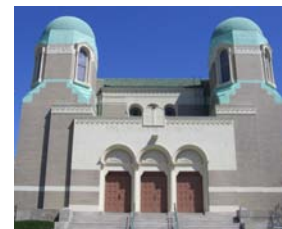


# TEMPLE BETH EL

Fall River, Massachusetts



86th Year

November 2013

Cheshvan/Kislev 5774

No. 3

## Regular Service Schedule

Morning Minyan (Monday & Thursday).....8:00 am  
Friday Evening Services.....5:30 pm  
Shabbat Morning Services.....10:00 am

### Homelessness Education Sabbath

*Friday, November 15th*

On Friday, November 15th our Kabbalat Shabbat Service will be part of a city-wide initiative called "Homelessness Education Sabbath" (promoted by the United Neighbors of Fall River).

We will have a guest speaker, The Rev. Jeremi Colvin, assistant pastor at The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal Church on Rock St.), whose ministry includes a street ministry to the homeless and lower income citizens of Fall River.

Please welcome Pastor Colvin as she speaks with us about how we at Temple Beth El can lend our hands to do Tikkun Olam and alleviate the plight of the poor in Fall River.

### *Installation at Temple Beth El Fall River, MA*

And in our eighty-sixth year,  
Adonai has sent to us  
Mark Elber and Shoshana Brown  
that we may revive our past  
and astound ourselves  
as we explore the spirituality  
within ourselves.

Their journey has been diverse.  
Inclusiveness is their mission.  
They reach out with sincerity.  
They infuse us with warmth.

In the splendor of our sanctuary,  
with prayer and in harmony,  
Temple Beth El of Fall River  
embraces  
Cantor Brown and Rabbi Elber.

*Ada Jill Schneider, 2013*

*Save the Date!*

## **CHANUKAH PARTY!**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND**

**6:30 PM**

**537 WALNUT ST, FALL RIVER**

*There is no charge to attend,  
but reservations are a must!*

This year the Chanukah party will be held at the home of Rabbi Elber and Cantor Brown. The fare will be a light supper, with bagels, smoked fish, latkes, salad, etc. Please feel free to bring your own menorahs (*hannukiot*) with candles to light up their home!

Please call or e-mail the office by  
Monday, November 25th to RSVP.



*A message from our Spiritual Leader*  
*Cantor Shoshana Brown*

Shalom, Temple Beth El Members and Friends,

Thank you so much to all who turned out for Rabbi Mark's and my installation at TBE on October 20th! And I want to especially thank all who contributed in so many ways: contacting local elected officials and clergy to invite them to join us for our happy event, shopping and preparing food for the reception, making sure that we had beautiful flowers and set tables; thanks to Ada who composed a poem for the event, to Bill Chebot who blew the shofar so powerfully; thanks to all the Board and Sisterhood members who supported this event, and to all those who completed many of the tasks that helped us be ready to welcome the greater community into our majestic sanctuary on what turned out to be a gorgeous day.

As you might imagine, I was rather busy preparing for this *simchah* myself, so I hope you will forgive me for reprising excerpts from my "Installation Talk" for my Bulletin letter this month. I know that many of you were not able to be with us for various reasons, and I would like to share with you some of what I was privileged to say to those in attendance on that day.

*V'taher libeinu l'ovdekha be-emet.* "Purify our hearts—that we might serve You in authenticity." This is a phrase from our Shabbat, holiday and festival liturgy, and if you have been with me at some of these celebrations, you might have noticed that it is a favorite of mine.

What is it about this song? Don't you hate phoniness? And is there anything more intolerable in this world than a religious phony? Give me an honest atheist any day. As your new cantor - or, to use the title that I prefer, your *chazzan* (which I like to think is related to the Hebrew word *chazon*, "vision") - I want to assure you that you do not have to consider yourself a "believer," or "religious" to pray with me. What I believe that God (whether you believe in God or not) wants of us is a pure heart...which is to say that the chief of all virtues is to be **genuine**.

It is easy, as clergy—whether rabbi, cantor, priest or pastor—to be caught up in the web of envy, of comparison. Am I as good at my job as that colleague of mine? How does my teaching, how do my sermons, my chanting of the prayers, my warmth or charisma—compare with theirs?

But God does not want me to be like someone else—or to be "better" than someone else. God wants me to be the one that God created me to be. And the same goes for you. We each have a

special role to play in this world, for however long we are here. I believe that with each person who stops trying to be someone else, and who begins to authentically live as him- or herself, seeking to do what he or she can do to "perfect"—or mend—this world—this world is brought a little closer to Redemption.

