

L' Chayim!

Celebrating Life and Community at Temple Beth Or



The world is beginning to open up more, spring is here, and Temple Beth Or is enjoying gathering and celebrating in person.

Next Chapter Went Snowshoeing

Nine hearty souls ventured into the below 20-degree temperatures at Snoqualmie Pass to enjoy a day of snowshoeing around Gold Creek Pond. Sunshine and 360-degree snow-covered mountains were our rewards! We enjoyed a snow picnic, a bit of bird-watching, and capped off the day with tasty hot chocolates. A good time was had by all!

Religious School Purim Celebration

In-person Purim celebrations are back! On Sunday, March 13 the TBO Religious School held a fun-filled Purim party complete with prizes, costumes, and music! The kids enjoyed activities such as bean bag toss, basketball, mini golf, bowling, egg and spoon relay, and - maybe most satisfying of all - a chance to smash a pie in Haman's face! We capped off the festivities with a sing-a-long led by Noah Zeichner and hamantaschen to take home.





Passover is Coming!!!

I LOVE Passover!

I believe that it is the most beloved Jewish holiday. Mixed in with all the cooking, cleaning, cooking, massive table setting, cooking, food shopping, cooking, potential shuffling of dishes and furniture, cooking, sweeping up crumbs (and did I mention cooking?) is one of the most joyful and fun celebrations of the year for my family. This year I really cannot wait, especially because the last two years have been so subdued. We all have done the best we could with Zoom, Facetime, smaller/more intimate/limited groups, etc. but it has not been the same. I am so excited to have something that looks a little bit more like a regular Passover seder. Hurrah!

So why do I love Passover so much?

- It is a holiday where the focus (at least the way we do it) is on gratitude and freedom. It is looking at the bigger picture. It is not about what each person gets individually.
- It is filled with so much tradition - grandma's recipe for this, so and so's recipe for that, the seder plate bought on that special day, the Miriam's cup given by this friend, that person's favorite song, another person's favorite poem, and so on.
- There are amazing and powerful symbols that teach our history.
- Each year we tweak it just a little to reflect what is happening in the world, so while filled with tradition, it also changes and grows. New traditions emerge each year.
- It has such extraordinary and unusual foods, many of which most of us do not regularly eat at other times of the year – *charoset*, matzah, and of course gefilte fish!
- I love all the singing!!!
- While I myself am not much of a drinker, for some, it is all that wine that makes it super festive. And I do enjoy watching the people who get a little bit silly.
- Each year it is filled with laughter and schmoozing with people we love. We have stories from each year that we share in the following years. We have so many great memories from our seders.

Celebrating Jewish holidays can be inconvenient since there is often school or work or both on the same day and/or the next day, which can be frustrating. I often wish that celebrating "my holiday" was easier. However, on Passover while it may still be inconvenient, I mostly just feel sad for everyone who is NOT attending a seder. They are missing out on the celebration. I feel special and lucky that I get to partake of this wonderful holiday.

My daughter says, "Passover is the best. It is like Thanksgiving, only better." I agree.

Dayeinu,
Melanie (she/her)

President



COVID-19 Task Force Update

Our Temple Beth Or Combined COVID-19 Task Force met February 28 to review the current TBO COVID-19 safety protocols and the Governor's updated COVID-19 procedures. The Governing Board met March 6 and supports the Task Force recommendation. The resulting recommendations are provided below.

It should be noted that other entities in our area are adopting similar measures including airlines, public transportation, and the Seattle Police Department which is continuing masking to at least early April. The Seattle Arts Community is also continuing rigorous protocols, including masking, for the remainder of the season.



We want to thank everyone in the congregation for their diligence to date in respecting and upholding our protocols. We also want to reassure everyone that we are planning to have more in-person services and activities in the coming days. Watch *ORbits*, the *ORacle*, the website, the calendar, and Facebook to see what's coming up. For those who are not quite ready for in-person, not to worry, we are committed to continuing live streaming of our in-person services.

We are really looking forward to enjoying the new normal together. Let's start now! Be sure to come to our next in-person service on April 1.

