



Temple B'nai Jacob
of Wellington
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From Our Rabbi

“Shall I compare thee to a Summers day?” - William Shakespeare, Sonnet 18

Summer, according to the AI tool, ChatGPT, typically evokes a sense of warmth, relaxation, and enjoyment for many people. It's a season associated with vacations, outdoor activities, and longer daylight hours. For most, summer represents a break from school or work, a time to spend with family and friends, and an opportunity to explore new places or engage in favorite pastimes. It often brings to mind images of beaches, barbecues, swimming, picnics, ice cream, and other refreshing delights. Summer is a time when people embrace the outdoors, seek adventure, and create cherished memories.

While most of us may agree with these summer sentiments, Judaism adds another, more significant, layer to the mix. Smack in the middle of summer vacations, our Sages implemented a period of intense mourning. Referred to as the Three Weeks, tradition builds us up towards a crescendo, culminating with the saddest day on the Jewish Calendar, *Tisha B'Av* (9th of Av). From the Biblical spies who returned with negative reports about *Eretz Yisrael/Israel*, causing the Jewish People to wander for another 40 years, to the destruction of both Holy Temples in Jerusalem (*Beit HaMikdash*), and every other major atrocity to impact the Jewish People, *Tisha B'Av* is the day we remember, commemorate, honor, and grieve. As the Mishnah, *Ta'anit*, states “When Av enters, rejoicing is limited.”

Talmud *Ta'anit* continues by saying, “The Sages taught: All mitzvot practiced by a mourner are likewise practiced on the Ninth of Av.” There is no eating or drinking for the entire day, no excessive bathing, we remove our shoes and sit lowly on the floor, and even refrain from donning *Tefillin* (phylacteries) until the afternoon to demonstrate our grief. *Talmud* instructs us not to study Torah on *Tisha B'Av*, except for a few, specific, passages and stories that discuss details that can conjure sad emotions. Studying Torah is too much happiness to display and feel on *Tisha B'Av*!

When looking deeper, the foremost significant event commemorated on *Tisha B'Av* is the destruction of the second Holy Temple in Jerusalem, the second *Beit*. In Talmud *Yoma*, the reason for the downfall of the second Temple is questioned, especially since, at that time in history, the people “were engaged in Torah study, observance of *mitzvot*, and acts of kindness.” CONTINUED>>>



<<<<<<CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

The *Talmud* answers that, despite all the outwardly portrayed goodness, the second Temple was destroyed because “there was senseless hatred, *Sinat Chinam*.” Senseless, or Baseless, Hatred could be viewed as prejudice or an unjustifiable hatred. It is hatred that does not seek the improvement of a person or situation, it is not corrective, it exists for no good reason. It finds pleasure and rejoices in the downfall, embarrassment, and pain of another person (*Midrash Eicha Rabba*). It is not about judging a particular behavior, response, or viewpoint, *Sinat Chinam* is a condemning hatred that envelops the entire being.

Rav Kook explained: “It is proper to hate a corrupt person only for his defects, but insofar as he is endowed with a divine image, this is in order to love him. We must also realize that the precious dimension of his worth is a more authentic expression of his nature than the lower characteristics that have developed in him through his circumstances.” The Jerusalem Talmud, *Yoma*, admonishes: “Any generation in which the Temple is not rebuilt, it is considered as if they themselves destroyed the Temple.” What exactly is keeping the third Temple from being rebuilt, generation after generation? It is nothing other than our continuousness of *Sinat Chinam*/Baseless Hatred. We are still plagued and, therefore, guilty, too.

Tisha B’Av reminds us that we have not fully healed, evolved or processed out of our own personal hatreds and prejudices. Humanity, as a whole, has not, yet, moved past *Sinat Chinam*. At the most opportune time when we are happy, relaxed, and celebrating in the sunshine, we are also called upon to stare directly at our flaws. We do not simply remember by taking a few moments of silence or by the reading of a sad poem. Judaism asks us to genuinely feel the discomfort of a still imperfect world for an entire day, led up to by the three previous weeks of preparation, in a way so dramatic that its effects should be penetrating and lasting.