But however authentic we may be, no one (and especially no clergyperson) can do or say the right thing all the time. There have been so many times in my past when I have expressed myself awkwardly, inadvertently hurting or offending someone, or causing a misunderstanding. And no matter how hard I try, such things are bound to happen from time to time. When an apology is warranted, I hope you will give me the chance to make one, and when it is just awkwardness, I hope you will give me the benefit of the doubt that my heart is in the right place. And of course, I hope to always do the same for you.

What I ask of God now for myself as your *chazzan* is that God give me the courage and the clear vision to always stay honest with myself and with you, and that we might strive to always deal with one another with authenticity, with *pure hearts*. And I pray that we all might know the deep contentment that this prayer alludes to, even as we continue to feel keenly the brokenness of our world, and never forget to lend our hands to try to mend its fissures.

Many people tell me, "Cantor, I don't believe in God, but I love to sing." Could it be that **singing** is the way that our souls--our *neshamas*--**pray** despite what our "heads" think we believe? Perhaps this is why so many of us feel so happy when we sing.

Don't worry about what you "believe" or don't "believe"—but if you can earnestly long for a pure heart and contentment of soul, then let's work, and sing, and rejoice together. I thank the Blessed Holy One, and you, the community of Temple Beth El, for calling me to be your cantor.

Of course, if you know me a little by now, you can guess that I ended this talk by leading the congregation in singing together, and alas I cannot recreate that ending here. But I would rather that this not be an *ending*, but a *beginning*, and an *invitation* to you all to join us at our services, where we have been enjoying learning and sharing and singing together. We would like our circle to widen, to include many of you who we see less frequently. And don't miss the Chanukah party at Mark's and my house on Monday evening, December 2nd at 6:30!

*Cantor Shoshana Brown*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is official - Rabbi Elber and Cantor Brown have now been installed as the Spiritual Leaders of Temple Beth El. Those who attended were part of a warm, moving and musical afternoon. We were blessed to have several special guests, including mentors of the Rabbi and Cantor and terrific musicians who played together to celebrate the occasion. It was magical and heartfelt, and uplifting to all who were there. I would like to thank all of our special guests for attending, including Ada Schneider who read a beautiful poem she wrote in honor of the installation, and State Senator Mike Roderigues. Thanks, too, to Sisterhood for once again putting on a terrific spread for the reception afterwards and to Marie Twomey for photographing and videotaping the event.

The positive news continues. The Rabbi now has two students studying for their bar and bat mitzvahs, two children attending Hebrew School with the Cantor, and a wedding is also in the works. We continue to have people inquire about joining, including Alan Levine and Barbara Zukroff Koppel, who were inspired to support the Temple from afar after spending just a few hours here for their high school reunion in July. These may be small steps, but they are most certainly steps in the right direction, the first steps in the rebuilding process. It's all good.

I would like to extend my sincere condolences to Tom Gregory on the loss of his mother, and hope for the recovery of all those in our congregation who are ill. Lastly, I hope you were all able to see Dr. Irv Fradkin's interview on Katie Couric's show. It was truly inspirational.

*Steve Silverman*  
President

*Sisterhood Gift Shop*

Unbelievably, Chanukah will be here along with Thanksgiving. We have a wonderful selection of Chanukah wallet cards, dreidels, games and more.

Also, browse our new selection of wall mezuzot as well as sterling silver Stars of David and mezuzot with chains in lovely gift boxes. If you're looking for a kipa (yarmulke), there are some new knitted ones in both small and large sizes.

Because I will be away from November 22nd through December 3rd, why not shop early for your Chanukah gifts - especially the wallet gift cards.

If you have questions or would like to set up an appointment to browse, feel free to contact me.

Hannah R. Evans Phone: 508-674-2505  
Email: hannahbecky@comcast.net

*Sisterhood President's Message*

It is now November, and we have just had the most wonderful fall ever. The foliage was absolutely beautiful. You did not have to travel north to enjoy it. A trip on Route 24 did the trick. The golds and reds were so vibrant. I love this time of year.

On Sunday, October 20th, we celebrated the installation of our clergy, Cantor Shoshana Brown and Rabbi Mark Elber. It was a most festive event. The music added so much to the occasion. It was a real tribute to these lovely people. I would like to thank the following people for their help; Anita Bolski and Beverly Solup handled the hospitality, and Hannah Evans was in charge of the decorations. A lot of work goes into the planning of an event like this, so everyone's cooperation is greatly appreciated. The folks in the office, Judy and Marie, along with our custodians, Tom, George and Carlton, help to make these things happen.

