

THE ORACLE



June 2025

Sivan/Tammuz 5785

Founded 1985

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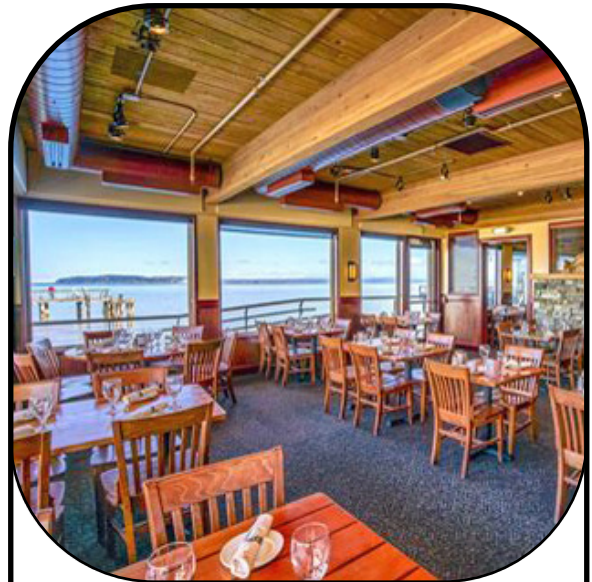
**Community fundraising
brunch and silent auction**
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**Semiannual membership
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From our President



Staying close

We often sing “*Hine ma tov u ma na'im chevet achim gam yachad.*” In English, “how good and how nice it is to sit together with our brothers and sisters.” Yes, community is a pleasure and also a commandment. You all know the importance of having a minyan, ten Jews, present for many ceremonies to take place. And as I said recently at a Shabbat service, while my uncle Harold went to shul to talk to God, his friend went to shul to talk to Uncle Harold.

How will the TBO community stay close during our “diaspora”?

Fortunately, while not in our regular building, we are still meeting in person for many services and events, thanks to the efforts of our alternate site task force, **Melanie Field** and **JonaRose Feinberg**, and the kindness of our hosts, the Alderwood Boys and Girls Club, Everett Unity Center for Positive Living, the Carl Gipson Center, and Unity Lynnwood. Also, TBO members are organizing and hosting lots of fun and educational activities.

There will be a waffle brunch and fundraiser auction on June 1, thanks to **Dana Sanders** and **Rani Linarelli**, a lay led outdoor multigenerational Shabbat on June 14, the annual donor dinner on June 21 (thanks to **Jonathan Roselle**) and the annual TBO picnic in August. Next Chapter has plans, too. **Sonia Siegel Vexler**, committee chair, arranged for a program on “the decline of local news and its impact on democracy” on May 31. And don't forget our semiannual membership meeting on June 8 which will be via Zoom only. See page 10 for more information.

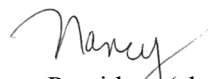
Also, you can expect to read two *ORacles* instead of one this summer to help keep us connected. Thank you, **Rich Spitzer** (publisher), **Kathie Roon** (editor), and all the proofreaders.

Leslie Elsemore and **Stacey Seidman** and the Membership Committee are introducing a new program: Shabbat dinners at different people's homes (see the article on page 7). I hope that everyone will sign up. Making dinner for a lot of people isn't my forte - it makes me anxious (I know I'm not alone) - but I might do it anyway and I would love to accept an invitation. I do bake challah.

You may also hear from TBO Capital Campaign members concerning a “first ask” if you are a new member, or a “second ask” if you have already participated. Raising a little more money is not only important for us to complete our remodel in our “dream version” (translation: really nice kitchen) but it's also a chance for some of us to talk to TBO members we may not see often enough. And it will give all TBO members the opportunity to reaffirm their place in our community; there's no minimum gift to participate.

If we couldn't meet in person, I, for one, would miss the hugs we share during the *Motzi* on Shabbat that has become our *minhag* - tradition - since returning to in-person services after the COVID-19 shutdown. Fortunately, we have many ways to stay connected, both virtually and in person, while in our diaspora.

Wishing you a happy, healthy summer.


Nancy Rosen, President (she/her)

Building access is now restricted

Our fobs have been deactivated, and we no longer have access to the building or the site. If you need to go there for any reason, contact **Glen Pickus** to get access. If you have a fob, please hold onto it for potential use in the future.