In the famous words of Rebbe Nachman of Breslev, “If you believe that we can break, believe that we can repair.” May we be blessed to heal and repair any and all *Sinat Chinam* within us individually and may we witness the same throughout all of humanity, throughout the whole world! May we experience the rebuilding of the third and final Holy Temple in Jerusalem and, in the words of the prophet, Zechariah (8:19), turn all our days of fasting and mourning into days of “joy and gladness, and cheerful seasons!” Amen!



With Love and Blessing,
Rabbi Dan

Message from our President



One of the many things that being Jewish has taught me is that I have a culture, and that culture is part of my identity. Through my experience with traveling, going to public schools in Pittsburgh, and various other things like going to summer camp, I have come across many cultures. With every culture I have learned about, I witnessed similarities that we shared. Every time someone shared a part of their cultural identity with me, I felt like a gap between what I knew about them and their actual life had been filled in. And through all the traditions, the holidays, the beliefs of Judaism and the Jewish culture in general that I have learned about, experienced, and embraced, I learned that I too, an American white male, a Jew, have a culture and something that I may not show on a day-to-day basis, but that is special to me and that I hold close in my life.

For example, while growing up Jewish I never really deeply thought about my belief in G-d. I never really asked myself if there's anyone above me, if there was a higher power, because frankly I really didn't know what I believed. I didn't know who I was praying to at services, but at the same time I didn't necessarily think that there was no one. Sometimes I would even ask for things in my head, like hoping the Steelers would win the game. I would say in my head, "please, please let them win." While growing up in the 60's the Steelers stunk but in the 70's they won 4 super bowls. So maybe it just took G-d a little more time to hear me praying.

But who was I asking? God was so interactive with the Israelites in the Torah. Where is G-d today? Judaism can be viewed from many different angles and with different interpretations. Not every Jew is the same. If they were, none of us would have evolved and we would all still be like Moses in Sinai. But we live in a modern society, and so the teachings that we learned from the past are meant to be questioned. In Conservative Judaism, we are encouraged to question and to wrestle with the "laws" that we have been taught to shape our own beliefs.

For the last 12 years I have been connected to the TBJ community. It has brought me closer to understanding Judaism and to other Jews that I have met. When I was at Public School, JCC's and summer camp, I interacted with other Jews there and learned about their Jewish identities. Most were like me but some were more religious. Some went to Shabbat services regularly. Some of my friends knew the prayers, songs, candle lighting, and grape juice with Challah, but this was foreign to me. It was not the way I grew up. My family celebrated Passover, Hanukkah, and High Holidays and practiced the traditions associated with those holidays. There was always a connection. But I did not appreciate their significance at the time. I am thankful for the privilege of experiencing those connections. I came back to Judaism when Sallee and I had kids. Overall, Judaism has taught me a multitude of lessons throughout my early adult years, and continues to teach me as I live my life. Whether I chose this religion to be only something that I was born with or whether I choose it to be something that I always carry around in my back pocket, it will always be a part of me. I hope it has taught me kindness, respect, love and how to make decisions in today's society. So, throughout all the ups and downs of my roller coaster life, I will always remember that I'm Jewish, and that Temple B'nai Jacob has played a significant role in shaping that identity. I hope to continue experiencing the joyful and happy times of Judaism in the future.

Take it from me, it's not too late for anyone to come back to Judaism.

Morry Silverman, President



New Beginnings

Our lives took a downward turn when the doors to our previous synagogue closed. We did fund raising, membership drives, and programs, but no avail. Demographics and aging made it an unfixable situation.

We were taking the time to visit other synagogues as we looked for a good fit. Some services were nothing more than performances. Others seemed to be just “going through the motions”.

Jane Rubin found the best fit for us at Temple B’nai Jacob. The website is very welcoming, describing the varied activities, the Religious School and the fact that it is a multi-generational, egalitarian Conservative congregation.

The unassuming location and entrance told us that this congregation does not exist only for show. The warmth and friendliness of the congregation the first time we walked in was a huge plus. The warmth continues all the times. The inspiration, warmth and down-to-earth attitude offered by the Rabbi has made us happy to be a part of this congregation. His ability to be genuine and to laugh at himself is something you don’t often find in a Rabbi.

