

Hakol

the voice of temple beth david



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

Vol. XV No. 5

Tevet/Shevat 5781

January 2021

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Rabbi's Message by Rabbi Beth H. Klafter

Many of you have heard me speak about my parents in sermons and family stories. Among other things, my father, Horace Klafter, taught me 'corny dad jokes' and how to handle a hammer and household repairs. My mother, Corinne Kaufman Klafter, filled our home with a deep love for everything Jewish which certainly inspired me in my path; she was also a cook and a baker. In

recent years, I have had the true delight to share her Challah recipe and lessons with many of you. I have scheduled these baking lessons during January – to honor her birthday on the 12th of the month. She would have turned 91 this year and though we cannot bake together until the pandemic passes, I honor her legacy by sharing her recipe and the photograph above.

Years ago, before Chanukah apparel was as available as it is today, my brother gave my mother a royal blue sweatshirt with the words, "Happy Challah Day." I think the gift was not for Chanukah but actually for her January birthday, probably almost 30 years ago. The photograph on the left is my mom, taken in the living room of our home in Great Neck on the day she received the gift. I believe that one of her then very young grandchildren probably made the 'birthday crown' she is wearing. She did not otherwise typically wear paper crowns. Among the wonderful treasures I inherited from my mother was the sweatshirt which I am wearing in the photograph on the right taken several years ago. You may have seen me wearing it around temple for Chanukah.

During this winter month of January, I hope you will all find the warmth of memories and fresh bread at your tables. I look forward to next January, when I can share her recipe and her baking skills with all of you again.

Rabbi Beth H. Klafter



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Corinne K. Klafter's Challah Recipe

Proof in a small bowl in a steamy place:

- 1/2 C. warm water
- 1 teaspoon sugar or honey
- 1 pkg dry yeast or 1 oz fresh yeast.

In a separate bowl:

- 1/3 cup boiling water
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1-2 tablespoon sugar or honey
- 2 tablespoon oil
- 2 tablespoon salt free butter or margarine
- 3 beaten eggs
- 3 – 4 cups flour (unbleached and/or whole wheat)

Pour boiling water over salt, honey, butter or margarine and oil in the large bowl. Cool to lukewarm. Add beaten eggs and proofed yeast from smaller bowl. Add flour, one cup at a time. Knead in fourth cup. Grease bowl and put dough greased top up in bowl. Let rise about one hour. Punch down. Form into two braided loaves. Place on greased pan. Paint with egg. Sprinkle the top with seeds if you wish. Let rise 45 minutes to one hour in warm enclosed place.

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees F. Bake 20-25 minutes.

“Enjoy!” (as mom wrote at the bottom on the recipe!)



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Cantorial Notes by Rabbi/Cantor Audrey Halpern

Dear Friends,

As we turn the page on this past year many of us have made half-hearted jokes about saying good-bye to 2020. It was the year that never was or the year we want to forget. Well, in hard times, our people have often relied upon humor to get us through. (Look how many Jewish comedians there have been over the years!)

While humor is certainly helpful in putting things in perspective and lightening our hearts, we are also a people who have found ways to lift our hearts as well as our spirits. Daily, personal prayer; blessings for the big and the smallest moments of life have been an intrinsic part of Jewish life. I have thought about this, too, during these trying times. Pausing to thank God, to acknowledge the power of the universe and to count the blessings we sometimes take for granted can give us a sense of calm and peace when we need it most. Our tradition teaches us the words to utter each day when we wake from the mystery of sleep. *Modeh ani l'fanecha* – thank you God, for granting me life and for enabling me to see another day.

Along with our Monday meditation group, I began to say these words and eventually made them personal. I wrote them with my own English interpretation and set them to music, dedicating the song to my husband, Steven. I share them now with you as a sort of New Year's wish for us all.

*Modeh ani l'fanecha
Modeh ani l'fanecha
At each dawn when I wake,
With each step that I take
Every day Modeh Ani.*

*Modeh ani l'fanecha
Modeh ani l'fanecha
For my heart, for my soul
For the world I behold,
For all this, Modeh ani.*

*In the blueness of sky
In the warmth of the sun
In the oceans divide
I know You are the One.
With my spirit, my song,
God, to You I belong.
My thanks, my prayer I offer now.*

*Modeh ani l'fanecha
Modeh ani l'fanecha
In the nights, in the days
To Your name I give praise
All my life Modeh ani.
All my life Modeh ani.*

So, as we continue to face the turbulent times, let us laugh, let us sing and let us give thanks for each new day and its message of hope. May this New Year usher in a new time of healing, wholeness and peace for us all.