I hope everyone has been reading our book club's latest selection, The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton. We will be reviewing it on Wednesday, November 13th at 10:30 am in our library. Please feel free to join us. You won't regret it. We are so lucky to have Ada Schneider to lead us through these discussions. She does a terrific job.

As we are all aware, Chanukah arrives along with Thanksgiving this year. Our Rabbi and Cantor have graciously invited us to celebrate the Festival of Lights with them in their home. A light supper will be served, including bagels, smoked fish, latkes and salad. There is no charge, but please RSVP to the office by Monday, November 25th so that the Elbers may prepare their home accordingly.

So until next month, Shalom.

*Libby Cohen*  
Sisterhood President

**Temple Family**

- Our condolences to Tom Gregory on the loss of his mother, Marjorie Gregory.

**LEADERSHIP**

Mark Elber.....	Rabbi
Shoshana Brown.....	Cantor
Stephen Silverman.....	President
Jeffrey Entin.....	Vice President
Libby Cohen.....	Secretary
William Chebot.....	Treasurer
Libby Cohen.....	Sisterhood Pres.
William E. Kaufman.....	Rabbi Emeritus

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

### November 2013 Cheshvan/Kislev 5774

#### Friday, November 1 (28 Cheshvan)

Candle Lighting 5:23 pm  
Shabbat Service 5:30 pm

#### Saturday, November 2 (29 Cheshvan)

Weekly Portion: Toldot 10:00 am

#### Sunday, November 3 (30 Cheshvan)

Rosh Chodesh Kislev

#### Monday, November 4 (1 Kislev)

Rosh Chodesh Kislev

#### Friday, November 8 (5 Kislev)

Candle Lighting 4:15 pm  
Shabbat Service 5:30 pm

#### Saturday, November 9 (6 Kislev)

Weekly Portion: Vayetze 10:00am  
Kristallnacht

#### Friday, November 15 (12 Kislev)

Candle Lighting 4:08 pm  
Shabbat Service 5:30 pm

#### Saturday, November 16 (13 Kislev)

Weekly Portion: Vayishlach 10:00 am

#### Friday, November 22 (19 Kislev)

Candle Lighting 4:02 pm  
Shabbat Service 5:30 pm

#### Saturday, November 23 (20 Kislev)

Weekly Portion: Vayeshev 10:00 am

#### Wednesday, November 27 (24 Kislev)

Erev Chanukah  
Light 1st Chanukah Candle

#### Thursday, November 28 (25 Kislev)

Chanukah – First Day  
Light 2nd Chanukah candle

#### Friday, November 29 (26 Kislev)

Candle Lighting 3:59 pm  
Shabbat Service 5:30 PM  
Chanukah – Second Day  
Light 3rd Chanukah candle before Shabbat candles

#### Saturday, November 30 (27 Kislev)

Weekly Portion: Miketz 10:00 am  
Light 4th Chanukah candle after Shabbat  
ends (5:02 pm)

## TEMPLE OFFICE

385 High St, Fall River, MA 02720  
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E-Mail: templebethel@comcast.net  
Website: frtemplebethel.org

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 9 am to Noon

### Office Closed:

Monday, November 11th - Veterans Day  
Thursday, November 28th - Thanksgiving

## Fall River United Jewish Appeal, Inc.

385 High Street, Fall River, MA 02720  
Tel: (508) 673-7791 Fax: (508) 678-6735  
e-mail: fruja@comcast.net

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday, 9 am to Noon

Friendly Visitor: Jackie Gedacht is ready, willing and able to visit the sick or shut-ins. Call the UJA office at (508) 673-7791 to schedule a visit.

## A Special Reunion at Temple Beth El

The Temple Beth El Students of the B.M.C. Durfee Class of 1963 got together in our vestry for a special breakfast to top off their 50th high school reunion weekend in July. They thoroughly enjoyed seeing each other after all these years, catching up and sharing memories from their many years here in Hebrew school. One of their classmates, Tilden Bogus, gave a terrific history of the Temple from 1963 to the present. Rabbi Elber and Cantor Brown also dropped in to introduce themselves. The classmates had such a nice time they each decided to make a generous donation to support the Temple, and two have even decided to join as out-of-town members! We are delighted they all had such a nice time rekindling old friendships, we thank them for their generosity and support, and we happily welcome back Alan Levine and Barbara Zukroff Koppel and her husband Robert Koppel. Hopefully this will be the first of many such reunions at TBE.

