

Temple Beth Torah

NEWS FOR YOU

NOVEMBER 2023 CHESHVAN - KISLEV 5784



Rabbi Dan
Gordon
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LEADER**

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It Takes a BIG HEART to Shape So Many Little Minds



**TEMPLE BETH TORAH
4TH ANNUAL NER TAMID AWARD
HONORING CARRIE KEITH
DECEMBER 2, 2023**

Congratulations to TBT 2023 Ner Tamid Honoree Carrie Keith! Our longtime, devoted educator, Carrie Keith, has been the heart and soul of Temple Beth Torah's Religious School for over three decades, while also providing leadership to almost every aspect of the TBT community. She joins previous honorees Hy Penn, Joni Levy and Jeff Kaufman (of blessed memory) in this distinguished group of TBT leadership. This year, we have the opportunity to show our appreciation for the countless numbers of people who Carrie has touched. Please visit www.tbthumble.org for a schedule for the evening, a more complete biography of our deserving honoree and opportunities to honor Carrie by donating to this annual fundraiser - see ticket information on page 7.

MISSION STATEMENT

Temple Beth Torah is a congregation that embraces the philosophy and values of Judaism in the following ways:

Spiritually, by celebrating the richness and traditions of Torah, prayer, holidays and life cycle events;

Educationally, by encouraging learning, increasing Jewish knowledge and enriching understanding for children, teenagers and adults;

Compassionately, by caring for our members and others in the Jewish community in times of need while also fostering positive relationships with our non-Jewish neighbors.

Temple Beth Torah embraces the spirit of inclusion for Jewish individuals and families who represent a variety of backgrounds and family compositions.

Worship Services and Other Events in November

Friday, November 3	7:00 PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual
Sunday, November 5	3:00 PM- 5:00 PM	Holocaust Garden of Hope - Opening Ceremony of Phase 1 - Religious School Students to perform
Friday, November 10	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Family and Youth Service and potluck dinner (formally Tot Shabbat) *see article below. Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual
Friday, November 17	7:00 PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual
Friday, November 24	6:00 PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual (note special time)

Family and Youth Service Friday, November 10 – 6:00 PM In Person ONLY

Please join Rabbi Dan for a fun Shabbat Service for Youth and Families at the Temple. In Person service only. Come hear Songs, Stories, and a Torah Lesson. A beautiful way for parents and children from birth to 12 years old to spend Shabbat.

Bring a potluck item to share. This is a “kid friendly” service followed by dinner. Our regular Shabbat Service begins at 7:00PM

Any questions, please contact Stacey at admin@tbthumble.org.

ISRAEL EMERGENCY FUND *YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE*

The Jewish Federation of Greater Houston has established an emergency fund during this ongoing war with Hamas. 100% of the funds donated will go directly to those impacted by this situation. News is fluid with information about victims of murder, injury and even kidnapping. The Houston Jewish community has stepped up to bring aid directly to those who need it. Want to learn how to help? Visit <https://www.houstonjewish.org/support-for-israel/>

RABBI'S MESSAGE

An Optimist - Even Now

Usually, I am not a fan of labels, though I do find them helpful at times. I find many labels limiting, because often the labeling hints that everyone who shares the same label thinks a certain way, and shares all the same opinions. Labels like Progressive, Liberal, Conservative, Orthodox, Democrat, Republican, Right Wing, Left Wing, Moderate and more tend to pigeon-hole people in the eyes of others. Particularly when those who identify themselves as belonging to one category talk about those in another category. It is often misrepresentation, assuming what another person believes. Even in Judaism, the common labels of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform suggest a belief system and a practice that may not apply to everyone who connects with that category. When people ask me, "What kind of rabbi are you?" expecting to one of those three labels, they are often confused by my answer: "A Jewish one." My learning has been from a variety of sources, and I try to relate to that diversity by not assuming that labels define our identity.

One label that I've tried to wear with pride most of my life, has become more difficult since October 7, the violent day that the war between Hamas and Israel began. The barbaric, surprise attacks by Hamas murdering, injuring and kidnapping innocent civilians was among the most horrific acts we've seen in our lifetime. Israel was forced to respond with military force. Despite the fact that Israel warned the citizens of Gaza to move out of dangerous areas, people have been killed and lives have been disrupted on both sides of Gaza's border with Israel. Real people, on both sides, are living in fear. Hostages were taken by Hamas, and the loved ones of those hostages live with the horrible mystery of not knowing what is happening.

