

12 Adar-13 Nisan 5786

March 2026

# Temple Beth Or

## THE VINE

MARCH



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## Mazel Tov

### March - Happy Birthday!

- 2 Rabbi Robert Rubin**
- 3 Ruth Fierstien**
- 26 Kyla Rogacki**



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

**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

**Weekday Minyan**

Monday-Thursday - 5:00 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

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Temple Family,

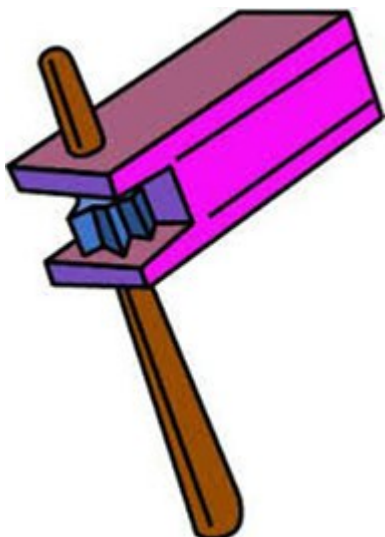
As we prepare to celebrate Purim, we are reminded of the powerful message at the heart of this joyful holiday: courage, faith and the strength of community. The story of Esther teaches us that even in moments of uncertainty, each of us has the ability to stand up, speak out and make a difference.

Purim is a time for laughter, costumes and celebration - but it is also a time to come together. I encourage you and your families to join us as we hear the Megillah, share in the festivities and fulfill the mitzvot of giving to those in need and supporting one another.

In a world that often feels heavy, Purim invites us to find joy, connection, and hope. I look forward to celebrating with you.

Wishing you a Chag Purim Sameach,

Dr. Sharon Monter  
President



Temple Beth Or The Vine

## **A MESSAGE FROM RABBI RESPES**



“When Adar arrives, we increase in joy!”

That declaration is how we open this season of our calendar. It is not a suggestion. It is a directive.

The lights of the Chanukkiah that warmed our hearts at the start of winter have long faded. The gray skies linger. The cold keeps us indoors. Even the secular world recognizes what winter does to the human spirit — employers encourage stepping away from desks, soaking in sunlight, finding small sources of pleasure in the workday. Why? Because isolation and monotony are not conducive to joy.

Our tradition understands this deeply.

The Jewish calendar is not random. Outside of the Shalosh Regalim, Rosh HaShanah, and Yom Kippur, the year moves through carefully calibrated highs and lows. Our sages structured time itself to carry us — balancing days of solemn memory with days of celebration, moments of introspection with moments of uninhibited rejoicing.

Adar arrives precisely when we need it most.

Joy in Judaism is not naïveté. It is not denial of darkness. It is defiance of it.

Purim teaches us that redemption can unfold quietly, hidden within political intrigue and human uncertainty. G-d’s name may not appear in the Megillah, but Divine presence permeates the story. Adar reminds us that even when light seems absent, it is only concealed.

And so we are commanded — yes, commanded — to increase joy.

That means showing up for Shabbat with a little more song.  
That means reaching out to someone who may be feeling isolated.  
That means leaning into community rather than retreating from it.  
That means allowing ourselves laughter, celebration, and generosity.

Joy is not accidental. It is cultivated.  
It is communal.  
It is sacred work.

As we enter Adar together at Temple Beth Or, may we consciously expand our capacity for happiness. May we create light for one another. And may our shared joy carry us — body and soul — from winter’s gray into spring’s promise.

With blessing and anticipation,

Rav Chaim Respes



Temple Beth Or The Vine

## **SISTERHOOD**

President: Marlene



**Sisterhood Cakeless Cake Sale is now going on:**  
Please plan to donate to Sisterhood's Annual Cakeless  
Cake Sale and help support Temple Beth Or.  
Flier page 7

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

**March 10, 2026, Tuesday @ 7:30 PM – General Meeting**  
Hamantaschen preparation to take home to bake.

**March 22, 2026, Sunday @ 3:00PM - Sisterhood Women's Seder** - Seating is limited,  
RSVP by March 16, 2026 before noon.  
Watch for flyer in email

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**May 8, 2025, Friday Shabbat - Sisterhood Dinner & Shabbat Service**  
More information to follow

**May 12, 2025, Tuesday - Sisterhood Board Elections**

**Golden Books \$5 each, effective January 1, 2026.**

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

**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.





It's time for our  
**CAKELESS CAKE SALE**

**A bit of news today!**

Our CAKELESS CAKE SALE is under way!  
In these chilly, busy, car-pooling days  
Who would bake? Pies? Cookies? Or even a Cake?  
You'd be surprised if you counted the cost of ingredients,  
heat and the time you have lost.

Baking for a sale is extra work, yet no one really wants to shirk!

So we've thought of a plan that's truly grand  
and feel quite sure you'll understand. In your envelope  
please put the price of a cake or a pie or great dessert.

Without fuss or bother, you've done your part,  
we trust you'll give with a willing heart.

This is the end of our little tale as we wish success with our  
**CAKELESS CAKE SALE!**

Thank you for your interest and cooperation in this important fundraiser.

Please make your check payable to:  
Temple Beth Or Sisterhood  
Kindly mail your donation in an envelope to:

Temple Beth Or Sisterhood  
109 Pier Ave.  
Brick, New Jersey 08723



**JOIN US FOR  
OUR PURIM CELEBRATION**

Monday Evening, March 2, at 6:00 p.m.