February 28, 2022 Combined COVID-19 Task Force Recommendations

In light of the changing COVID-19 situation, the Combined COVID-19 Task Force (TF) held a meeting on February 28 to reevaluate the TBO COVID-19 safety protocols. Per the Governor's statement, as an individual organization we are empowered to make our own decisions with regards to COVID-19 protocols. We used our value-based decision-making and focused on *pikuach nefesh* (sanctity of life) and connecting the community. We also used health metrics to guide our decision.

The TF recommends that we maintain our current protocols until mid-April, in order to observe the results of the post mask mandate situation. If cases remain below 25 per 100,000 population in Snohomish County (the original COVID-19 health metric for removing mitigating protocol) masking for in-person activities at TBO will become optional. This applies to Religious School and teen programming as well. The TF will meet again in early April to assess the post mask mandate COVID-19 situation.

We will continue to live stream in-person services for the foreseeable future to ensure that everyone has access to our prayer community.

COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters Now Required

Everyone who is eligible for vaccination and booster(s) must be fully vaccinated and have received a booster to attend in-person events. Those who are not yet eligible are also welcome to attend. Please update your vaccine status so you are ready to go for our next in-person event.

tinyurl.com/vaccinereporting





Combating Antisemitism: Senate Resolution 8658



Combating antisemitism is core to the mission and values of the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle and its Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). Anti-Defamation League statistics show that antisemitic incidents increased by a shocking 60% over the past five years, and recent reports show that understanding of the Holocaust is disturbingly low. We know that shedding light on antisemitism and the ills that fuel it, and creating opportunities to deepen understanding of antisemitism and its impacts, are important steps toward creating a safer future.

Senator David Frockt, a leader in the Jewish Caucus of the Washington State Legislature, recently reached out to the JCRC Government Affairs team and shared his desire to sponsor a resolution condemning the recent rise and horrific nature of increased antisemitism. A resolution is a non-legally binding document that can be passed by either the House or the Senate which recognizes and/or articulates a position on an issue of significance.

We are excited to share Washington State Senate Resolution 8658 condemning antisemitism. This was drafted in partnership with Senator Frockt and joined by Senators Andy Billig, Jesse Salomon, Claire Wilson, Reuven Carlyle, and Lisa Wellman in offering the resolution. The Senate resolution was adopted on February 22, 2022.



The final section of the resolution reads “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate resolve to combat antisemitism, in all its forms, for the protection of the Jewish community of Washington State and to uphold the values of a tolerant and pluralistic society that binds us together as Americans.”

Welcome Back Randy and Deborah Jergensen!



Randy and Deborah live on Camano Island. They have one son, Sam, and adopted a famous Facebook dog, Nora, from PAWS. Randy has shared his knowledge and teachings with TBO adults and children as a Religious School teacher and at High Holy Days. He enjoys building rockeries, reading, and binge watching *Blacklist*. Deborah enjoys gardening, reading, doing puzzles, spending time with her sisters, and loving on Nora.

The Jergensens were members previously and rejoined TBO during COVID. They missed our open, inviting, and inclusive community where people go out of their way to be welcoming. Randy’s favorite TBO memory is teaching third grade. His favorite holiday is Yom Kippur because you must be honest with yourself. We are excited to welcome them both back and we look forward to learning more with Randy.

April Service Schedule



All regular Shabbat services are now accessed
using the same Zoom link.

We will still use unique links for
b'nei mitzvah and special events.

Shabbat Zoom: tinyurl.com/tboshabbatzoom

Meeting ID: 837 4187 0594 Passcode: 531760

For Dial In Users: (253) 215-8782



Friday, April 1, 7:30 pm

Shabbat Service (in-person and streamed over Zoom)

with Rabbi Kort and Noah Zeichner

Join Rabbi Kort and Noah for a musical Shabbat worship service using our prayerbook *Mishkan T'filah*. This Shabbat service will include a *drash* (sermon) and an opportunity to remember loved ones with *Kaddish*. This service is geared towards our adult and *b'nei mitzvah* student communities and will last just over an hour.



Pre-registration required for in-person attendance. Registration for families with *yahrzeits* opens on March 25. General registration opens March 29. Registration closes April 1 at 3:00 pm. Please visit templebethor.org/service-registration to register.