Cantor Audrey Halpern

B'shalom,
Rabbi/Cantor Audrey B. Halpern

News from Isaiah 58



Let no child go hungry in 2021! This is my New Year's battle cry. Rallying the Isaiah 58 Committee only takes a minute, an email or a call. The members of this committee have talents and knowledge that combine and create a synergistic force to get things done. When needy families ask for help, we have proven ourselves to be reliable and dependable in our community. This past year we had the most generous food donations despite the raging pandemic! Or perhaps because of it. We experienced unexpected upheaval and anxiety in 2020.

Our annual Mitzvah Day was virtual for the first time ever and we shared ways to help despite being socially distant. Perhaps being at home more helped change our view of what it means to be in need. Maybe hearing the nightly news and reading the local papers made an impact on your mind. Imagine a family with young children not being able to adequately feed themselves in the time of COVID-19. We know that food insecurity is rampant on Long Island and hunger knows no season. Members of Isaiah 58 innately feel a call to do something to help others. At a time when many charitable organizations want donations, please consider donating close to home. If you participate in our activities, Zoom meetings, donate food or send a monetary donation, you are assured that your donation goes directly to helping those in need. Our organization is fully funded by donations and we need your help to make this year a success. We will continue food donations to our community even if we have to give less each month. Every bit counts!

More and more families are struggling to make ends meet and so your donations are deeply appreciated. When we buy supplies such as peanut butter, jelly, bread, juice boxes or applesauce cups, that money has to come from our funding. Please consider a small part of your monthly budget and generously donate to Isaiah 58. The cost of a haircut, a lunch, dinner, or a tank of gas may seem like a small donation to you, but, for those in need, it is the difference between being hungry and having food. We partner with our local food pantry, Long Island Cares, Hospitality Too and the Suffolk JCC to feed hundreds of people. The joy of giving and helping the community feels like a great start to 2021.

Jane Oberwager Gaines
Isaiah 58 Chair

The administrative staff has returned to the building. However the building remains closed except for prearranged appointments. Please call the Temple Office x 310 or x 312 to arrange to come to the temple for any matter. Please be advised that anyone in the building must enter from the back parking lot only, sign-in and wear a mask at all times in the building.

To reach the Clergy:

- Rabbi Beth H Klafter, Rabbibhk@tbdcommack.org
- Rabbi/Cantor Audrey Halpern, Cantah@gmail.com

Please call the temple instructions to reach the clergy for an urgent matter.

For regular temple business or questions, please email:

- Robin Kain, Temple Administrator, Robin@tbdcommack.org
- Myra Shak, Bookkeeper, Bookkeeper@tbdcommack.org
- Wendy Perry, Clergy Office, Wendy@tbdcommack.org
- Dr. Margie Gursky, Asst. Dir, Religious School, mgursky@tbdcommack.org
- Shari Chaikin, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Tutor, Shari@tbdcommack.org

For information about New Soil AA, please contact John at 516-360-8401 or AA HOTLINE at 631-669-1124, <https://www.nyintergroup.org/>



Message from President Craig Cooper

Dear 2020: Good Riddance

As I considered my column for the January 2021 *Hakol*, my thoughts went in two different directions (no surprise to anyone who knows the joys of adult A.D.D.) And rather than agonize over which to go with, I opted to present both sides. If you have a sense of nostalgia (or humor) I hope you'll enjoy the first. And, if you have a sense of gratitude and honor, I hope the second part connects with you as well. We'll put them both under the shared theme of "Villains and Heroes."

A Few of the Villains of 2020

- 1) COVID-19. Enough said.
- 2) Emails that began with, "I hope this email finds you well." At no other time in my life did I wonder how the writer knew this was not a foregone conclusion.
- 3) Toilet Paper. Enough said.
- 4) Murder Hornets. I have no idea what to say about them, but apparently Mike Ditkowsky is our temple expert.
- 5) Tik Tok. This was not even a thing a year ago. Not in the world, not in our family. That was until our daughter Mackenzie made a video that got more than 2.2 million views. She will admit it wasn't even that good. And no, I won't send you the link.
- 6) Getting swabbed for your COVID test. During my third (or fourth?) test, the nurse actually pulled out the lost key for the Pontiac I owned in the late 1970's.
- 7) The fly. On Mike Pence's head. (choose one as the hero, one as the villain)