The situation is much too complicated for me to go into point by point. Innocent civilians, just trying to live their lives while praying for the right to live in peace, have their worlds turned upside down by attackers who have denied Israel's right to exist. Israel has been accused of being the aggressor, even though their response to the Hamas attacks was defensive. But make no mistake: this war is not about religious values. It is not Muslims versus Jews. Jewish teaching in the Mishnah states that "*anyone who destroys a life is considered by Scripture to have destroyed an entire world; and anyone who saves a life is as if he saved an entire world.*" (Sanhedrin 4:5) Islam teaches the EXACT same thing! (Quran 5:32)

While I do believe there is evil in the world, I believe it is not inherent genetically. Christianity teaches that we are all born with Original Sin, from Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Bad, and baptizing babies helps cleanse them of that sin. Judaism does not teach that we are born sinful. We learn hatred from others, from stereotypes, from misinformation and from bad examples. The source of hatred and mistrust is hard to fathom. There are infinite possible theories about the origin of hatred, but the lyrics from this song performed in the musical South Pacific seem to sum it up:

You've got to be taught to hate and fear,

You've got to be taught from year to year,

It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear,

You've got to be carefully taught.

Rabbi's Message Continued

*You've got to be taught before it's too late,
Before you are six or seven or eight,
To hate all the people your relatives hate,
You've got to be carefully taught!*

If we can learn to hate, we can learn to love. A few days ago, I had lunch with a group of fourteen community leaders – seven rabbis and seven Muslim religious leaders. We talked about the current crisis and how our roles as both religious leaders and members of a community help form our different perspectives. We talked about blame, and how unhelpful it is to focus our energies there. And we got to know each other as human beings. *B'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of G-d. Though many of our ideas and practices are different, we share what it means to be human. It is only through human outreach can we prevent hatred and misunderstanding. Then, G-d willing, we can sing a new song:

*You've got to be taught to love and learn
When difficult feelings begin to churn
Get close to the light; it will not burn
You've got to be carefully taught.*

*We all need to learn, while there's still time
Before the kids are seven, or eight or nine
Remember G-d' made us all from the Divine
We have to be carefully taught.*

Some say one random act of kindness can unknowingly provide a ripple affect that can be felt across the globe. As Rabbi Shammai taught: "*Say little and do much; and greet the world with a smile on your face.*" Pirke Avot: 1-16.

As wartime continues to feel discouraging, let's remember that we CAN
change the world...one person at a time.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Dan Gordon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Having completed a wonderful High Holy Day season, I feel very good about where we are as a congregation. I, personally, am proud to be part of Temple Beth Torah, and want to express my appreciation for all of you, who make us what we are. The whole spirit of the community feels great. More people are attending Shabbat services, and the children look forward to each Sunday's adventure with our marvelous volunteer teachers. Our young people represent the future, and it is the perfect time in our temple's history to honor the leader of our education program, Carrie Keith, for her decades of inspiring children with her knowledge, wisdom, dedication and, most of all, her kindness.

In a small congregation like ours, everyone has an opportunity to make an impact. Don't be shy! If you think of something that can enhance the joy of community, go ahead and suggest it to me, the rabbi, or one of our other board members. Even if the idea is not fully formed, you will find willing, creative partners to make it a reality. Notice the new look as you walk into the building, a project that Marsha Weiss and her beautification committee initiated. Together, we make our community a special place to pray, learn, socialize, and strengthen our relationships with each other. We are always looking for ways to improve – maybe you've got an answer. If you'd like to get involved in a small way, sponsoring an Oneg celebration after Shabbat services is perfect. You can honor a loved one's memory or a happy occasion like a birthday or anniversary.

Some of you have heard there was a fire in the factory next door to the temple. Thankfully, there was very minimal damage to the parking lot gate and a portion of the back yard fence. Board members have been working diligently to have these repairs completed. We've got some great activities planned in the coming months, and your presence will help make it wonderful. I hope everyone can come to our special Ner Tamid celebration on December 2, honoring Carrie Keith. Carrie sets the example of how kindness and commitment help make a community.

We continue to pray for peace and hope to make a difference.