Friday, April 8, 5:45 pm

K'hilah - Community Shabbat (interactive online via Zoom)

A Musical, Multi-generational Shabbat with Rabbi Kort and Shoshana Stombaugh

Join us for a multi-generational, musical Shabbat worship experience that includes community, candle lighting, singing and a story. There will be an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*—mourner's prayer. We will use our prayer book *Mishkan T'filah*. This service is great for all ages and will last about 45 minutes.



Friday, April 15

Pre-recorded Shabbat Offering with Rabbi Kort

Please check the TBO website calendar and *ORbits* for the link to this recording (available April 11).

Rabbi Kort's words can be shared around your seder table or inspire your Passover celebration.



Saturday, April 23, 10 am (in-person and streamed over Zoom)

Shabbat Morning and Yizkor Memorial Service with Rabbi Kort and Noah Zeichner

Join our community Shabbat worship service using our prayerbook *Mishkan T'filah*. This Shabbat service will include a *drash* (sermon), and an opportunity to remember loved ones with our *Kaddish*. It is customary to conclude the Passover holiday with memorial blessings. Rabbi Kort will incorporate themes of remembrance into the service and recite *El Malei Rachamim*, our prayer for our departed. This service is geared towards our adult and *b'nei mitzvah* student community and will last just over an hour.



Pre-registration is required for in-person attendance. Registration for families with *yahrzeits* opens April 15, general registration on April 19. Registration closes at 3:00 pm on April 22.





***Ruach* and Ritual Kick Off Event with Cantor Ellen Dreskin Sunday, April 3 at 4:00pm (Zoom)**

We have the honor and great joy of featuring an afternoon with Cantor Ellen Dreskin. She will help us set the tone, cultivate interest, share ideas, engage, and inspire. Cantor Dreskin is our High Holy Days Cantor, a nationally renowned artist-in-residence, worship consultant, and spiritual director. She will guide us from the spiritual experiences we seek to the practical Jewish possibilities of their expression as we explore together the themes of:

What is spirituality? What is prayer?



Bring your prayer questions and desire for spiritual connection. The session will be about 75 minutes.

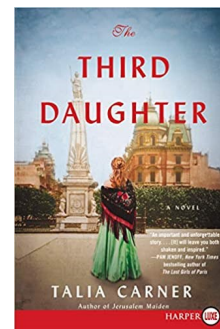
Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/tborandr>

Meeting ID: 861 7217 9058 Passcode: 725881

Book Club - *The Third Daughter* by Talia Carner

Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am - Noon

April's book club selection is *The Third Daughter* by Talia Carner. It is a work of historical fiction which brings to light a dark and little known time in Jewish history - the sex trafficking of young Jewish women from Russia to Argentina in the late nineteenth century. Please contact Julie Maltos for more information on book club and the Zoom link to join .



Camp Kalsman

Taste of Kalsman

(New & Prospective Campers Current Grades 1-4)

Friday, April 22 - Saturday, April 23

Join us for an overnight at Camp Kalsman with songs, games, s'mores, new friendships, and so much more! This is a great way for your child to meet new friends and get comfortable at camp before the summer begins!

For more information on this program and other upcoming Camp Kalsman programs, please visit: campkalsman.org.

Camp Kalsman is now hiring for Summer 2022. Please see the website for more information.



Do you have a *simcha* to share with your TBO community?

We'd love to include it in the *ORacle*!

TORAH

D'var Torah: Vayak'heil

adapted from the *d'var Torah*

presented by Ellis Engbar

Shabbat service on February 25, 2022



Several weeks ago we had a Zoom technical difficulty that resulted in some not getting to hear the inspiring words of our lay leader Ellis Engbar. Below you will find an excerpt from that d'var. The full text can be found at tinyurl.com/dvarfeb25

This Shabbat, not only do we study *Vayak'heil*, it is also Shabbat *Shekalim*. Shabbat *Shekalim* is the first of four special Shabbatot leading up to Pesach.

Jews in the Torah were not counted in the usual fashion. They each provided a half-shekel and these shekels (or shekalim) were counted. Then the shekels were used for the maintenance of the *Mishkan*. Many people applaud this form of “equality.” A shekel is actually a measurement and the rabbis said this made everyone equal in the way they counted or are measured in the community and share equal standing in support of the *Mishkan*. This sounds lovely but the reality is, those shekels, symbolically, have different weights. For some people they weigh almost nothing. A half-shekel does not even get counted in their budget while for others, every half-shekel must be counted and accounted for.

