. I have a list of do's and don'ts regarding inclusive language from the organization Keshet which works for full equality of LGBTQ Jews. Please take a look at it, keep it with you, and try to remember to use the more inclusive phrases in your everyday life.

<https://thesafezoneproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/SZP-Language-DO-DONT-Handout.pdf>.

Torah

Lifelong
learning,
searching for
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comfort and
healing

Avodah

Worship and celebration through the observance of meaningful, creative, and traditional rituals

Mazel Tov to Our 2020-2021 B'nei Mitzvah Cohort

It is not the b'nei mitzvah ceremony itself that transforms a child into an adult. Rather, the ceremony creates a space for the student to offer their leadership as an adult member of the community and for the community to celebrate and support a young adult on their Jewish journey. This pandemic has severely disrupted many of our families' b'nei mitzvah plans. For some families, it makes sense to hold b'nei mitzvah services virtually and for others, it makes sense to postpone. As your rabbi, I have experienced all students and families approach difficult decisions with maturity and full understanding that our greatest Jewish value is *pikuach nefesh*, preserving the sanctity of life.

Our b'nei mitzvah students have been offering their strength and leadership in our community since well before our world was turned upside down because of COVID-19. Our member, **Tim Downie**, the students' Judaic teacher, empowered his students this year, encouraging them to own a special project that is inspiring our entire Beth Or community to be more inclusive. After Tim shared with his students about the organization Keshet which works for full equality of LGBTQ Jews in Jewish life, the class took on a group mitzvah of helping our synagogue get registered with Keshet as an inclusive congregation.

Lili Jarol, for her *Tikkun Olam* Project, took the lead in registering our community with Keshet and worked with our Art Committee to



**Maddy Young
with Bernie Busch**

install signs from Keshet promoting inclusivity in prominent locations around our building. **Maddy Young**, for her *Tikkun Olam* Project, is bringing inclusive language resources to our community. Be sure to check out Maddy's project in *Elements* and *Orbits*.

The B'nei Mitzvah class inspired *Atidaynu* members **Jennifer Mendelssohn** and **Jessica Hill** to provide pronoun buttons for Beth Or name tags. While we can't use them in person right now, we hope they will inspire your email signature. And the class's energy inspired our new, colorful gender inclusive b'nei mitzvah certificates.



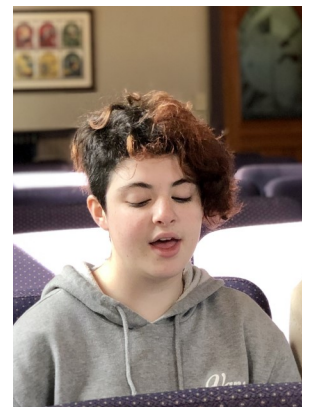
Erica Elsemore

In addition to this special group project, many of our students chose to enhance their individual mitzvah activities by working on a mitzvah with a veteran member of our community. **Maddy Young** and **Bernie Busch** helped shine our Torah ornaments, **Lili Jarol** worked with **Sheryl Shapiro** on our Cemetery Memorial Service, **Jonathan Hill** helped build our sukkah, **Mitch Moses** learned about caring for our vulnerable homeless population with **Paul Vexler** and several of these young adults joined our Beth Or Singers.

Mazel tov to our entire 2020-21 B'nei Mitzvah cohort for embracing our highest Jewish values, leading by example, and being *mensches*! We celebrate you as adults in our Beth Or community and we look forward to celebrating meaningful ceremonies with all of you soon.



Jonathan Hill



Lili Jarol



Social Action

The Social Action Committee has collected the following resources for people in need.

Family Needs:

- ⇒ Within Reach has resources for families, withinreachwa.org
- ⇒ parenthelp123.org, 1.800.322.2588

Emergency Food and Housing information:

- ⇒ Economic Services Administration of the Department of Social and Health Services of Washington State, DSHS.WA.GOV
- ⇒ United Way of Snohomish County, uwsc.org
- ⇒ Washington Food Fund, philanthropynw.org/wa-food-fund

Donation Options:

Prior to realizing the extent of the impact from the pandemic the Social Action Committee had chosen **Cocoon House** as our April-June *Tzedakah* Box recipient. Cocoon House serves homeless and at-risk youth in Snohomish County. Since we don't have access to a physical *Tzedakah* Box, if you are able, please consider supporting Cocoon House by sending donations directly to **3530 Colby Ave, Everett, WA 98201**, or give to a different charitable organization whose mission feels important to you. The coronavirus pandemic has touched everyone and created hardships for all. Charities

Leave a Legacy

LIFE & LEGACY is a four-year legacy-giving and endowment-building program that the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle is carrying out in partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The program gives participating Jewish organizations tools, training and motivation to integrate after-lifetime giving into their philanthropic cultures.



In 2016 Temple Beth Or made application and was chosen, along with 12 other local organizations, by the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle to participate in this program. As a result of achieving the goals set for us, we have received unrestricted grants totaling \$22,500 and have achieved another \$2,000 grant for this fiscal year.