Our desire for a meaningful, spiritual environment to pray and make personal connections to others has been met at Temple B’nai Jacob.

Charlotte and Herb Hankin

Gary and Jane Rubin





Join us weekly in-person or via Zoom for:
Friday Night Shabbat Services at 7:00pm.
Saturday Morning Shabbat Services at 10:00am.

Zoom links are emailed weekly.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Torah Fund Greeting Cards/Tzedakah Box

Torah Fund Campaigns of Women's League for Conservative Judaism
 Women Ensuring Conservative/Masorti Jewish Education



1. All Purpose



2. Condolence -
Psalm 23



3. Condolence -
Psalm 42



4. Get Well

Send special greetings to your family and friends... and have Torah Fund be an additional beneficiary of your kindness and thoughtfulness.



5. Mazal Tov



6. Condolence
White



7. Friendship



8. Thank You



9. Purim



10. Tzedakah Box



Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League for Conservation Judaism supports
 Jewish Theological Seminary
 Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies-AJU
 Schechter Institutes
 Seminario Rabanico Latinoamericano
 Zacharias Frankel College



Congratulations to our TBJ Women's League whose excellent programs over the last three years will be recognized with a JEWELS IN THE CROWN Award at the WLCJ triennial Convention in July.



TORAH  FUND
WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Announcing
Our 2023-2024
Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh
Campaign

All the people of Israel are responsible for one another

We strive to make a significant impact through scholarships and programs that benefit students at The Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institutes, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano and Zacharias Frankel College.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we help committed Jewish students become the rabbis, cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, social workers, scholars, researchers and lay leaders of tomorrow.

When you support Torah Fund, you help educate students in New York, Los Angeles, Israel, Latin America and Europe—and you align with those who value learning, knowledge and providing the future generation with relevant skills to fortify the Jewish people.

Visit www.jtsa.edu/torah-fund

This pin highlights the word 'arevut,' responsibility. It corresponds to the theme from the Babylonian Talmud, Shevuot 39a, that all the people of Israel are responsible for one another, and we assume that responsibility through our support of the five Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.



MAKE IT A PRIORITY TO GIVE TO TORAH FUND!

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Keter Kavod \$5,000
Scholarship Patron \$2,500
Patron \$1,200
Associate Patron \$600
Guardian \$300
Benefactor \$180

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Or send your check to the Torah Fund office.

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Make a donation of any amount with the minimum purchase of one ecard.
Or send a check to The Jewish Theological Society, 100 Elder Street, North York, Ontario, M3H 5G7.

The dedicated philanthropy of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the worldwide Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher Jewish learning.

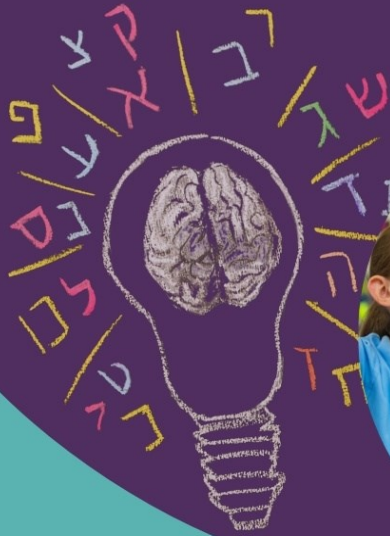
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Sundays

10am - 12:30pm

*Synagogue membership is
optional for K-4 the first year.*

TempleBnaiJacob@gmail.com
www.TempleBnaiJacob.com



5784/2023-2024 TBJ Religious School Calendar

***SUNDAYS**

10am - 12:30 pm

12794 W. Forest Hill Blvd. Suite 6
Wellington, FL 33414

561-793-4347

TempleBnaiJacob@gmail.com

www.TempleBnaiJacob.com

August

20 - Meet
&
Greet!
27 - School

September

3 - No School
10 - School
17 - No School
24 - No School

October

1 - No School
8 - No School
15 - School
22 - School
29 - School

November

5 - School
12 - School
19 - No School
26 - No School

December

3 - School
10 - No School
17 - School
24 - No School
31 - No School

January

7 - No School
14 - No School
21 - School
28 - School

February

4 - School
11 - School
18 - No School
25 - School

March

3 - School
10 - School
17 - No School
24 - No School
31 - No School

April

7 - School
14 - School
21 - No School
38 - No School

May

5 - End of
School Year
Celebration!



