

12 Tevet -13 Shevat 5786

Happy
New Year!
2026



January 2026

Temple Beth Or

THE VINE

JANUARY



Temple Beth Or
(Hebrew for “House of Light”)

Temple Beth Or is an egalitarian inclusive Conservative congregation, modern yet reverent to the Jewish tradition. The congregation is made up of singles, couples and families. We welcome all members of our community, including interfaith families, and feel that a congregation should be a friendly welcoming place and the anchor of a caring community. It reaches out to its members relating to their needs and interests and to the larger Jewish and general community as well. Temple Beth Or is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

SPIRITUAL LEADER Rabbi Chaim Respes

SERVICES In-Person and/or on Zoom

Weekly Minyan

Monday-Thursday - 4:15 PM - Zoom only

Shabbat Services

Friday—7:15 p.m.

Saturday—9:30 a.m. (beginning with Shocheyn Ad, Preliminary Services on your own) and after Shabbat with Havdalah.

TBO Services are available on Zoom. Join us 15 minutes before the service to schmooze.

Watch for the Spark email for Zoom access.

Phone: (732) 458-4700

Address:
109 Pier Ave
Brick, NJ 08723

Office Hours:
Monday—Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Secretary: Cindy

Email:

templebethorbrick@gmail.com

Website:

www.templebethorbrick.org



Follow us on [Facebook](#)

In case of Emergency:

Rabbi Chaim Respes

(609) 868-1744

ravchaim18@gmail.com

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Mazel Tov

Happy Birthday!

6 Peggy Ostrove



If you would like a simcha to be listed in the Vine, please email or call the TBO office



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

January offers us a meaningful opportunity to pause and reflect as we settle into the winter months together. In Jewish tradition, we are reminded that each day is an opportunity for cheshbon hanefesh - taking stock of who we are and how we care for one another as a community.

This season also brings us closer to Tu BiShvat, the New Year of the Trees, a time that invites us to think about growth, roots, and the future we are nurturing together. Like the trees we celebrate, our temple community is strengthened by deep roots in tradition and by the care, involvement and dedication of our members

As we look ahead to the coming weeks, I encourage you to join us for our upcoming programs and Shabbat services. Gathering together for worship, learning and celebration strengthens our connections and enriches our shared Jewish journey. With the leadership of our rabbi and the dedication of our volunteers, we look forward to continued opportunities to engage, connect and grow together.

Thank you for being an essential part of our temple family. May this season bring health, peace and blessings to you and your loved ones

Warmly,

Sharon I. Monter
President - Temple Beth Or

Temple Beth Or The Vine

A MESSAGE FROM RABBI RESPES



I would dare say when most people speak of their top three favorite places in Israel or where they want to visit here. Haifa, Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv usually are the first ones to flow off the lips. But there is another place that holds just as much if not more significance I believe. To start we have to go back in time.

It is the late '40's and early 50's and a fledgling nations leader is advocating for his people to settle down in the land's southern region. He consistently spoke about the safety and security of the nation only being guaranteed by living in this unrelenting arid region. Through forced migration of new olim the region began to not only grow but thrive. David Ben Gurion explicitly stated the survival of the nation depended greatly on the success of the Negev. As I have spent the last few days in the southern region meeting people and driving past bases who survived the attacks of October 7th I wondered what would have happened if David Ben Gurion had been Prime Minister or if was still living and retired.

Then I thought of this upcoming parsha. We read the continuing story of Yosef interacting in Egypt. As Yosef has continued to test the love, maturity, and unity of the brothers who sold him into captivity he is overcome with emotion. The Torah states: "Vayiten et kolo bivki vahyismiuu mitzrayim vayismah beit pharaoh." His (Yosef) sobs were so loud that the Egyptians (who had cleared the room) could hear and the news (Yosef's sobbing) reached pharaoh's palace. I remember in the months if not years leading up to October 7th demonstrations taking place across the land. Parents of children lost too soon sobbing and weeping at the inequality and inequity they experienced by fellow Jews not having the duty of mandatory service. Our enemies heard this and seized upon the opportunity. Just as pharaoh does when he immediately tells or "offers" the best land, riches, and marriages to Yosef's family. The desert gives us the opportunity to reflect on our choices and the paths both traversed before and those yet to be explored.

Rav Chaim Respes



Let us
WORSHIP
 Together

Temple Beth Or The Vine

SISTERHOOD

President: Marlene



January 6, 2026, Tuesday @ 7:30 PM - General Meeting — White Elephant Sale

Please donate a few of your gently loved items that you want to find a new loving home for.

- Socialize and have *Fun* at monthly meetings
- Fundraise for TBO
- 2025/26 Annual Dues: \$25

SAVE THE DATE:

Due to inflation we increased the cost of **Golden Books to \$5 each, effective January 1, 2026.**

Any suggestions for future meeting topics or guest speakers, please contact Marlene.

MEN'S CLUB

President: Larry

- Socialize at productive and meaningful meetings
- Fundraise for TBO
- Annual Dues: \$25

Watch for emails on upcoming events

MISHEBERACH PRAYER

When someone near and dear to us is ill, a spiritual uplift can be very meaningful. This is done in Jewish tradition by reciting a "Misheberach" prayer on the days we take out the Torah.