The combination of Shabbat *Shekhalim* and *Vayak'heil* have me thinking of the *Mishkan* building we are taking on and the lessons we might want to consider in our process. Our *Mishkan*, like the one in *Vayak'heil*, is crowd sourced, and we are the crowd. How will we weigh our half-shekels? I want to share a story about how I weigh mine.

When I was President there was a member who was paying dues of \$5 per month. She did not have enough money to have a checking account or a debit card. Each month she got on the bus for a trip to her bank, stood in line, filled out her withdrawal form, waited again, got her \$5 bill and took the next bus to the Temple. She came in and paid her dues. Every month, without fail. If it was raining, if she was tired, if she missed a bus, if she was sick, if she had unexpected expenses for the month, she hand-delivered her \$5. When I learned of this, I learned that the same shekel can carry very different weights. I believe the weight of her shekels was quite hefty. Those shekels made me question every ounce of mine. The numbers on my shekels might be higher, but they do not weigh more. Ever since witnessing this I do my best to honor the weight of her giving. If not the dollar amount then by the weight of mine. To be honest, I often fall short.

I am assuming at some point each of us may be called upon to share an art or craft skill or ability, for the actual building or beautifying our shared sacred space. I have few of these skills. I will show up just to discover if I might have a skill to which I have been previously unaware. What a surprising divine gift that could be. Or it could be my skill set is making sandwiches and mocktail mojitos to support those whose skills are more specific to the task.

I think now is the time to start measuring the weight of our shekels and looking for our divinely inspired abilities. As leadership coordinates and explains and explores, I believe we as individuals need to be doing the same. It is never easy to ask others for their time or their money. In fact, I believe being good at that is one of the divine skills not all of us have. I encourage everyone to start preparing for that moment, helping the conversations be comfortable and the results productive to everyone's benefit. And with our attention, may we manifest divine time and create a divinely inspired, sacred space together.

Ways to Help Ukraine

As Rabbi Kort has said, our prayers are with the brave people of Ukraine and we are angry, sad, and eager to help yet it can be difficult to know how to help.

In addition to the two organizations the Social Action Committee has selected to aid, HIAS and Ukrainian Association of Washington (see page 10), Rabbi Kort has suggested the two following charities supporting Jewish communities in Ukraine.



Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

Funds collected by the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle for Ukrainian relief will support emergency efforts by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), and World ORT. Please visit tinyurl.com/jewishseattleukraine.



World Union for Progressive Judaism Ukraine Crisis Fund

The Religious Action Center (RAC.org), the social justice arm of the URJ, also recommends World Union for Progressive Judaism's Ukraine Crisis Fund. The RAC website also has links to a recorded prayer service and additional information regarding advocacy work. tinyurl.com/wupjukraine.

Additional Organizations

There are many, many organizations involved in trying to help with humanitarian and medical aid. Here are just a few organizations with proven track records: International Rescue Committee, Save the Children, Doctors Without Borders, and World Central Kitchen.

Supporting Ukrainian Businesses Locally

Shopping at local Ukrainian businesses feels like the right thing to do at this time to at least show emotional support. Katya's Bakery on 128th St SW in Everett has delicious ways of showing that you stand with Ukraine.



Passover Resources

Whether you gather in-person or online, we hope you enjoy a meaningful holiday. We will not offer a TBO seder this year, but would like to share resources for you to create your own.



First time planning a seder? Cheat Sheet: Everything You Need to Know About Passover
18doors.org/passover-cheat-sheet



Download and/or personalize your own Haggadah (free)
www.haggadot.com



Splurge on the new Reform Haggadah, *Mishkan HaSeder*. Combining age-old texts, fresh insights, inspiring poetry, new translations, and breathtaking art, using the beloved format of our prayerbooks *Mishkan T'filah* and *Mishkan HaNefesh*.
ccarpess.org



Prepare for the holiday with learning or enhance your seder with video teachings from the Union for Reform Judaism.
reformjudaism.org/tags/worship

Passover Social Action Guide

Edited and adapted from

Passover Social Action Guide | Reform Judaism.org

Each month the Social Action Committee is sharing an article to bring diversity, equity, and inclusion insights to the congregation.