## FALL RIVER JEWISH HOME

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*Thank you for your donations received through October 24, 2013*

### Yahrzeits

**For the yahrzeit of my beloved...**

**Mother, Helene Bender**  
**Grandfather, Jacob Brown**  
**Mother, Lillian Feinberg**  
**Husband, Leonard Freedman**  
**Father in law, Morris Freedman**  
**Wife, Lenora Goltz**  
**Mother, Lenora Goltz**  
**Father, Morris Hoffman**  
**Father, Paul Horowitz**  
**Grandfather, Isidore Juda**  
**Father, Max Katz**  
**Mother, Ida Leavitt**  
**Father, Louis Levin**  
**Mother, Eva Leviss**  
**Mother, Esther Lurie**  
**Mother, Ruth Lustig**  
**Mother, Betty Rosenberg**  
**Father, Nathan Silk**  
**Mother, Jessie Simpson**  
**Grandfather, Julius Sinman**  
**Mother, Yetta Sludsky**  
**Mother, Anna Zalkind**

**Donated by:**

Susan Bender  
Howard Galitsky  
Steven Feinberg  
Sheila Freedman  
Ann Freedman  
Edward Goltz  
Arthur & Barbara Sheer  
Bernard Hoffman  
Atty. Paul Horowitz  
Joyce Juda  
Mrs. Hyman Laudon  
Hilda Reiser  
Dr. Clinton Levin  
Brenda Marder  
Dorothy Lurie  
Ann Freedman  
Richard Rosenberg  
Dr. Kenneth Silk  
Irma Feldman  
Shirley Zwerling  
Paula Sultan  
Barbara Eisen

### Maurice Alpert Memorial Endowment Fund

**For the yahrzeit of my beloved grandmother, Libby Alpert**  
**For the yahrzeit of my beloved grandfather, Bennett Alpert**  
**For the yahrzeit of my beloved grandson, Alex Pankiw**  
Sumner Alpert  
**For the recovery of Marion Wilner**  
Sumner Alpert & Joyce Rosenthal

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund

**In honor of Cantor Shoshana Brown**  
Rabbi Jay Weinstein  
**In honor of clergy installation**  
Alan Feldman  
Carol Seitchik

### IDA AND DAVID CHAVENSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**For the recovery of Richard Valeriana**  
Ann & Bob Chavenson

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**In honor of Rabbi Mark Elber**  
Marion & Arthur Gold  
Rabbi Raphael Kanter  
Jonah Licht  
Rabbi Jay Weinstein

### Hyman & Goldie Schwartz Legacy Fund

**In honor of Judy Berg celebrating a special birthday**  
Carole & Jerome Waksler  
**In memory of Isabelle Horowitz**  
**In memory of Dr. Sidney Rosen**  
Tylda Schwartz

### Capital Fund

**In honor of Judy Berg celebrating a special birthday**  
Libby Cohen  
Beverly Solup  
**In honor of Libby Cohen becoming a great grandmother**  
Paula Shaer  
**In honor of Dr. Irving & Charlotte Fradkin on their upcoming appearance on the Katie Couric Show**  
Hannah Evans  
**In honor of Randi Greenfield celebrating a special birthday**  
Irma & Carl Feldman  
**In honor of Iris & Harold Katzman celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary**  
Lorraine Kaplan  
**In honor of Rosanne & Sayre Litchman celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary**  
Hannah Evans  
**In honor of the birth of my great-granddaughter, Alyssa Nichole Reynolds**  
Libby Cohen  
**In memory of Dr. Arnold Binder**  
Hilda Reiser  
**For the recovery of Hummy Chebot**  
Hannah Evans  
**For the recovery of Judy Silverman**  
Hannah Evans

### Special Gifts

**From the Temple Beth El students of the B.M.C. Durfee Class of 1963**

David Blow  
Jennifer Coplon  
Penny Glunts  
Rhonna Goodman  
Marcia Horowitz  
Robert & Barbara Zukroff Koppel  
Alan Levine  
Brenda Lind  
Jeffrey Lucove



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# Clergy Installation - October 20, 2013