L'shalom,

Shari Ellsworth - TBT President

JCC BRINGS AWARD WINNING BOOK AND ARTS FESTIVAL TO HOUSTON NOVEMBER 4-18

The Evelyn Rubenstein Jewish Community Center of Houston has long been recognized for its outstanding annual Book and Arts Festival. Inspiring and entertaining, the Ann and Stephen Kaufman Jewish Book and Arts Festival delivers a variety of opportunities for the community to learn and experience Jewish literature, culture and performing arts. Opening Night, November 4, features journalist Martin Fletcher, former NBC bureau chief in Tel Aviv, who has covered wars in eight different countries. There are speakers, authors and performers, with daytime and evening programs, and even some hands-on experiences. On closing night, November 18, actor Michael Schulman will speak about behind-the-scenes with nominees in *Oscar Wars*. There is "literally" something for everyone. For information and tickets go to <https://www.ericchouston.org/jewish-book-arts-festival>

KROGER card to support TBT.

Kroger has recently upgraded their Community Rewards system and as a result TBT has a new account number- VE980. Please use this new number when linking your Kroger card to TBT so we can receive a percentage of your Kroger purchases. It's an easy way to help TBT earn some money. While the previous number will continue to be associated with our organization, it will not be visible to members when enrolling. New members can enroll by searching for either VE980 or Temple Beth Torah. If you are a Kroger shopper, please link your Kroger card to TBT at no cost to you.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL HAPPENINGS – by Carrie Keith - Principal

The Temple Beth Torah Religious School students enjoyed celebrating Sukkot and Simchat Torah in October. They made beautiful decorations and marched around the synagogue with all the little torahs. All of our new students took home a small Torah of their own.

Thank you to Dr. Susan Pollard for presenting a program to adults and teens on teen mental health issues. It was nice to see so many members in attendance!

On Sunday, November 5, our students will be singing at the grand opening of Phase 1 of The Holocaust Garden of Hope at 1660 W. Lake Houston Parkway in Kingwood- in Kings Harbor. The program is from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Our students will be performing at 4:15 pm. Please come out to see our kids!

TBT will be supplying corn bread mix to HAAM again this year for Thanksgiving food baskets for families in need in the Humble, Kingwood, Atascocita area.

Please send in lots of boxes of corn bread mix!!

We will have class on November 5th and 12th but not the rest of November for Thanksgiving break. Confirmation class will take place on the 12th at 11:00.

Our Chanukah celebration for Religious School will be on December 10th. The students will make latkes, play dreidel, create art projects and have a wonderful celebration. We will collect gifts for children in our area over the next few weeks so when you are out shopping, please pick up a gift or two to donate. Bring these to TBT anytime between now and December 10th.

The TBT Technology fund in memory of Scott Eric Kaufman bought 10 Chrome Books for our students to use during Religious School. It has been a huge boost to our Hebrew program. There are excellent teaching programs and games for Hebrew, Torah, and prayer that the students are accessing. Thank you to everyone who donated to the technology fund. It is greatly appreciated. Please consider donating more in the future to benefit all the students in our Religious School program.



HOLOCAUST GARDEN OF HOPE TO OPEN IN KINGWOOD GRAND OPENING OF PHASE 1: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 – 3-5 PM

Opening ceremonies for the Holocaust Garden of Hope will take place 3-5 PM at King's Harbor (home to Sharky's, Raffa's and Zammitti's). This interfaith project is led by the Holocaust Remembrance Association, designed to help the general community learn about the worst times in Jewish history, and how victims and survivors – particularly children – dealt with it and learned from the situation. The Garden has been in planning works for several years, and now, it is finally becoming a reality. The Grand Opening will demonstrate how the learning pieces can come together.

Children from Temple Beth Torah's Religious School will be leading a song and dance from the Psalm 133, Hiney Matov. The students have been working on song and look forward to sharing their talents and enthusiasm with the larger community.