Passover is rich in social justice themes. Among the primary social justice themes found in the Exodus story and in the Passover observance are hunger, homelessness, oppression, and redemption.

At Passover, we are reminded of a time when Jews were once restricted to eating only matzah, considered the “bread of affliction,” due to the hasty retreat from Egypt. This experience with hardship following the exodus from Egypt is an inspiration to consider those who eat the metaphorical “bread of affliction” in present times.

Passover also serves as a painful reminder that the Jewish people were seen as strangers in the land of Egypt and spent 40 long years of wandering in the wilderness without a home. These elements of the Passover story remind us of current issues of immigration and refugee concerns, and the memory of being displaced instills in us a desire to eradicate homelessness in the modern era.

At Passover, we read, “This year we are slaves. Next year, may we all be free.” This personal experience is a motivation to examine the current international situation and wrestle with cases of injustice, oppression, and modern-day slavery. Thus, Passover provides us an opportunity to raise awareness of contemporary examples of slavery and oppression throughout the world, such as human trafficking, the sex trade, and even domestic violence, which traps victims within their homes, limiting their freedom as surely as if they were enslaved.

For ideas on how to incorporate social action themes in your Passover observance, please visit: tinyurl.com/socialactionpesach



Offenbacher Haggadah, 1927



Melanie's Passover Farfel Kugel

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 2 cups matzo farfel | 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees | 6. Combine onion mixture, farfel, eggs, and spices |
| 1 cup diced onion | 2. Grease 8 inch square | 7. Transfer to pan and bake 35-40 |
| 1 cup leeks (1 stalk) | 3. Cover farfel with 2 cups boiling water and let stand 5 minutes | 8. Enjoy with salsa, ketchup, the condiment of your choice, or as is. |
| 3 cloves garlic | 4. Cook veggies in 2 Tablespoons olive oil until soft | |
| 1 large jalapeno | 5. Beat eggs | |
| 4 eggs | | |
| salt, pepper, rosemary | | |

Tzedakah Box



The *Tzedakah* Box Fund recipient for April -June is HIAS Ukraine Crisis Fund.

**Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.**

HIAS (previously known as Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) works around the world to protect refugees who have been forced to flee their homelands because of who they are. This includes ethnic, religious, and sexual minorities. For more than 130 years, HIAS has been helping refugees rebuild their lives in safety and dignity. The Ukraine Crisis Fund will help organizations in Ukraine and Poland work together with HIAS focusing not only on providing support for immediate needs but will also work on establishing a basis for sustained efforts.



You can help by writing a check to Temple Beth Or and noting “*tzedakah box*” in the memo or donating directly to HIAS at **HIAS.org** (HIAS PO Box 97077 Washington, DC 20090-7077)

Community Giving Fund Recipients

Rabbi Kort and the Social Action Committee have chosen the charitable organizations that are this year's Community Giving Fund recipients. Thanks to the generosity of Temple Beth Or members we will be donating \$1,000 each to the following charitable organizations.

Ukrainian Association of Washington

In times of peace this organization celebrates and educates about Ukrainian culture.

At this devastating time of war, these are now the priorities:

- Deliver medical supplies to hospitals in Ukraine (in partnership with Medical Teams International)
- Provide body armor and other supplies to civilians defending their neighborhoods
- Support civilians in learning life-saving medical skills
- Help internally displaced families and orphans



For more information please visit **uaws.org**.

HIAS

HIAS is also this quarter's *Tzedakah* Box fund recipient, this organization has a long history of successful and respectful refugee resettlement. Please see above for more information.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Washington(MMIWW)

MMIWW helps government agencies gain the knowledge and resources they need to prevent crimes against Indigenous women, men, children, and two-spirits. “Two-spirit” refers to a person who identifies as having both a masculine and a feminine spirit, and is used by some Indigenous people to describe their sexual, gender and/or spiritual identity. The group also helps raise awareness at schools and community groups to ensure indigenous people are safe and free from harm. MMIWW provides support services to help heal victims and their families.

For more information please visit

missingandmurderedindigenouswomenwashington.org.