Annual donor dinner

On Saturday, June 21, at 5:30 pm, join us for an evening of community, connection and gratitude at our annual donor appreciation dinner. Savor a sumptuous kosher-style meal while enjoying breathtaking views of the Sound in an atmosphere of warmth and friendship. This special event features a refined table-service dinner with your choice of exceptional entrées—from perfectly grilled New York steak to delicate Alaskan halibut. Each meal is thoughtfully prepared, dairy-free, and accompanied by select wines, with an additional cash bar available for your enjoyment.



This cherished tradition is not only a celebration of our community's generosity, but also a vital fundraiser supporting Temple Beth Or's continued mission and services. Tickets are \$650 per person (\$500 tax deductible) and will be conveniently charged to your TBO account. Payment can be made by check or credit card. Contact the office at office@templebethor.org for credit card processing.

RSVP by Friday, June 6, 3:00 pm, through our dedicated registration page: tinyurl.com/tbodonordinner2025. When registering, you will have a chance to select your preferred entrée from the chef's selection.

For any questions or additional information about this special evening, please reach out to **Jonathan Roselle**. We look forward to sharing this meaningful celebration with you!

Community fundraising brunch and silent auction

Sunday, June 1, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

The entire family can support TBO at a dairy waffle brunch fundraiser and auction on Sunday, June 1, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Join us with lawn games for everyone and a silent auction. All are welcome!

Location is a private residence in Lake Stevens;
exact address will be provided upon registration.

Cost is \$50 per person or \$150 per family.

RSVP by Friday, May 30, 3:00 pm. Contact **Dana Sanders** at fundraising@templebethor.org to register to attend, if you would like to donate an item to the auction, or for more information.



Happy TBO Anniversary!

We appreciate your being a part of our community:

- Aaron and Kayln Kauffman - 13 year
- Ella Lonergan - 13 years
- Rebecca and Scott Hicks - 7 years
- Kiah Webster - 1 year



June services

Shabbat from Israel



Friday, June 6, 7:30 pm, with Rabbi Rachel Kort

Join us from the comfort of your own home as Rabbi Kort leads an abbreviated Shabbat worship experience. The focus of this evening together online will be Rabbi Kort sharing a taste of her experience in Jerusalem, where she is currently on sabbatical. Prayers used during this service will be shared as a pdf.

Shabbat morning service

Unity in Lynnwood

Saturday, June 14, 10:00 am, with service leader Doug Wallis and musician Noah Zeichner



Join us for a Shabbat worship experience, including a Torah reading and a *drash* (sermon). This service is geared toward our adult and *b'nei mitzvah* student communities, and will last about 90 minutes.

Guests - Register at templebethor.org/service-registration/. Registration ends Friday, June 13, 3 pm.

Pride Shabbat

Unity in Lynnwood

Friday, June 20, 7:30 pm, with service leader and musician Rabbi CB Souther



Join Rabbi CB Souther for a musical Shabbat worship service. During the service we will celebrate LGBTQIA+ Pride, and honor the movement for LGBTQIA+ equality and inclusion with special readings and reflections. The service will include a *drash* (sermon). This service is geared toward our adult and *b'nei mitzvah* student communities, and will last just over an hour.

Guests - Register at templebethor.org/service-registration/. Registration ends Friday, June 20, 3 pm.

Shabbat Zoom: tinyurl.com/tboshabbatzoom
Meeting ID: 837 4187 0594 Passcode: 531760
Dial-in users: 253-215-8782

Community Pride Shabbat

Temple Beth Am

Friday, June 27, 6:15 pm. See page 9



AT TBO



ONLINE



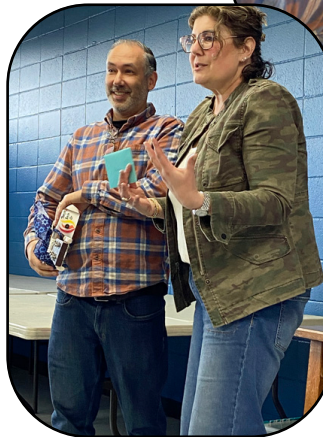
OUTDOOR



OFFSITE



ADULT EDUCATION



Celebrating Noah Zeichner

Our community gathered to celebrate Noah's 25 years as TBO Religious School song leader. Noah is retiring from this role; happily he will continue as a regular song leader at services.

Festivities included a revised dinosaur song about Noah (written by our very own lyricist, **Debbie Halliday**), a slide show created by **Ron Green**, presentation of gifts, lovely comments about Noah, and cake! Noah's wife, kids and mom attended the event.