General Donations from April 21, 2023 to June 21, 2023

Axelberg, Michael	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the marriage of Steve Feiertag to Ann
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the anniversary of Lisa & Brian Shenkman
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of Lila Kaplan's good health
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In appreciation of Dean Bennett
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of Rabbi Dan chanting haftorah
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of Joel Policzer reading Torah
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	Mazel Tov on Sydney Blitman's graduation & birthday
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the Lila Blitman's 90th birthday
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of their anniversary
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the birthday of Jeff Krinsky
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of David Weisberger's reading of Torah
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the birthday of Liz Thal
Carlsberg, Deanna	<i>Donation</i>	In appreciation for Rabbi Dan's Thursday learning class
Furman, Ira & Carole	<i>Donation</i>	To be used when needed
Geilich, Charles	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the marriage of Steve Feiertag to Ann Corwell
Grossman, Joe & Holly	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the birthday of Liz Thal
Grossman, Joe & Holly	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the birthday of Jeffrey Krinsky
Grossman, Joe & Holly	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the birthday of Rebecca Blitman
Grossman, Joe & Holly	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the anniversary of Jeffrey & Rebecca Blitman
Kaplan, Lila	<i>Donation</i>	For the good health report for Lila Kaplan
Kaplan, Lila	<i>Donation</i>	For the good health report for Lila Kaplan
Lichaa, Allen & Esther	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of their their Anniversary
Paredes, Julio & Stelly	<i>Donation</i>	To be used when needed
Policzer, Joel & Madeleine	<i>Donation</i>	To be used when needed
Thal, Mitchell & Liz	<i>Donation</i>	In appreciation of Rabbi Dan hosting Shavuot & to help pay expenses
Thal, Mitchell & Liz	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of Avi Krinsky's birthday
Thal, Mitchell & Liz	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the anniversary of Arnie & Zan Liebowitz
Thal, Mitchell & Liz	<i>Donation</i>	In honor of the marriage of Steve Feiertag to Ann Corwell

Oneg and Kiddush Fund from April 21, 2023 to June 21, 2023

Birnholz, Alan & Lynne	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	Kiddush 6/24 in memory of Joseph Flatow's Yahrzeit
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	Oneg & Kiddush in memory of Hal Blitman
Kohan, Mel	<i>Oneg/kiddush</i>	Oneg & Kiddush in memory Eugene Kohan
Krinsky, Jeffrey	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	In honor of the birthday of grandson Avi Krinsky
Liebowitz, Arnie & Zan	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	Kiddush 6/17 in honor of their wedding anniversary
Rubin, Gary & Jane	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	In memory of Mildred & Woodrow Wasserman, Leonard Rubin & Sidney Golfin
Treby, Elliott	<i>Oneg/Kiddush</i>	Oneg 5/26 In memory of Stanley Treby

Yahrzeit Donations from April 21, 2023 to June 21, 2023

Bilyk, James & Joann	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Sol Silverman
Bilyk, James & Joann	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Sherry Silverman
Cohn, Lisa	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Robert Cohn
Feiertag, Steve	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Sam Silverman
Feiertag, Steve	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Max Marenberg
Feiertag, Steve	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Joseph Heiferman
Grossman, Joe & Holly	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Mollie Grossman
Hankin, Herbert & Charlotte	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Max Hankin ,Herman & Cindy Zederbaum
Kaplan, Lila	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Nathan Fuchs
Lichaa, Allen & Esther	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Rachel Elgamil
Marcus, Jeffrey & Barbara	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Milton Marcus
Patrusky, Roz	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Ann Wasserman
Scher, Gary	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Hyman Rabinowitz
Silverman, Morry & Sallee	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Gladys Tabachnick
Silverman, Morry & Sallee	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Irwin Simon
Silverman, Morry & Sallee	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	David Silverman
Turner, Mara	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Max Aronowitz
Weiner, Marilyn	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Steven Weiner
Yockel, Steven & Stacey	<i>Yahrzeit in memory of</i>	Phyllis Feldman