If you would like a Misheberach said and are not able to attend the service, please call Temple Beth Or's office or email us at

TempleBethOrBrick@gmail.com

We need the person's **Hebrew name** and the **mother's Hebrew name**, so that a prayer will be done for you.

MISHEBERACH PRAYER REQUEST

Date: _____

Person Receiving Prayer: _____

Hebrew Name: _____

Mother's Hebrew Name: _____

Reason: _____

From: _____

New for 2026

CELEBRATE YOUR SIMCHAS

Join us before Shabbat services on the third Friday of each month to celebrate and share your simchas with TBO.

See the monthly Vine listings and the weekly Sparks emails for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1 & 2, 2026, Thursday Friday - TBO office closed - Happy New Year! May it be a year of Peace and Joy!

January 6, 2026, Tuesday @ 7:30 PM - Sisterhood General Meeting — White Elephant Sale

January 16, 2026, Friday, Simcha Shabbat - before Shabbat services. Join us before Shabbat services on the third Friday of each month to celebrate and share your simchas with TBO
Flyer on page 7.

SAVE THE DATE

February 2, 2026, Monday—Tu BiShvat

Sisterhood Cakeless Cake Sale coming soon - Watch for more information

Please plan to donate to Sisterhood's Annual Cakeless Cake Sale and help support Temple Beth Or.

Join Sisterhood or Men's Club for 2025/2026 - Get together and interact with other TBO members while helping Temple Beth Or grow and thrive in the community.

We pray from the depths of our hearts for true peace in Israel, an end to violence, and the safe return of all hostages to their families.

We strengthen our faith in Hashem, believing that He watches over Am Yisrael and hears every prayer (psalms 121:4)



Donate to help Israelis at this time of crisis through the special Israel Emergency Campaign coordinated by the Jewish Federation of Ocean County.

Visit **www.jewishoceancounty.org**

or mail a check.

**Checks payable to: JFOC 1235A Route 70, Lakewood, NJ 08701.
(memo line: Israel Emergency Campaign),**

Questions? Call the JFOC Office at 732-363-0530



Emergency Campaign to help the Jews of Ukraine during this crisis – You can contribute through the Jewish Federation of Ocean County to help the Joint Distribution Committee and other agencies who are on the ground working in Ukraine. All contributions raised will be sent directly to our partners doing important work in response to this crisis.

Checks payable to JFOC can be mailed to 1235A Highway 70, Lakewood, NJ 08701; memo: Ukraine Emergency Fund.

Giving Back

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - for Friday night Oneg Shabbat & Saturday Kiddush. Volunteers needed to help with the purchase food, set up and clean up. Contact Rachel for more info.

DONATE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED to a Food Pantry – Bring food directly to a food pantry, like the one at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 135 Salmon Street, Brick, 732-477-5533, or one you have by you.



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT), a nationwide volunteer organization. When disaster strikes, those trained are able to assist the police and EMS, help themselves and their neighbors. CERT members have assisted with evacuations, food & water distribution, and during SuperStorm Sandy as well as attending township events, such as Summerfest, Night Against Crime and Trunk or Treat. Requirements: completion of a CERT course, which includes a written & practical test and background check.

Join our CERT Team - New Members Needed!

Please contact Joseph J. Pawlowicz Jr. for details. Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Phone : 732-262-1167 Fax: 732-262-1242 email: joepawlowicz@brickpd.com

Download the CERT Application form from the Documents / Public Documents folder @ <https://bricknjcert.samariteam.com>



SUPPORT ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY AND TEMPLE BETH OR— Buy a ShopRite gift card (\$25, \$50 or \$100) from Sisterhood and donate it to the food pantry. Let us continue in helping the community during difficult times. Order by contacting Rachel or call TBO office and specify that it is to be given to the food pantry. Buying ShopRite gift cards from Sisterhood will also benefit TBO.



SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS — purchase a gift card from Sisterhood and help support Temple Beth Or. 5% of the purchase prices goes to TBO at no extra cost to you. Cards are available in \$25, \$50, or \$100 amounts. Call or email the office for more information. Please allow 24 hours for pickup. The cards can be mailed if needed.



PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL in a loved ones name. \$18 per tree. Temple Beth Or is working with the Jewish National Fund for this project and a portion of the donations goes to TBO. For more information contact TBO office form on page 13

Temple Beth Or The Vine

YAHRTZEIT DONATIONS

The human soul is a light from God.
 May it be Your will that the soul of our loved ones
 enjoy eternal life, along with the souls of
 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca,
 Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of
 the righteous that are in Gan Eden.
Amen.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Ida Lesiger Askin

Beloved mother-in-law of Sara Askin

Harry Rubin

Beloved uncle of Sara Askin

Alan Brindell

Beloved cousin of Marlene & Adrienne Vogel

Michael Weiner

Beloved father of Sara Askin

Haskell Askin D.D.S.