Ways to Help Afghan Refugees

Hundreds of Afghan refugee families are expected to resettle in our region in the coming months. Here are some ways to show support:

- Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS) Redmond is seeking volunteers mapsredmond.org/wahelpafghans/
- World Relief Seattle has information on their website about items needed for Welcome Kits for Afghan families. tinyurl.com/reliefwelcomekit
- Washington Department of Social and Health Services has information about supporting refugees including hosting families. tinyurl.com/dshsafghans
- Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest provides support including social services, career development and English language classes to refugees and immigrants from all over the world. RISNW.org

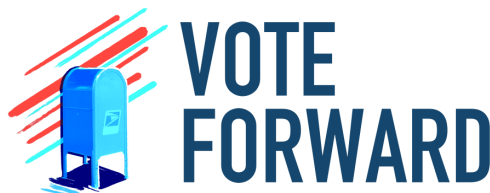
Greening Congregations



Temple Beth Or has an exciting opportunity to become a Greening Congregations Partner with Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light (WAIPPL). Earth Ministry/WAIPPL is the local branch of an inter-denominational/multi-faith organization that encourages faith-based environmental stewardship and sustainability. Becoming a Greening Congregations Partner would help us engage in the vital work of environmental action as a congregation.

We are looking to form a Green Team, made of two or three individuals, who would be our contact with Earth Ministry/WAIPPL and would formulate a plan to move forward with the greening of Temple Beth Or. To express your interest or for more information please contact Melissa VonAschen-Cook or Naomi Katsh Barger.

A Relatively Easy and Very Meaningful Volunteer Opportunity



Writing letters to voters is one of the most effective ways to improve election turnout. Please consider volunteering from home with votefwd.org.

Prayer Book Project

Thanks to our BOTY teens and the Membership Committee all our prayer books are now numbered and cataloged. BOTY members Jonathan Hill, Max Young, Quinn Downie, and Tommy Cail along with BOTY leader, Eian Snyder worked and schmoozed with Membership Committee members Debbie Halliday and Leslie Elsemore to get our TBO prayer book data catalogued for future reference. Be sure to say thanks next time you connect with any of these book angels.



Mitzvah Corps : Our Temple Beth Or Caring Community



Temple Beth Or's Mitzvah Corps has been a hallmark of our congregation. We are the support system for Temple families in times of need. It takes a village to provide a safety net when something turns your life in unexpected directions due to injury, accidents, health issues, or family upsets, to name just a few.

The Mitzvah Corps also works closely with the Bereavement Committee and our Rabbi during times of need. We all find ourselves in need of support sometime. You don't need to know the people you are helping and your first introduction to them can be when you are reaching out to provide support. Sometimes these strangers will later become close friends. As a volunteer for the Mitzvah Corps, you will never be expected to do more than you can. Many people volunteer once or twice a year and that's it.

Here are a few examples of how the Mitzvah Corps has offered help in the past:

- Preparing meals and deliveries
- Sending cards
- Visitations in homes, hospitals or care facilities
- Phone visits
- Working closely with the Bereavement Committee

How to join: Visit tinyurl.com/mitzvahcorps and click on "Join This Community". You will be asked to fill out a very short form. You will then receive a welcome email that will request that you confirm your participation by clicking on a confirmation link. Once confirmed, you will automatically receive occasional emails notifying you of Mitzvah Corps needs.



Please contact us at mitzvah@templebethor.org if you have any difficulties with how to join or if you have needs or questions. Thank you.

Carolyn Wexler
Chair, Mitzvah Corps

The Next Chapter Bagel Walk

Wednesday, May 18, 10:30 am



Take a 3.5 mile walk through some beautiful Capitol Hill real estate and stop at 3 bagel places. The walk will include some hills and uneven sidewalks. Bring money for bagels (\$2-\$2.50/bagel without schmears) and drinks. You choose what kind of bagel/schmears (or no schmears) you want. You get to decide which one fits your palate and compare it to your go to favorite. The bagels come in bags so you can have a taste and save room for the next stop.

Bagelries we will visit: Eltana, Dingfelder's (sourced from Blazing Bagels), and Rubensteins.

Let's meet at the south entrance of the Volunteer Park Water Tower. There is parking in the park and nearby streets. Don't park where there is a 2 hour limit (just in case). If you get there early walk the 106 steps to the top of the Water Tower.