Mey Shebarach Donations from April 21, 2023 to June 21, 2023

Bernstein, Lois	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Debra Rothschild
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Lenore Glickman
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Charlotte Hankin
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Jack Smith
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Chaim Bender
Blitman, Jeffrey & Rebecca	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Arnie Liebowitz
Liebowitz, Arnie & Zan	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Mitchell Thal
Martinez, Elizabeth	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	To be used when needed
Thal, Mitchell & Liz	<i>Mey Shebarach for</i>	Lenore Glickman

Miscellaneous Donations from April 21, 2023 to June 21, 2023

Thal, Mitchell & Liz	Memorial	Johane Lavelle
Patrusky, Roz	Rabbi Discretionary Fund	Rabbi Dan's help with tefilin donation
Perlman, Sam & Linda	Rabbi Discretionary Fund	In memory of Mark Jeffrey Beyer and for Rabbi loaning books for Shiva
Policzer, Joel & Maddie	Rabbi Discretionary Fund	In appreciation of Rabbi Dan and the Congregation
Bennett, Dean	Yizkor prayers	To be used when needed



Brunch and Learn

with,
Lynne Birnholz

Sunday, July 9, at 10am.

AUSTRALIA AND ASIA THROUGH THE EYES OF A JEWISH TRAVELER

Join Lynne as she describes her personal, cultural, and religious experiences through a photo journey of her recent travels.

**Continental breakfast included.
RSVP by July 3rd.**



Temple B'nai Jacob of Wellington
12794 W forest Hill Blvd. Suite #6
561-793-4347
Templebnaijacob@gmail.com



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12794 West Forest Hill Blvd, Suite 6
Wellington, FL 33414
www.templebnaijacob.com Templebnaijacobofwell@gmail.com
High Holiday Services 2023/5784



Services held via Zoom or in-person with RESERVATION ONLY.

Selichot Saturday September 9th @ 8:30 PM

ROSH HASHANA

Erev Rosh Hashana Friday September 15th @

First Day Saturday September 16th @ 10 AM

Second Day Sunday September 17th @ 10 AM

YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidre/Erev Yom Kippur Sunday September 24th @

Morning Service/Yiskor Monday September 25th @ 10 AM

Mincha and Book of Yonah September 25th @ TBD

N'ilah/Closing Service September 25th @ TBD

***FASTING ENDS AT TBD ***



Sage-ing

with

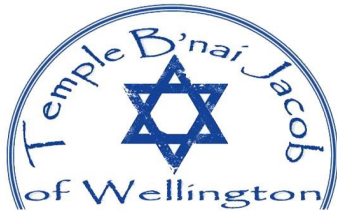
Rabbi Dan



Join me on a Journey toward the Path
of Self Discovery as we
try to Unscramble
Eternal Truths
and
Grapple with Ancient
Wisdom Texts...

Thursdays 1 - 2pm @TBJ

THE VOICE



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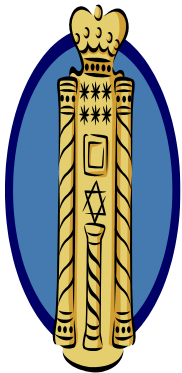
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Ella Bender
561-656-1916

See us on the
Temple Website
and Facebook

To honor or remember a birthday, anniversary, graduation, memory or any special occasion sponsor a virtual Oneg or/and Kiddush



Friday night Virtual Oneg for \$63.00
Saturday Shabbat Virtual Kiddush for \$90.00
Oneg and Kiddush for \$144

Please contact our Temple office if you would like to sponsor a virtual Oneg or Kiddush at 561-793-4347

Help us replenish our local food pantry!

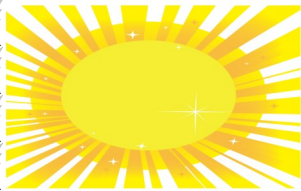
Our local food pantry is depleted and the price of food has increased. Please bring non-perishable items to the Temple office. We are preparing boxes for donations.