Beloved husband of Sara Askin

Jean M Bennett

Beloved grandmother of Susan Rubin

Israel Joseph Brown

Beloved grandfather of Susan Rubin

Gertrude Ostrove

Beloved mother of Robert Ostrove

Temple Beth Or The Vine



Temple Beth Or's Mitzvah Group reaches out to all members. If you know of someone who needs or would like a phone call, hospital, nursing or rehab center visit, please let us know.

Kindly complete the form below and mail it to the synagogue - Attention: The Mitzvah Group or You can email TBO office at: TempleBethOrBrick@gmail.com.

If time is of the essence, please phone the information to Rabbi Chaim Respes 609-868-1744

Let us join together in turning our good intentions into good deeds.

Thank you,
B 'Shalom

COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR THE MITZVAH GROUP REQUEST — PLEASE PRINT

Name of person wanting contact: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Town: _____

Please circle type of contact wanted:

Phone Call

In Home Visit

Hospital Visit

Name of Hospital & Town: _____

Nursing & Rehab Center Visit

Name of Center and Town: _____

Your name, if different than above: _____

Temple Beth Or The Vine

JNF
Trees for Israel

**PLEASE PRINT
LEGIBLY**

<p>Donor Information</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>want to include your address on certificate NO ___ YES ___</p> <p>Phone Number: _____</p>	<p># of Trees @ \$18.00 each: _____</p> <p>planted in the name of _____</p> <p>In Honor ___ In Memory ___</p> <p>planted in the name of _____</p> <p>In Honor ___ In Memory ___</p> <p>planted in the name of: _____</p> <p>In Honor ___ In Memory ___</p>	<p>Send Certificate to:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Amount enclosed: \$ _____</p> <p>Mail to Temple Beth Or, 109 Pier Ave., Brick, NJ 08723</p> <p>Make checks payable to Temple Beth Or</p> <p>*****</p> <p>Office use only</p> <p>Date received: _____</p> <p>Check Number: _____ Cash: _____</p>
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Ways To Give

Celebrate a Simcha, commemorate a loss, mark a special occasion, or offer a get well.

Strengthen our synagogue by contributing to the General Fund or any of the specific funds indicated below. You can send your check to the Synagogue office specifying the fund you would like to support. A beautiful card will be sent from TBO informing the honorees of the gift you have made in their honor or in memory of a loved one.

Aliyah Fund	Discretionary
General Fund	Discretionary
High Holiday Prayer Book	\$25.00
Lifetime Seat (when available)	\$500.00
Misheberach Fund	Discretionary
Rabbi Discretionary Fund	Discretionary
Sim Shalom Prayer Book	\$36.00

<u>Sisterhood Fund</u> (checks are payable to: Temple Beth Or, Sisterhood)	
Chai Chair Fund	\$18.00
Flower Fund	Discretionary
Golden Book Cards	\$5.00/each
Kiddish Sponsorship	\$450.00 & up
Oneg Sponsorship	\$100.00 & up

Plaques

Memorial Plaques	\$350.00/member	\$450.00/non-member
Memorial Board (includes 2 plaques): Inquire about cost		
Wall of Life Plaques		
1" x 3"	\$100.00	
2" x 3"	\$300.00	
3" x 3"	\$750.00	
2" x 6"	\$1000.00	

You may send or bring a check to the synagogue office. Tributes cannot be officially acknowledged until payment is received. Please contact the office for information regarding Legacy Gifts and opportunities to make larger contributions.

Temple Beth Or The Vine



WORD SEARCH

Family Ties

The remaining letters spell a special occasion for families. Answer on page 15

W E H P E N R E L A T I V E S F
 S T E L P I R T R E H T A F R S
 S B R O T H E R S A M R W E B R
 K C M E S D E M P P E O L I O E
 L I L O H L E A O T O A M D N T
 O G N A C T R W S T T U E T D S
 F E E N N E O I Y I H S S N D I
 F G U N N C S R O L C E E E A S
 S A N T E F E N B E W R R R U H
 P I S I L O S S N F D E E A G U
 R R W A L N L D T L L C N P H S
 I R H I I B A O I O I A I P T B
 N A L S F N I H G E R U H E E A
 G M U D T E C S N Y Y N R T R N
 E O A S Y N E G O R P T U S N D
 C D I T N E R A P D N A R G O N

ANCESTOR
 AUNT
 BOND
 BROTHERS
 CHILDREN
 CLAN
 COUSINS
 DAD
 DAUGHTER
 DESCENDANTS

FATHER
 FOLKS
 GENEALOGY
 GRANDPARENT
 HALF BROTHER
 HALF SISTER
 HUSBAND
 KIN
 MARRIAGE
 MOM

MOTHER
 NEICE
 NEPHEW
 NEWLYWED
 OFFSPRING
 PARENTS
 PROGENY
 RELATIONS
 RELATIVES
 SIBLING

SISTERS
 SON
 SPOUSE
 STEPPARENT
 TRIPLETS
 TWINS
 UNCLE
 WIFE



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The hidden message is: FAMILY REUNION