# Instructions for Chanukah

*First Candle, Wednesday, November 27, 2013*

Chanukah is observed for eight days, beginning with the eve of the 25th day of Kislev (this year falling on the evening of Wed. Nov. 27th, 2013). It commemorates the historic victory of the Maccabees following a 3-year-long uprising against the ruling Assyrian-Greek regime and their Jewish Hellenist sympathizers who conspired to impose restrictions against Jewish religious practices and values. The struggle culminated in the recapture of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 BCE, and the restoration of its traditional Jewish service. The victory also restored Jewish political sovereignty over the land. Chanukah means “dedication,” and refers to the re-dedication of the Temple after the Jews purified it from the defilements of pagan sacrifices which had taken place, and from the idolatrous images which had been set up there during the Assyrian-Greek occupation.

Rabbinic legend tells us that after the Temple had been purified, there was a desire to celebrate the Temple’s re-dedication for 8 days (some say this was to make up for their having been prevented from observing the 7 days of Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret while under occupation). However, only one sealed vial of pure oil (uncontaminated and sealed by the High Priest) could be found. But a miracle occurred: that single vial supplied enough oil to keep the sacred Menorah lit for the entire 8 days of the Temple’s re-dedication (cf. Tractate Shabbat, Babylonian Talmud, 21b).

Today Chanukah is a minor holiday, on which it is permissible to work. Its chief observances consist of the lighting of the Chanukah candles and the singing of *Hallel* during morning prayer. Candles are added to the *Hanukiyah* from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. (On the Shabbat of Chanukah, kindle the Chanukah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.)

Before kindling the Chanukah lights on the **first night** of Chanukah, Wednesday November 27, 2013, (or if you’re kindling the Chanukah lights for the first time this year) recite all three blessings. On **every subsequent night** only the first two are recited.

Light the Shamash - the helper candle – first, using it to kindle the rest of the Chanukah lights; say or sing:

1. *Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech ha-olam a-sher ki-de-sha-nu be-mitz-vo-tav ve-tzi-va-nu le-had-lik ner shel Cha-nu-kah.*
2. *Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-a-sa ni-sim la-avo-te-nu ba-ya-mim ha-hem ba-zman ha-zeh.*

Recite the following only on the first night, or the first time lighting this Chanukah:

3. *Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-heche-ya-nu ve-ki-yi-ma-nu ve-higi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.*

## Translation:

1. Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us through Your commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.
2. Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days, at this season.
3. Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.

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## YAHREZEITS

11/1/2013 Heshvan 28, 5774

Ada Gourse  
Louis Levin  
Max Simkowitz

11/2/2013 Heshvan 29, 5774

Ida Horvitz  
Seymour Kevelson  
Alfred Kublin  
Carl Zeitz

11/3/2013 Heshvan 30, 5774

Doris Becker

11/4/2013 Kislev 1, 5774

David Samuel Kniznik  
Solomon Trieff

11/7/2013 Kislev 4, 5774

Paul Horowitz  
Louis Weinstock  
Lillian Woltman

11/8/2013 Kislev 5, 5774

Bennett Alpert  
Esther Silk Cullen  
Samuel Liss  
Gladys Shapiro

11/9/2013 Kislev 6, 5774

Ida Z. David  
Myer Goldman  
Freda Jaffe

11/10/2013 Kislev 7, 5774

Ida Appel  
Francis F. Levin  
Lena Reback

11/12/2013 Kislev 9, 5774

Tillie Ruderman  
Frieda Wiener

11/13/2013 Kislev 10, 5774

Edward Adaskin  
Julius Grozen  
Eric Lawson

11/15/2013 Kislev 12, 5774

Harry A. Gourse

11/16/2013 Kislev 13, 5774

David Cohen

11/19/2013 Kislev 16, 5774

David Shapiro

11/20/2013 Kislev 17, 5774

Sylvia T. Reback

11/21/2013 Kislev 18, 5774

Max Reiser

11/23/2013 Kislev 20, 5774

Bess Levin

11/24/2013 Kislev 21, 5774

Harry Berger  
William Falk

11/25/2013 Kislev 22, 5774

Betty Greenberg

11/26/2013 Kislev 23, 5774

Alice Helfanbein  
Hyman Schwartz  
Elizabeth Beryl Waksler  
Donna Ann Wolfson

11/28/2013 Kislev 25, 5774

Sidney Bogorad

11/29/2013 Kislev 26, 5774

Henry William Juda  
Samuel Rotenberg  
Julius Simpson

11/30/2013 Kislev 27, 5774

Shirley Resnick

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