For more information and registration, visit www.hral8.org

Temple Beth Torah
4th Annual Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) Award

A Program honoring Carrie Keith

Benefiting Temple Beth Torah

Saturday, December 2, 2023

6:15 PM– 9:00 PM at Temple Beth Torah

*Including a Wine and Cheese Reception at the beginning of the evening
and a Dessert Reception at its conclusion*

Congratulations TBT 2023 Ner Tamid Honoree

Carrie Keith

Our longtime, devoted educator, Carrie Keith, has been the heart and soul of Temple Beth Torah's Religious School for over three decades, while also providing leadership to almost every aspect of the TBT community. She joins previous honorees **Hy Penn, Joni Levy** and **Jeff Kaufman** (of blessed memory) in this distinguished group of TBT leadership. This year, we have the opportunity to show our appreciation for the countless numbers of people who Carrie has touched. Please visit www.tbthumble.org for a schedule for the evening, a more complete biography of our deserving honoree and opportunities to honor Carrie by donating to this annual fundraiser.

TICKETS:

ALL IN-PERSON GUESTS ARE INVITED TO THE WINE & CHEESE AND DESSERT RECEPTIONS

Gold Level: \$250/person donation includes a ½ page ad in the program and a ticket for wine at the reception.

Silver Level: \$100/person donation includes a ¼ page ad in the program.

Bronze Level: \$50/ person donation

Zoom Only: \$25/ person donation gives access to the program via Zoom.

To contribute, please visit www.temple-beth-torah.org/4th-annual-ner-tamid

Or send a check to 320 Shallow Drive, Humble, TX 77338 noting NER TAMID in the memo line. Please feel free to share this information. For more information, please contact Stacey Blumin at admin@tbthumble.org or call (281) 216-2558.

Lunchtime Learning with Rabbi Dan

Please contact admin@tbthumble.org to get the date and time. It will be In Person Only at TBT

Nourishment for the Body, Mind and Soul

Rabbi Dan Gordon facilitates a relaxed discussion on a variety of topics, including mitzvot, Torah, holidays, current events, and Jewish Practices. Each month is a different topic, and everyone gets a chance to participate. Bring your own lunch and get ready to nourish both your mind and your body!

SAVE THE DATE – SCHOLARS IN RESIDENCE IN COOPERATION WITH YOM LIMMUD FEBRUARY 2-4

Temple Beth Torah has once again been blessed with a program grant in cooperation with Yom Limmud weekend. Yom Limmud is a city-wide program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston to provide education and entertainment. It is endowed by the Barish Family and Chair King. For 2024, the thirtieth year of Yom Limmud in Houston, the day of learning will be Sunday, February 4, at Congregation Emanu El, 1500 Sunset Blvd. Each year, a “Shabbat Limmud Scholars” committee reviews applications from Houston area synagogues to bring in guest educators who will present for the individual synagogue during Shabbat weekend, and also speak at Yom Limmud for the city. Shirley Barish, of blessed memory, was one of the founders of both the Coalition for Alternatives in Jewish Education and the local Yom Limmud in Houston. She and her husband, Marvin, have both passed away, and their son, David has continued in their footsteps.

TBT’s grant proposal was accepted, and we are delighted to welcome **Rabbi David Zaslow** and his wife **Debra Gordon Zaslow**. Rabbi David is the longtime religious leader of Congregation Shir Hadash (a new song) in Ashland, Oregon, and is a respected leader in the Jewish Renewal movement. He visited Temple Beth Torah several years ago, and presented a lecture on Zoom for us during Covid. Rabbi Zaslow is a dynamic education, musician, songwriter and prayer leader and author. He has written prayerbooks, poetry and study guides, including *Reimagining Exodus: A Freedom Story* and *Jesus: First Century Rabbi*.

Debra Zaslow is a *Maggidah* – one who shares sacred stories. She and our own Rabbi Dan Gordon have collaborated at several conferences. She teaches storytelling at Southern Oregon University, and with her husband, lead a Maggid Training Program that guides and certifies Jewish storytellers and educators.

On **Friday, February 2**, after a Shabbat dinner and discussion, Rabbis Zaslow and Gordon will collaborate in leading a spiritual, musical and inspirational Shabbat service. The Torah portion that Shabbat includes the Ten Commandments, and Rabbi Zaslow will help us reimagine Exodus, as his book title inspires us to do. Saturday evening, February 3, will include dinner and discussion, a musical Havdallah service, and then an interfaith storytelling concert led by the Zaslows, with a cameo by Rabbi Dan. On Sunday, February 4, both Rabbi David and Maggidah Debra will present at Emanu El for Yom Limmud. The Rabbi will discuss his fascinating book *Jesus: First Century Rabbi*, and the Maggidah will lead an experiential story writing workshop.