A Few of the Heroes of 2020

- 1) Scientists. From the beginning of the year, their research, expertise, advice and innovation guided many of our choices as a society, ultimately leading to the development and release of a remarkably effective vaccine in record time.
- 2) Healthcare workers. Often armed with recycled masks and gowns, they put their lives at risk every time they clocked in to work. Thousands became ill, and many died. A headline not too long ago read, "I went to school to take care of people. I didn't sign up to be a martyr."
- 3) Grocery Store employees. Often working for minimum wage, they stocked the shelves, endured our exasperation when those shelves weren't stocked enough and kept their wits about themselves when many of us couldn't. They earned the right to wear t-shirts reading "I didn't sign up for this."
- 4) Our Clergy and Religious School Staff. Their t-shirts should probably say, "I did sign up for this." And we are so lucky they did. There is probably no one in our temple community whose devotion to our spiritual and educational strength comes close to that of Rabbi Klafter, Cantor Halpern and Dr. Marjorie Gursky. They are spiritual heroes to every TBD member and to dozens of families eager to continue their children's religious learning.

(Continued from page 5)

5) Which leads us to our children. Think about what the last ten months have been like for a school or even college-age kid. Consider for a moment the emotional and social upheaval this year has had on every one of them. Think back to your own school memories – simple, “given” experiences like sports, clubs, a concert or a prom, the annual musical, and of course, graduation. Imagine losing any one of those, let alone almost all of them.

Our children have been forced to change how they learn, and their memories of their school and social experiences will be different from those of anyone before them and (hopefully) anyone afterward. The truth is, we can all learn from them and I hope we can all find ways to celebrate their abilities to adapt and to make the best of an unimaginable situation.

6) You. Yes, you. Maybe you don’t think you deserve to be measured for a red cape, but I have been humbled watching friends, family and temple members soldier through this past year with class, acceptance, empathy and determination. Within our temple family, we have found ways to connect, to communicate, to share, and to help. The members of our congregation are the epitome of “Tikkun Olam” – Repairing the World.

No matter how large or how small, I am certain each of you has done something heroic – you might not even know what it was. But know this – the Temple Beth David community is stronger because of each of you.

Rabbi Evette Lutman of B'nai Havurah in Denver said of this holiday season, "We're experiencing all kinds of grief, all kinds of loss. It's easy for me to say, 'Look on the bright side.' How sad it would be if we missed this unique place and time to recognize the opportunity to make the world better," she said, "to use the wound as an opportunity to heal."

I couldn’t agree more with her – it is easy to say “Look on the bright side.” For each of us, though, the bright side may arrive sooner or later than we’d like. But in closing, here’s a promise. There is one bright side we can count on. Within a few days of receiving this issue of *Hakol*, December 21 will have come and gone. As the Winter Solstice, it holds the scientific distinction of being the “darkest” day of the year – giving our world the least amount of daylight. Beginning the next day and for many months to come, the sun will shine a little bit longer. The bottom line – every day will be a little brighter than the one before it.

Wishing you and your loved ones the best possible 2021.

Craig Cooper
President

Life brightens

finding miracles

nascent kinds

serve, remind

leaves will be green, young hearts wed

blessings nurture hope

--Sandy Wicker



Margie Gursky Religious School News

Okay, it's now January, and it's cold, and COVID is still staring us down. So what do we do in the middle of winter during COVID? Well, this is the advice from my Swedish friend, Eva: "Be outdoors as much as possible. There is no such thing as bad weather, only the wrong clothes." So, don't become a winter hermit. Go outside with your household members. Just wear extra layers.

Because COVID is still in our lives, Religious School is still on ZOOM (mostly), at least through February break. Since the vaccine is almost here, however, we are hopeful, with the Reopening Committee's guidance, after February break we will be able to plan some programs, classes and/or tutoring indoors, or outdoors (on nicer days).

We heard those of you who suggested we have programs at other times besides Wednesday evenings. So, our January/February calendar includes PACT and family programs on three different Saturdays. And for the rest of the school year, we planned programs on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings. Please check your emails and the website to see the spring Calendar of Events and we will be in touch as the year progresses as to the Reopening Committee's guidelines for in-person programs and events.

In between TBD Religious School events, remember to go outside. Take the dog for a walk. Take your kids for a walk. Take yourself for a walk. Walking outside has been scientifically proven to provide a boost in mental health, is a way to get socially distant exercise and an opportunity to connect with your immediate family outside of the house. Just don't forget to dress warmly!



Spotlight on Brotherhood

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of our Brotherhood members who have worked diligently to keep our Temple community together. Recently I read an article that stated, "Mann Tracht, Un Gott Lacht." It is an old Yiddish saying, which means, "Man Plans, and God Laughs." No doubt, a very suitable axiom for the year 2020.