Noah also shared some remarks with us.

Thanks to all who joined us in showing Noah our appreciation and also to the volunteers who helped make this party possible.



Noah with wife Taryn, children Ezra and Elana, and his mom Andrea





From our Director of Youth Education

On May 18, the Religious School celebrated big. First, we had a special, music-filled *K'hilah* with **Noah Zeichner**, including Tots graduation, huge puzzles and Twizzler Torot (mini Torahs made with Twizzlers). Every year of learning is a journey itself, and moving up to a new grade is definitely a journey. To honor that transition, we recited the *T'filat Haderech* (Traveler's Prayer). Of course, we also recognized our amazing faculty, madrichim and Youth Education leadership.

We also continued our tradition of selecting the Religious School's annual *tzedakah* recipients. After a student vote, this year's recipients are: Mary's Place, Magen David Adom and Jewish National Fund.

Mary's Place provides shelter and support to families on their way out of homelessness. With the ongoing conflict in Israel, students recognized the important work of Magen David Adom, which provides first-responders with training, medical supplies and more. In honor of a fallen lone soldier and friend, the **Roth family** is matching that donation with a gift to Jewish National Fund. Since October 7, JNF's focus is to ensure that the needs of those who call the communities on the border with Gaza and with Lebanon home are met. JNF is known for community building, planting trees, education advocacy and more.

After *K'hilah*, families celebrated outdoors with bubbles, balloons and nosh. Thanks to **Anna Feigen** and helpers! The day ended with a heartfelt tribute to Noah and his 25 years of music for our school.

Thank you for everyone's flexibility during our temporary move, and to the teachers and all the parents who helped make this year so successful, especially my Youth Education co-chairs **Rani Linarelli** and **Meghan Lefrancois-Hanson**. Don't forget to register for next year, and mark your calendars for the first day, September 7, 2025.

Stefanie
Stefanie Somers (she/her)

TBO Religious School Last Day Fun

**Top three places
to find RS friends
this summer:**

1. Outdoor family Shabbat Friday, August 15, 7:00 pm
2. Annual TBO summer BBQ August 10, 4:00 pm
3. Camp Kalsman

Say hi to Stefanie July 13-20



Remodel news

Ready for construction to begin



We are continuing to make progress on our remodel journey.

- We held a media-oriented public groundbreaking event. See photos below.
- All of our permits – the overall building permit, the public works permit, and the building permit for the stormwater detention vault – have been approved and issued by the City of Everett.
- CPM has started interior demolition and demolition of the two outbuildings. See photos on page 7.
- The electrical subcontractor has set up the temporary power to be used during construction.
- The rabbi's office is now the CPM superintendent's office.
- The design group has begun meeting with CPM to select appropriate budget-friendly options for our finishes.



Opening remarks from Rabbi
David Fine and Nancy Rosen



A beautiful day
for the public
groundbreaking!



Thank you to the Everett
Police Department



Our remodel is underway!



Member-hosted Shabbat dinners

WHAT: Monthly Shabbat dinners in people's homes to celebrate Shabbat on the weeks there is no TBO service.

WHY: To build community, keep members engaged and connected during construction, and to strengthen relationships.

WHO: All TBO members are invited to be a host and/or a guest. Each Shabbat can be an independent event, having different hosts and guests. This is intended to be flexible and informal, not a *chavurah*.

The host will choose how many people to invite (adults only, families, multi-generational) and whether the meal is provided by the host, potluck, bring-your-own, or takeout. Guests will be assigned based on host and guest meal and configuration preferences, taking into consideration allergies and food restrictions.

Sign up to participate at: <https://tinyurl.com/tboshabbatdinner>. For more information or if you have any comments, contact **Leslie Elsemore** or **Stacey Seidman**.



Social Action Committee news

The *Tzedakah* Box recipient for April-June is the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, America's premier legal organization fighting for racial justice. Last year, in preparation for Passover, **Rabbi Kort** and TBO member **Reggie Melech Gillins** led a discussion about reparations for African Americans as a first step in repairing the devastation inflicted by slavery and ongoing racial discrimination. Until there is a systematic way of providing reparations, consider a donation to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Donations can be placed in the portable *Tzedakah* Box at our offsite location, made online through the Temple Beth Or website, or directly at www.naacpldf.org. If you have questions about reparations, Melech has said he is open to being contacted through email or phone.