Please RSVP to Lori Wolff by Monday, May 16.



Temple Beth Or Capital Campaign

What's happening with the building remodeling project?

A lot of work has been going on over the last few weeks to prepare us for the next phase of our capital campaign. Rabbi, Temple leadership, and numerous committee members have been meeting with our consultant, Rachel Maxwell, from Stewardship for Us. She has been conducting these interviews to get an understanding of our culture, our priorities, our concerns, and our hopes and dreams. At the time of this writing we are preparing for an opportunity for members who have not done so yet to meet with her and share their thoughts.

On March 27 Rachel is scheduled to share her findings with the congregation and spoke about the next steps. This meeting was set to be recorded, so if you missed it you can watch it after the fact. Check out *ORbits*, Facebook, and the TBO facilities webpage for links and further information. We are so excited to start moving into Phase Two of the Capital Campaign process which will involve the financial feasibility assessment. If you are interested in joining the team working on this, please contact Norm Black.

On a parallel track, the building design group is gearing up for their next step. They have been working on obtaining a cost estimate for the more limited building option and preparing for a workshop with the congregation later this month. Plan to join us on Zoom for Town Hall Meeting #7 on Wednesday, April 20 at 7:00 pm to review the building designs, cost estimates and share ideas for what you'd like to see in the new campus. While all ideas and suggestions are welcome, note that we are limited by timelines, budgets and other practical considerations when it comes to the final design. If you are interested in joining this team, please reach out to Paul Vexler. We are also planning for some site tours later in the spring. Watch for details coming soon.



Town Hall Meeting #7
Wednesday, April 20, 7:00 pm
<https://tinyurl.com/townhall7tbo>

Meeting ID: 891 1070 4014
Passcode: 572575
Dial In: (253) 215 8782

Adult *B'nei Mitzvah* & Covenant Renewal

Beginning April 5, Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

B'nei mitzvah can be a meaningful experience beyond thirteen. Our adult *b'nei mitzvah* community will meet twice a month for dynamic Jewish learning with Rabbi Kort (1st and 3rd Tuesdays). Our member and master educator, Nancy Rosen, will teach the Hebrew section three times per month (1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesday). The class will culminate with a special ceremony taking place in spring 2023. This experience will be an opportunity to engage in deep Jewish learning, be a part of a learning community, and participate in a *b'nei mitzvah* ceremony at Temple Beth Or.



Please contact Rabbi Kort if you are interested in participating.

Leadership News

During the Governing Board meeting on March 6 the Board did the following:

1. Got an update on the Purim festivities planning from Jennifer Cail.
2. Approved the minutes from the February 13 meeting.
3. Reviewed the logistics for the March 27 congregational meeting.
4. Discussed signing up for greeter duties, using the Shabbat Tracker.
5. Approved two financial motions (1) updating the authorized signers and (2) approving the Rabbi's parsonage.
6. Heard about the recent Safety and Security meeting from James Feinberg.
7. Was introduced to the Campership, Nominations and Next Chapter Committees by Sonia Siegel Vexler.
8. Approved updated Nominations Policy.
9. Considered the latest recommendation from the Combined COVID-19 Task Force. The Board supported the recommendation.
10. Heard a quick update on the Capital Campaign.
11. Discussed the issue of naming rights.
12. Considered the recommendations developed by Jeff Napp with the Communications Committee regarding when and where information about upcoming events should be shared. The Board supported the recommendation. (Note as an operational procedure, this does not require a Board vote.)
13. Reviewed the Performance Review Process for the Rabbi and Office Administrator drafted by Jeff Napp. The Board supported the proposed process. (Note as an operational procedure, this does not require a Board vote.)
14. Heard an update from James Feinberg about the South Lot rental property.
15. Got an update on the budget preparation from Tom Elsemore.
16. Heard about progress on revamping the Greeter System from Wanda Bresnick.
17. Reviewed the January financial reports.

Free Ways to Support TBO



Fred Meyer Rewards Card Program: Earn money for TBO by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to our TBO account at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Our account number is **94444**. TBO will receive a quarterly donation of a percentage of your purchases. Most grocery, clothing, and household purchases are eligible. There is a list of ineligible purchases on the website. Signing up for this program will not affect earning rewards points, fuel points, or rebates. It's a win-win situation for both of us!