**MEGILLAH READING**

**GROGGERS**

**COSTUMES**

**HAMENTASCHEN**

**DON'T MISS THE FUN**





**Join Us For Our Next Lunch and Learn:  
Mitzvahs and Mozart**

*Enjoy an interesting conversation with the  
Philadelphia Orchestra's VP of Marketing,  
Geoffrey Cohen*

**Date: Sunday, March 15th**

**Time: 10 a.m. (Start)**

**Cost: Suggested minimum donation \$10.**

**Light refreshments will be served.**

**RSVP to the TBO office:**

**[templebethorbrick@gmail.com](mailto:templebethorbrick@gmail.com) by March 10.**



**Chaired by TBO Adult Education,  
and the Men's Club**



# SIMCHA SHABBAT



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR SIMCHA SHABBAT EACH MONTH ON THE THIRD FRIDAY NIGHT AT 6:30 PM.

WINE, CHEESE AND FRUIT WILL BE SERVED,  
FOLLOWED BY SERVICES.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A PRO-NEG,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION.

We look forward to seeing you!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Sisterhood Cakeless Cake Sale is now going on:**

Please plan to donate to Sisterhood's Annual Cakeless Cake Sale and help support Temple Beth Or. Flier page 7

**March 2-3, 2026 - sunset Monday-sunset Tuesday - Purim - Happy Purim!**

**March 2, 2026, Monday night - Megillah Reading & Purim Celebration @ 6:00 PM**

Flier on page 8

**March 8, 2026, Sunday - Daylight Savings time begins** - Remember to set you clocks ahead one hour.

**March 15, 2026, Sunday @ 10 AM - Mitzvahs & Mozart.** Join us for an interesting conversation with the Philadelphia Orchestra's VP of Marketing Geoffrey Cohen. Geoff Cohen is a marketing and audience strategy leader focused on how organizations build lasting relevance in an increasingly experience-driven world. As Associate Vice President of Marketing for The Philadelphia Orchestra, he has led initiatives that connect brand, revenue strategy, and audience behavior, helping transform how a legacy institution engages both devoted patrons and emerging audiences. \$10 pp. RSVP required by March 10. Light refreshments.

Flier on page 9

**March 20, 2026, Friday - Spring Begins!**

**March 20, 2026, Friday, Simcha Shabbat and Pro-neg** - Join us @ 6:30 PM before Shabbat services on the third Friday of each month to celebrate and share monthly simchas with TBO members. If you are interested in sponsoring this or an upcoming Pro-neg, please contact the office. Flier page 10

**March 22, 2026, Sunday @ 3 PM - Sisterhood Women's Seder** - Seating is limited  
RSVP by March 16, 2026 before noon.

## SAVE THE DATE

**April 1-9, 2026, Wednesday night-Thursday - Pesach - Happy Passover!**

**April 2 & 3, 2025, Thursday & Friday - TBO Office closed**

**April 8 & 9, 2025, Wednesday & Thursday - TBO Office closed**

**April 14, 2026, Tuesday - Yom Hashoah / Holocaust Memorial Day**

light the Yellow candle (from Men's Club) to increase the awareness of the Holocaust and perpetuate our commitment to our people.

**April 17, 2026, Friday @ 6:30 PM - Simcha Shabbat and Pro-neg**

**April 26, 2026, Sunday - Temple Beth Or General Meeting**

**April 21, 2026, Tuesday - Yom HaZikaron / Israel Memorial Day**

**April 22, 2026, Wednesday - Yom Ha'atzmaut / Israel Independence Day**

**We pray from the depths of our hearts for true peace in Israel  
and an end to violence.**

**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](http://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 of 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.



**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 14

Word Search Answer for page 16

The hidden word is: PRECIPITATION

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## **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:**

Rochelle Meltzer	Beloved sister of Deanna Burke
Gussie Ort Brown	Beloved grandmother of Susan Rubin
Jack H. Bennett	Beloved grandfather of Susan Rubin
Marvin Wain	Beloved husband of Elaine Wain
Marvin Wain	Beloved father of Jeffrey Wain
Irving Vogel	Beloved father of Adrienne & Marlene Vogel
Isidore Vogel	Beloved grandfather of Adrienne & Marlene Vogel
Gloria Schrenzel	Beloved sister of Phyllis Rudnick
Eugene Paul Schrenzel	Beloved brother-in-law of Phyllis Rudnick

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### THE MITZVAH GROUP

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 visit, 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 to 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### **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: \_\_\_\_\_

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**JNF**  
**Trees for Israel**

**PLEASE PRINT  
LEGIBLY**

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

<b><u>Sisterhood Fund</u></b> (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

## Weather

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell an additional weather word. The remaining letters spell an additional weather word.

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

BAROMETER  
BLIZZARD  
CELSIUS  
CLOUDS  
COLD  
CYCLONE  
DOWNGPOUR  
DRIZZLE  
DROUGHT  
FAHRENHEIT

FLOOD  
FLURRIES  
FOG  
FORECAST  
FREEZE  
FROST  
HAIL  
HOT  
HUMIDITY  
HURRICANE

ICE  
LIGHTNING  
MIST  
MONSOON  
OVERCAST  
RAIN  
SHOWER  
SLEET  
SNOW  
SQUALL

STORM  
SUNNY  
TEMPERATURE  
THERMOMETER  
THUNDER  
TORNADO  
TSUNAMI  
TYPHOON  
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