June is Pride Month

Pride Month commemorates a time in our country's recent past when homosexuality was illegal, until (thanks in large part to a small, brave, determined and unrelenting group of drag queens at Stonewall in New York City) it wasn't.

In the face of whatever personal feelings we might each have about gender and sexuality, and in response to loud rhetoric in opposition to gay rights from some in our government, how do we genuinely and in good faith participate in Pride Month? What is our role in uplifting our LGBTQIA+ family, friends and neighbors? How do we add our voices to the call for rights, freedoms and equal justice for everyone on the rainbow continuum of humanity? Barbara Gittings, American author who some have called "The Mother of Gay Rights," wrote, "Equality means more than passing laws. The struggle is really won in the hearts and minds of the community, where it really counts."

Below are titles of some picture books that might open doors for family discussions and allow us to add our hearts and minds to the ongoing struggle for dignity, equality and justice for all. Many of these books are about acceptance in general (not specifically LGBTQIA+ issues), and most are available at independent bookstores, libraries, or as free audiobooks.

- *You Need to Chill* by Juno Dawson (ages 3+, but highly recommended for all ages)
- *I Love My Purse* by Belle DeMont (ages 3+)
- *Pink is for Boys* by Robb Pearlman (ages 3+)
- *Lefty: A Story That Is Not All Right* by Mo Willems (ages 5+)
- *Alan Turing - Little People, BIG DREAMS* by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara (ages 5+)
- *Red: A Crayon's Story* by Michael Hall (ages 5+)
- *Glenn Burke, Game Changer* by Phil Bildner (ages 7+)
- *Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag* by Rob Sanders (ages 7+)
- *Stonewall: A Building. An Uprising. A Revolution* by Rob Sanders (ages 8+)
- *47,000 Beads* by Kaja and Angel Adeyoha (ages 8+)

For more recommendations for readers at all levels, visit Teaching for Change's curated list of books on a variety of topics at <https://socialjusticebooks.org/booklists/>.

Here are the dates for local Pride events and links for more details:

Snohomish , June 6-8	https://www.historicdowntownsnohomish.org/snohomishpride
Stanwood-Camano , June 7	https://www.facebook.com/stanwoodcamanopride/
Monroe , June 8	https://www.choosemonroe.com/event.aspx?id=417202
Marysville , June 14	https://marysvillewapriderg.org/pride-fest
Everett , June 21	https://www.everettpride.org/
Edmonds , June 28	https://edmondspride.net/Events
Seattle , June 7 and June 29	https://seattlepride.org/events

Immigration

As there are increasing reports of legal U.S. residents and citizens being detained and deported, it makes sense to make sure you have an up-to-date passport. Here are resources if you or someone you know needs help with due process.

- Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network <https://waisn.org/>
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project <https://nwirp.org/>



June *yahrzeits*



6/1	Lauren Samara Weinstein	Cousin of Sheryl Shapiro
6/3	Wesley Sowell	Father of Matt Sowell
6/4	Donald LeMaster	Grandfather of Victoria Henry-LeMaster
6/5	George Dash	Brother of Harold Dash
6/6	Sarah Levine Katsh	Grandmother of Naomi Katsh Barger
6/7	Sibyl Heller	Temple Beth Or Family
6/9	Harry Friedman	Father-in-law of Mendel Zacky
6/9	Lillian Ruimi	Mother of Mendel Zacky
6/10	Anna Rokulis	Mother of Anita Goralnick
6/10	Bernett Rubin	Father of Solly Rubin
6/10	Sidney Wald	Grandfather of Shannon St. George
6/11	Joanne Klarman	Mother of Barry Klarman
6/12	Benjamin Glosser	Father of Michael Glosser
6/13	Jake Balk	Father-in-law of Selma Balk
6/13	Roberta "Bobbe" Green	Mother of Ron Green
6/13	Max Schoenfeld	Grandfather of Howard Schoenfeld
6/14	Jean Marie Pintus	Stepmother of Pam Pintus
6/15	Jerome Michelson	Temple Beth Or Family
6/16	Bernard Black	Father of Norm Black
		Grandfather of Cece Black
6/16	Paul Lichtman	Father of Helen Grossman
		Grandfather of Miriam Wnuk
6/19	Sherry Fabrikant	Aunt of Tony Roon
6/19	Frances Friedman	Mother-in-law of Mendel Zacky
6/20	Ethel Miriam Baron Haet	Temple Beth Or Family
6/20	Barney Sable	Grandfather of Debra Henry
6/22	Harry Paquette	Grandfather of Dan Paquette
6/23	Meryl Klein	Mother of Marla Phippen
6/24	Minnie Friedman	Grandmother of Geraldine Friend
6/24	Edith (Lolly) Gardsbane	Mother of Susan Cross
6/26	Ben Berns	Temple Beth Or Family
6/27	Bruce Kort	Father of Rabbi Rachel Kort
6/27	Ben Viglietta	Husband of Terri Viglietta
6/28	Joe Russakoff	Grandfather of Steven Russakoff
6/29	Benjamin Deburle	Grandfather of Helen Grossman

What is LIFE & LEGACY?