Amazon Smile Program: Designate Temple Beth Or as your non-profit recipient of Amazon donations. Place your order on the Smile Amazon site and Amazon will donate a portion of the your eligible purchases to TBO. tinyurl.com/tboamazon



Temple Leadership

Rabbi

Rachel Kort

Governing Board

President

Melanie Field

VP of Community & Engagement

Jeff Napp

VP of Finance & Facilities Management

James Feinberg

VP of Jewish Life

Jennifer Cail

Assist. VP of Community & Engagement

Will Burgamy

Assist. VP of Finance & Facilities Management

Tom Elsemore

Assist. VP of Jewish Life

Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Board Secretary

Nancy Rosen

Members-At-Large

Eric Elsemore

Mila Lowery

Michael Tarr

President-Elect

Wanda Bresnick

Committees & Task Forces

Adult Education: Vacant

Bereavement: Susan Cross

Book Club: Julie Maltos

Building: Jeff St. George

Building Design: Paul Vexler

Calendar: Sarah Davis

Campership: Sonia Siegel Vexler

College and Military Outreach: Sarah Davis

Capital Campaign: Norm Black

Combined COVID-19: Melanie Field

Communications: JonaRose Feinberg

Facebook: Deb Henry

Financial Administrator: Norm Black

First Chapter: Dana Sanders

Fundraising: Vacant

High Holy Days: Vacant

Life & Legacy/Endowment: Harold Dash

Library: Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Membership: Leslie Elsemore

Mitzvah Corps: Carolyn Wexler

Next Chapter: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Nominations: Sonia Siegel Vexler

ORacle: Sarah Davis

ORbits: Lori Wolff

Ruach and Ritual: Ellis Rose Engbar

Safety and Security: Mirs VonAschen-Cook

Social Action: Naomi Katsh and

Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Technology: James Feinberg

Website: JonaRose Feinberg

Youth Education: Mila Lowery and Tina Roth

Staff

Office Administrator: Sarah Davis

Youth Group: Eian Snyder



April 2022

Adar II - Nisan 5782

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Cap Fundraising Mtg 10:30 am Liaison Mtg Noon Shabbat Service 7:30 pm (In-Person & Online)	2 (Nisan 1, 5782)
3 Religious School R&R Kick Off with Cantor Dreskin 4:00 pm	4 Hebrew School - Bet 4:30 pm Finance Committee Mtg 7:00 pm	5 Hebrew School - Aleph 5:15 pm Adult BMZ Class 6:30 pm	6 Exec Board Mtg 7:00 pm	7	8 Shabbat Service 5:45 pm (Online)	9
10 Religious School Break Governing Board Mtg 9:00 am Book Club 10:00 am	11 Hebrew School - Bet 4:30 pm Communications Committee Mtg 7:00 pm	12 Hebrew School - Aleph 5:15 pm Adult BMZ Class 7:15 pm	13	14	15 Pre-recorded Shabbat Offering	16 Pesach Day 1
17 Religious School Break	18 No Hebrew School Membership Committee Mtg 7:00 pm	19 No Hebrew School Adult BMZ Class 6:30 pm	20 Town Hall Meeting #7 7:00 pm	21	22	23 Shabbat Service 10:00 am
24 Religious School	25 Hebrew School - Bet 4:30 pm	26 Hebrew School - Aleph 5:15 pm	27 Safety & Security Committee Mtg 7:00 pm	28 Yom Ha Shoah	29 Cap Fundraising Mtg 10:30 am	30

Fill out the Calendar/Event Submission form to add an item to the calendar &/or set up a Zoom meeting. This includes all committee meetings.
 Please submit a form even if you are using a private Zoom. Thanks.
templebethor.org/calendar-submission



Reminder: Appointments are still required to access the Temple to assist with contact tracing and limit the number of people in the building at one time. We are also requiring those who enter to sign in and self-attest to the COVID-19 health questions.

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



Temple Beth Or
3215 Lombard Ave
Everett, WA 98201
425.259.7125

Return Service Requested



If you prefer to read the *ORacle* online only please contact the Temple Beth Or office to be removed from the postal mailing list.

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).