With the new year upon us, most of us are relieved to see the pages of the calendar turn to 2021. The upcoming new year brings the prospect of a COVID vaccine and perhaps a return to some form of normalcy. Years from now many of the challenging memories of this year will fade; however, we should all try hard to remember the connections and experiences made with family and friends. We at the Brotherhood in many ways have found or perhaps renewed a greater sense of community with one another this year. We came together for a variety of reasons...relief, respite from any number of problems or concerns, advice, or just some simple company and humor. Whatever the motive, brothers sought to help one another and just be there for each other!

As we say goodbye to 2020, please remember that Brotherhood has some terrific plans for many more activities and gatherings, be they socially distanced or held online. Some of those include a socially distanced movie event, an online political speaker, Zoom NFL playoffs/Superbowl, weekly Zoom gatherings and many other fun and engaging activities to allow us to be available for one another.

Be safe. Be well. Have a wonderful New Year!
Stephen Swartz, Brotherhood Co-President



Spotlight on Sisterhood

The secular New Year has arrived and let's hope that 2021 will be better than 2020! As we sit inside this January thinking about the coming year, let's try some new recipes! I could talk about the usual Matzah Ball Soup or Brisket, but I thought let's try something new. As I researched the top 25 Jewish recipes, I found some that are very common that I haven't made but always wanted to, and some I never heard of. I thought I would share this one with you if you would like to try something different.

Cheese Bourekas is a Middle Eastern style puff pastry pocket filled with cheese. The traditional Israeli might eat these for breakfast. They could also be filled with leftover mashed potatoes, or a spinach and feta mixture.

CHEESE BOUREKAS

Prep time: 30 Minutes Cook time: 30 minutes Oven: 350 degrees

Ingredients:

- 2 eggs
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 tsp dried parsley
- Pinch garlic powder, onion powder, salt, black pepper
- One 17.5 ounce package frozen puff pastry
- 2 tsp water, 2 TBS sesame seeds

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Beat 1 egg in medium bowl and mix in the cheese. Season with parsley, garlic, onion, salt and pepper.

On a lightly floured surface, cut each sheet of puff pastry into 6 equal squares to get 12 squares in total.

Beat the remaining egg with water in a small bowl. Brush edges of each square lightly with egg wash. Place a heaping tablespoon of the cheese mixture in the center of each square. Fold pastry over the filling making a triangle, and seal edges with a fork.

Transfer to the prepared baking sheet, brush with remaining egg wash and sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Bake for 30 minutes or until golden brown. Serve immediately.



Enjoy! And Happy New Year!
Karin Brandsdorfer
Sisterhood President

THE HUNGRY NEED OUR HELP MORE THAN EVER!

Please try to bring a non-perishable item with you when you come to Temple and place it in our food bin located in the lobby. We periodically empty the bin and bring these items to the food banks in Suffolk County to be distributed to the people who so desperately need them.



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Mitzvah Day Fund

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In honor of Josh Kert's Bar Mitzvah

There are many ways to honor a loved one's memory, remember a joyous event, celebrate a special day such as a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a wedding or a baby naming. Temple Beth David's permanent plaques give lasting remembrance and honor while helping the temple.

Yahrzeit Memorial	located in sanctuary vestibule	\$ 500.00
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	Gold or Platinum Leaf	\$ 180.00
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	Foundation Stone	\$ 450.00
Sanctuary	One seat	\$ 800.00
	Two seats	\$1500.00