LIFE & LEGACY® is a partnership program which helps communities such as TBO build endowments to provide long-term stability and support to sustain Jewish life. LIFE & LEGACY encourages individuals to plan for after-lifetime giving. Periodically, we'll answer some questions about LIFE & LEGACY.

Do I need a will? I don't have one.

In general, everyone over 18 should have a will. This is especially important if you have minor children. For LIFE & LEGACY purposes, a will is not necessary. Most bank accounts, IRAs, investment accounts, life insurance policies and similar assets provide an option to name beneficiaries using percentages.

I don't have any family, so I don't need to think about gift and estate planning.

If you have no heirs and you don't have a documented will or estate plan in place, there is a very good likelihood the state will become your de facto beneficiary. Few people like to think about their own death, yet it is important to review your assets and update your beneficiary plans throughout your lifetime.

Will asking for legacy gifts hurt our Capital Campaign?

There is no conflict between the two programs. The Capital Campaign is a drive to raise funds in a short time frame for the specific effort to update and improve our building and its accessibility. A LIFE & LEGACY gift is a pledge for the future, there is no due date, and for that reason, does not compete with the Capital Campaign's goals.

Why does TBO have a LIFE & LEGACY program?

TBO has always been careful to plan strategically for our future. Just as we work to build an improved permanent home for our congregation, we also want to ensure our long-term programming and community support are strong and stable. Best practices say that nonprofits today need the financial support of an endowment such as LIFE & LEGACY to be viable for the future.

Please contact a committee member to learn more...

Bob Goodmark
Debbie Halliday
Deb Henry
Eldon Wexler
Sonia Siegel Vexler

**Life &
Legacy**
ASSURE JEWISH
TOMORROWS

COMMUNITY
PRIDE
SHABBAT
2025

TEMPLE
BETH AM
JUNE 27, 2025 AT 6:15 PM

Pride Shabbat is an annual Seattle Pride Month Shabbat Service that creates a space bringing visibility to the experiences and perspectives of folks at the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQIA+ identities.

Temple Beth Or is a proud co-sponsor of Pride Shabbat. This service will bring the local Jewish community together on Friday, June 27, 2025, at 6:15 pm, at Temple Beth Am, 2680 NE 80th St., Seattle, WA 98115.

Register at tinyurl.com/BethAmPride.



Leadership news

During the Governing Board meeting on May 4, 2025, the Board did the following:

- **Sonia Siegel Vexler** conducted a Life & Legacy training session.
- Voted to recommend approval by the general membership of the 2025-26 budget as presented by the Finance Committee.
- Considered the creation of a “Tree of Life” type artwork in our remodeled building honoring all donors to the Capital Campaign.
- Discussed, offered support, and thanked organizers for the upcoming fundraisers: a waffle brunch and silent auction on June 1 and the annual donor dinner on June 21.
- Planned the semiannual membership meeting that will take place virtually at 10:00 am on Sunday, June 8, and will include the opportunity to vote on the 2025-26 budget.
- Approved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to adopt the following policy: “The signatures of two authorized financial account signers is required on checks over the amount of \$2,500. Payments over the amount of \$2,500 may be made electronically from a Temple financial account if one authorized financial account signer approves and signs the invoice to be paid and the payment is made by another authorized financial account signer.”
- Agreed that publishing two *ORacles* this summer instead of one would help keep the community connected. There is no printing cost as it is distributed electronically.



Semiannual membership meeting Sunday, June 8, 10:00 am

Join us on Zoom for our semiannual membership meeting

- **Capital Campaign update**
- **Latest remodel news**
- **Religious School report**
- **High Holy Days plans**
- **2025-26 budget presentation and vote**

Online only; Zoom link will be emailed to members.



Please contact **Nancy Rosen** with any questions.