The LIFE & LEGACY endowment program at Temple Beth Or is the opportunity to link your legacy to our future and to connect a hopeful today with a secure tomorrow. Please join the following donors to ensure a vibrant, beautiful, worshipful Jewish presence in Snohomish County for many years to come. **When you give a gift through LIFE & LEGACY, you are the future of Temple Beth Or.**

Anonymous x 16

Selma Balk
Naomi Katsh Barger
Norm Black & Janis Warner
Mark & Wanda Bresnick
Michael & Susan Cross
Harold Dash & Vicky Romero
Tim Downie
Tom & Leslie Elsemore
Melanie Field & Vinaya Chepuri
Al Friedman
Judith Friedman

Gerry Friend & Stan Sussman
Michael & Marilyn Glosser
Michele & Robert Goodmark
Kaye & Michael Gorlick
Deborah Halliday
Debra Henry
Ellie Hochman & Sandy Voit
Andrea Holsten
Janet & Reynold Karr
Jeff Napp & Sheryl Shapiro
Deborah Nedelman & Mel
Trenor

Amy & Dan Paquette
Marla Phippin
Harold Piel
Heidi Piel
Kathie & Tony Roon
Nancy Sosnove & David
Roberts
Jeffrey St. George
Paul Vexler & Sonia Siegel
Vexler
Eldon & Carolyn Wexler
Koby & Aileen Wexler
Peter Zieve

Tikkun Olam

Transforming
ourselves and
our world
through
tzedakah
(fairness),
social justice,
and *g'milut*
chasadim
(acts of
loving
kindness)

Leadership

“When there is no vision the people perish.”

Attending the June 28, 2020 Electronic Semi-Annual General Membership Meeting

As has been the case since shelter-in-place began, we are adjusting to a new normal in many of our activities. We are also learning as we go. One of the unknowns this year is how many people will attend the electronic Semi-annual General Membership Meeting. While we often have a good number of people who attend, will attendance be significantly higher? I hope so. I hope more people will choose to participate in the important information and decisions that help our Temple thrive. Ideally, everyone will feel welcome and interested in attending. That said, in order to electronically accommodate a large group, we need to have some guidelines:

1. We would appreciate **each household use only one computer** to login. Our Zoom contract limits the number of devices that can login to join a meeting and we don't want to exclude anyone for lack of room.
2. As always, we will provide for people to be admitted prior to the beginning of the actual meeting for our traditional schmooze time, this year we're calling "mimosa morning schmooze." You will be able to chat with others prior to the meeting. We encourage you to do so. This will also allow for people to be admitted in a timely way, rather than everyone trying to join the meeting just as the meeting begins.
3. It would be impossible for everyone to be able to speak and be heard during the meeting, so **we are going to mute attendees, other than presenters, once the actual meeting begins.** The chat box will be available to make comments or ask questions. We will have people specifically monitoring the chat box for this purpose. They will then be able to consolidate like-questions/comments to be addressed.
4. We will have a designated **phone consultant** ready to answer Zoom logistical questions during the meeting.
5. We STRONGLY suggest you review the finance materials, included in this publication, ahead of the meeting. If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact Bob Goodmark by email at: VPFinance@TempleBethOr.org.
6. The method of voting will be explained prior to the meeting.
7. We will be sending, through ORbits some tutorials to help you navigate basic Zoom functions prior to the meeting also.

This information will be repeated and more will be available as the meeting date approaches. Please check ORbits for more information.

“The members of the congregation must nurture one another because they need one another. They simply cannot do it alone. Hermits and monasteries are noticeably absent from Jewish history: we are a hopelessly communal people.”

Rabbi Lawrence Kushner

Our New Temporary Normal



Summer BBQ at the Sorianos'



Where We Will Be Again One Day

Building the Sukkah



Religious School Creativity and Fun



Committee And Task Force Chairs and Staff

Adult Education
Heidi Piel

Bereavement
Susan Cross

Building
Jeff St. George

Calendar
Janis Warner

Communications
JonaRose Feinberg

COVID-19
Ron Green

Financial Administrator
Norm Black

First Chapter
Michelle Douglass

High Holy Days
Deb Lawson

Membership
Leslie Elsemore

Mitzvah Corps
Vicki Schwartz

Next Chapter
Sonia Siegel Vexler

ORacle
Vicky Romero

ORbits
Lori Wolff

Religious Practices
Vicki Schwartz

Security
Harold Dash

Social Action
Naomi Katsh

Strategic Planning
Paul Vexler

Office Administrator
Sarah Davis

Leadership

Rabbi
Rachel Kort

Governing Board
President
Vicky Romero

VP of Community Engagement
Tim Douglass

VP of Jewish Life
Jennifer Cail

VP of Finance and Facilities Management
Bob Goodmark

Assist. VP of Community Engagement
Wanda Bresnick

Assist VP of Jewish Life
David Gross

Assist. VP of Finance and Facilities Management
Ken Moses

Board Secretary
Tina Roth

Members At Large
Beth Burstein Fine
Deb Henry
Janis Warner

President-Elect
Melanie Field

June 2020

Sivan — Tammuz — Av 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30-8:30pm	2	3 <i>Atidaynu</i> Leadership Program 7:00pm (invitation only)	4	5 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	6 Electronic Next Chapter Event 7:30pm
7 Religious School	8 Membership Committee Mtg 4:30pm	9	10 Jews and Gender with Heidi Piel 7:00pm (note time change)	11 LIFE & LEGACY Committee Mtg. 2:00pm	12 Shabbat Candle-lighting 5:45pm	13
14	15	16	17 <i>Atidaynu</i> Leadership Program 7:00pm (invitation only)	18	19 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	20
21	22	23	24 <i>Atidaynu</i> Leadership Program 7:00pm Final Class (invitation only)	25	26	27
28 General Membership Meeting 10:00am	29	31				

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE VIRTUAL AT THIS TIME.

Links may be found in ORbits.

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

July 2020

Tammuz — Av — Elul 5780

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	4
5	6 Finance Committee Mtg. 6:30-8:30pm	7	8	9 LIFE & LEGACY Committee Mtg. 2:00pm	10	11
12 Governing Board Meeting 10:15	13 Membership Committee Mtg 4:30pm	14	15	16	17 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Shabbat Candle-lighting 5:45pm	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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Our Mission

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).