- They are in need of:
- ◆ Canned chicken
 - ◆ Canned tuna,
 - ◆ Canned soups
 - ◆ Canned green beans
 - ◆ Canned baked beans
 - ◆ Peanut butter
 - ◆ Jelly
 - ◆ Toilet paper.



FOOD DRIVE

THE VOICE



A Word from the Chesed Committee (formerly the Sunshine Committee)

- *In need of a friendly voice*
- *In need of get well wishes*
- *In need of a friend to share a holiday meal with*

*If you or any member of your family,
or if you know of anyone in our
Temple family that is in need,
please let us know.*

*Please call Liz Thal at the Temple
561-793-4347, or e-mail Lenore Glickman, lesmg@comcast.net*



**Call to Book a Tour and
mention Temple B'nai Jacob
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The Evolution of Candy Tour is now OPEN for booking!

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THE VOICE

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Temple B'nai Jacob
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EACH DEDICATION AND EITHER SEND
PAYMENT TO THE SHUL OFFICE OR CALL TO
MAKE ARRANGEMENTS*

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561-793-4347
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*We are collecting non-perishable food and
canned goods all year long.*

Please bring your donations to the Temple.

Together we can help feed the community.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHESSED COMMITTEE

Wednesdays are special days as I get to make phone calls and check up on our Temple members. We laugh, exchange stories, and it cheers up our day.

We have been celebrating more birthdays, anniversaries, and joyous events during our Onegs and Kiddushes. Its is a special time when we gather after services and enjoy in sweets and celebration.

Our friend, Lynne Birnholz, put together a special presentation of her unique trip throughout Australia and Asia. She will share it with us on

Sunday, July 9, at 10am.

***Please join us as we learn about AUSTRALIA AND ASIA
THROUGH THE EYES OF A JEWISH TRAVELER.***

Continental breakfast included.

See you then!

***LENORE GLICKMAN
Chessed Committee***



THE VOICE

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Newsletter



THE VOICE

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*The B'nai Jacob of Wellington "Voice" newsletter is published six (6) times a year:
Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June, July/August, Sept/Oct, and Nov/Dec.

Please remember all of your wonderful opportunities to honor or memorialize loved ones or to mark special occasions with a contribution to Temple B'nai Jacob of Wellington.

Remember birthdays, yahrzeits, and more with a gift to the Rabbi's Discretionary fund, one of the Temple funds, or through the Sisterhood's Oneg/Kiddush sponsorship program.



Member Spotlight

This month, I am delighted to highlight a wonderful couple who need no introduction! I am speaking of course, about Ella and Chaim Bender. The Benders are both originally from the New York City area-Chaim from the Bronx and Ella from upper Manhattan, and naturally they met, where else, a synagogue in Riverdale. While both had been married previously, they were fortunate to find each other and have been happily married for 38 years. Chaim has two children and six grandchildren, all of whom he and Ella are so proud.

Ella retired from teaching French, Spanish and Latin after 35 years and Chaim retired from his position as a contract coordinator for disabled students before they moved to Florida in 2005. Since moving here, Ella continued to be involved part-time, at the #1 Education Place tutoring students in a number of foreign languages. In their retirement, the couple have enjoyed traveling all over the world and often led Shabbat and other holiday services on cruise ships.

Most important in their lives, however, is their involvement in our synagogue life and especially, Women's League for Conservative Judaism. Ella has been recognized by Women's League for her dedication and especially to Torah Fund which is near and dear to her. In addition, Ella has been training B'nai Mitzvah students for many years. The Benders are proud founding members of the original Temple B'nai Abraham, which is now our beloved Temple B'nai Jacob after the merger. Ella told me "I love to sing!" and it is such a pleasure to hear her often chant Haftorah and lead prayers. Her beautiful voice enriches our services. And-she is also gabbai every Shabbat as well. As you can gather, there is no aspect of synagogue life here at B'nai Jacob, that Ella is not leading or involved in. We are grateful and honored for all that she and Chaim contribute to our Kehillah! Todah Rabah.

Lynne Birnholz

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