Yahrzeits January 2021

1/1	Sam Eisenberg Harry Feldman	1/12	Esther Eisner Leah Zinner	1/22	Herbert Caplan Molly Herman
1/2	Jacob Spiegel		Ruth Friedberg		Esther Pintoff
1/3	Sally Appollo Beatrice Barth Harold Wolfson		Barbara Bloom Renate Romano Charles Sibener		Harriet Bloom Betty Chernick Cohen Martin Weiner
1/4	Edith Abrams Fae Langsner Ruth Shapiro Dola Warsaw Benjamin Birnbaum Pete Talbot	1/13	Norman Goldfinger Betty Stile Rothbaum Murray Lieber Robert Flamm Leonard Kresh Florence Austin Irving Leon Ruth Prager	1/23	Howard Weiselberg Adele Matican Amy King Frances Silberfeld Grace Simon Morris Reiff Lucille Rosenthal Frances Silberfeld
1/5	Gertrude Aboulafia Blanche Hoffenberg Judi Levy Charlotte Gershowitz Elaine Stone	1/14	Carl Aronin Ronald Barth Anthony Saeli Arthur Klatzman Morton Fenster Esther Perlstein David Sussman Leon Lazer Harry Satran Dale Solomon Hyman Levy	1/24	Edward Goldfarb Ira Feldstein Esther Birnbaum Louis Sedell
1/6	Jack Brass Beverly Arnold Ira Rubin		Abraham Flansbaum Gerry Meistrich Gigi Michaels Henry Prentiss Matthew Jay Schlesinger Abraham Schwartz Benjamin Wicker Joel Wigler	1/25	Sylvia Semel Benjamin Seidman Robert Forbes Sylvia Semel Rose Markowitz
1/7	Rene Orellana Lucille Coren Teddy Steinberg William Rosen Morie Arden Harry Grumet Sophie Levin Etta Klein Marion Wasserman	1/15	Jerome Nathanson Etta Alter	1/26	Bernard Sirota Helen Stecher Allan Forbes David Lapidus
1/8	Lenore Ziff Samuel Feldman Bernard Cohen Phyllis Dornbaum Michael Goodman Vanburn Allicock Frank J. Panaro	1/16	Irving Newman Irwin Solomon Max Ratner Max Zimmerman Eric Zweig	1/27	Rose Wexler George Zinner Samuel Didner
1/9	Marshall Matican Max Rosenthal Bette Klaif Shirley Corson Weiner	1/17	Lillian Michaels Morris Felsen Harry Gutmaker Lawrence Rivman Alan Kaplan Jill Kavner	1/28	Stanley Sacks Charles Wexler Max Rosenblum Murray Goldberg Magda Greenberger Ruth Herman Lillian Wadler Shirley Watine
1/10	Robert Wagner Barry Feldman Joseph Berger Harold Greenberg Margrit Didner Norman Niederman Estelle Stearns Bruce Witkover	1/18	Harriet Aronberg	1/29	Beatrice Bell Mae Kroch Walter Moskowitz Betty Cole George Steinman
1/11	Jesse Browser Mac Spatz Sigrid Grey Harry Wolk	1/20	Louis Altschuler Etta Feinberg Minnie Gross Dorothy Mankuta Marvin Weisman	1/30	Estelle Yohay Garrison Jacob Freedman Perry Sandler Steven Sharp
		1/21		1/31	Yetta Blumenthal Leonard Glaser Evelyn Rosenberg Steven King



What's Happening at TBD — January 2021

Please note all services and activities are remote unless otherwise noted.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 TEMPLE OFFICES CLOSED 7:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings	2 10:00 am Torah Study & Service
3 No Religious School	4 2:00 pm Haftorah Study Group Religious School Resumes	5 Religious School Resumes	6	7	8 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	9 10:00 am Torah Study & Service
10	11 2:00 pm Haftorah Study Group	12 7:30 pm Budget & Finance 8:30 pm Brotherhood Meeting	13	14 7:30 pm Sisterhood Meeting	15 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	16 10:00 am Torah Study & Service
17 No Religious School	18 TEMPLE OFFICES CLOSED No Religious School	19 6:30 pm Packet Meeting 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting 8:00 pm TBD Board Meeting	20 7:00 pm Rabbi Klafter Meeting With March Bar/Bat Mitzvah 7:30 pm Isaiah 58 Meeting	21	22 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	23 10:00 am Torah Study & Service 4:30 pm 4th & 5h Grade PACT
24 31	25 2:00 pm Haftorah Study Group	26	27	28	29 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Anniversary Blessings	30 10:00 am Torah Study & Service 10:00am K-3rd Grade Shabbat Program

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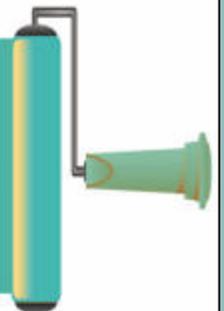
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Worship Schedule

*Please note all services are viewable via
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- Friday, January 1
Shabbat Vayechi
 7:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings
- Saturday, January 2
 10:00 am Torah Study with Service
- Friday, January 8
Shabbat Shemot
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service
- Saturday, January 9
 10:00 am Torah Study and Service
- Friday, January 15
Shabbat Vaera
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service
- Saturday, January 16
 10:00 am Torah Study and Service
- Friday, January 22
Shabbat Bo
- Saturday, January 23
 10:00 am Torah Study with Service
- Friday, January 29
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Anniversary
 Blessings
- Saturday, January 30
 10:00 am Torah Study and Service

Shabbat Services on Live Stream

Live Stream

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HaKol
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