Temple Leadership

Rabbi

Rachel Kort

Director of Youth Education

Stefanie Somers

Office Administrator

Sarah Davis

Governing Board

President

Nancy Rosen

Immediate Past President

Wanda Bresnick

VP of Community & Engagement

Jeff Napp

VP of Finance & Facilities Management

James Feinberg

VP of Jewish Life

Ron Green

Assist. VP of Community & Engagement

Dana Sanders

Assist. VP of Finance & Facilities Management

Bob Goodmark

Assist. VP of Jewish Life

Pattipeg Harjo

Board Secretary

Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Members-At-Large

Gwen Campbell

Rani Linarelli

Rich Spitzer

Committees and Task Forces

Atidaynu: Sheryl Shapiro

Adult Education: Pattipeg Harjo

Bereavement: Susan Cross

B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator: Pam Spitzer

Book Club: Wyndi Russakoff

Building: Vacant

Calendar: Sarah Davis

Campership: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Capital Campaign: Jessica Burgamy & Jeff Napp

College & Military Outreach: Marilyn & Mike Glosser

Communications: JonaRose Feinberg

Facebook: Deb Henry

Financial Administrator: Norm Black

First Chapter: Vacant

Fundraising: Dana Sanders

High Holy Days Coordinator: Wanda Bresnick

HHD (Rosh HaShanah): Robyn Klarman

HHD (Yom Kippur): Gwen Campbell

Life & Legacy: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Library: Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Membership: Leslie Elsemore

Mitzvah Corps: Carolyn Wexler

Next Chapter: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Nominations: Sonia Siegel Vexler

Oreg Coordinator: Janet Karr

ORacle Editor: Kathie Roon

ORacle Publisher: Rich Spitzer

ORbits: Janis Warner

Remodel: Harold Dash & Melanie Field

Ruach & Ritual: Janis Warner

Safety & Security: Mark Bresnick

Social Action: Naomi Katsh Barger &

Melissa VonAschen-Cook

Technology: James Feinberg

Website: JonaRose Feinberg

Youth Education: Meghan Lefrancois-Hanson &

Rani Linarelli

JUNE 2025

Sivan / Tammuz 5785

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Governing Board meeting 9:00 am Community fundraiser 11:00 am	2 Finance Committee meeting 7:00 pm	3	4	5 Remodel Task Force meeting 7:30 pm	6 Liaison Committee meeting 10:00 am Shabbat from Israel 7:30 pm	7
8 General membership meeting 10:00 am Fundraising meeting 6:30 pm	9 Communications Committee meeting 7:00 pm	10 Life & Legacy Committee meeting 7:00 pm	11 Capital Campaign meeting 7:00 pm	12	13	14 Shabbat morning service 10:00 am
15	16 Membership Committee meeting 7:00 pm	17	18 ORacle deadline	19	20 Pride Shabbat service 7:30 pm	21 Annual donor dinner 5:30 pm
22	23	24	25 Executive Board meeting 7:00 pm Capital Campaign meeting 7:00 pm Safety & Security Cmte mtg 7:00 pm	26	1 Tammuz 27 Liaison Committee meeting 10:00 am Community Pride Shabbat (Beth Am) 6:15 pm	28
29 Governing Board meeting 10:00 am	30					

Fill out the Calendar/Event Submission Form to add an item to the calendar and/or set up a Zoom meeting; this includes all committee meetings. Please submit a form even if you are using a private Zoom.

templebethor.org/calendar-submission

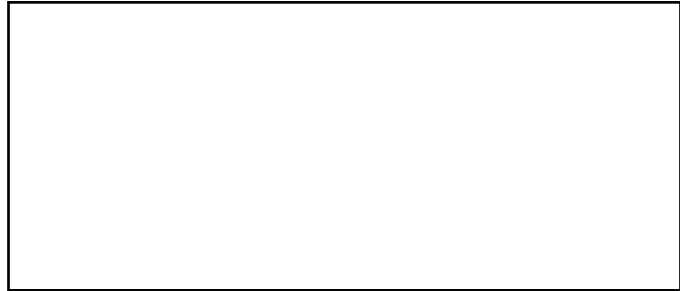
The Temple office is now closed for all in-person business. Sarah Davis is working offsite and can assist you Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am–noon and Friday, 9:00 am–4:30 pm. The Temple mailing address, phone and office email (office@templebethor.org) remain the same. Please do not have packages (UPS/FedEx) or overnight mail sent to the Temple. No one will be on site to accept deliveries.

Check *ORbits*, the 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



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).