More information will be available in the next few months. Our guests are partially funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation, and those in the TBT community who wish to contribute toward subsidizing the program should contact Rabbi Dan Gordon or treasurer, Lenny Simmons.

THE CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee can help in stressful times, such as family illness, death, birth, etc. We can provide a meal and offer sympathy, transportation, childcare, or congratulations for simchas. If you know of a congregant who could use a little caring, contact our Caring Committee at admin@tbthumble.org or leave a message at TBT, 281-446-5611.

Submit Healing List Names at the First of Each Month

Our healing list will now be updated at the first of each month. If you know of someone who is on the list who should remain on the list, please let us know. This list is important, but also can get quite lengthy, so we want to make sure all the names we read are timely. Please email admin@tbthumble.org and rabbi@tbthumble.org to be added.

Simchas in November Birthdays

1	Arya Miller
2	Vitaly Aizenberg
2	Luke Brawn
7	Mike Stark
9	Brian Eoff
9	Donna Glaser
10	Larry Rhines
10	Mike Weisberg
17	Bradley Heller
19	Guy Waguespack
21	Arthur Aizenberg
21	James Eoff
23	Chris Baur
23	Alice Kaufman
23	Emily Levy
27	Isaac Couch
27	Mindy LaCour

Anniversaries

2	Joel and Karen Heller
8	Ken and Bernice Troxclair
8	Marvin and Maxine Sussman
28	Bob and Debbie Swaim

November Yahrzeits

The following names will be read each week during October to acknowledge those who have passed away who were connected with our community. If there are mistakes or omissions, please e-mail the temple at admin@tbthumble.org or leave a message at 281-446-5611.

Anna PAbbrasley, Frances Strizzi, Freda Rae Cahn, Morris Schalet, Nathan Lee Rubin, Simon Rubin, Frances Rubin, Dr. Marvin P. Farber, M. Paul Farber, Bill Gaile, David Polavsky, Maurice Glaser, Scott Eric Kaufman, Esther Kaufman, Yakov Royzengurten, Lenore Greenbaum, Billie Pollard, Frances Greenbaum, Gene Sachs, Evelyn Haidnick, Michael Hirsch, Melvin Weiss, Marlene Ertingshausen, Fredric Ofsowitz, Tony Sulpezio, Marie Rackmil, Louise Post, Alfred Lubin, Joseph Schwartzberg, Lena Wallach, Richard Perwien, Myron Gross, Jerry Wolf, Morris Penn, Murray Adler, Charlotte Kimmel, Amelia Perwien, Deana Zakes

Yahrtzeit Memorial Plaques

The minimum donation for one memorial plaque to be placed on the wall in the sanctuary remains \$300. However, those purchasing two plaques at the same time can do so for \$500, a savings of \$100. It usually takes at least a month for a plaque to be engraved and sent back to the temple. There are three memorial boards in the sanctuary, and there are very few spaces left. *Thanks to the generosity of the Kaufman family, a new memorial board has been ordered, and will be installed sometime after the High Holy Days.* You may consult with the rabbi for the Hebrew name and date by emailing Rabbi Dan Gordon at rabbi@tbthumble.org Checks must be sent to TBT prior to the plaque being ordered.

ONEG INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone who has provided an Oneg recently. They have been delicious and a highlight to every Shabbat. Thank you also to those who have sponsored an Oneg with your generous donations. Preparing an Oneg is a wonderful way to celebrate a special event. It is also a way to commemorate a Yahrtzeit for a loved one. If you would like to do an Oneg, please leave a message for Carrie Keith at 281-446-5611, or email education@tbthumble.org

Give-a-Gift to TBT An Easy Way to Help TBT

TBT is in need of the following items this month. If you would like to donate any of these items, please send a message to giveagift@tbthumble.org to ensure we do not get too many of a needed item. The items can be brought to TBT whenever we are open, or we may be able to arrange for a pick-up.

Items needed this month:

Coffee cups with lids	Dessert size plates
Copy paper	Dinner size plates
Coffee Creamer	Bottled water.
Rolls of Paper Towels	

Torah Portions for November 2023

Summarized by Rabbi Dan Gordon

November 3-4, 2023, Vayeira, Genesis 18:1-22:24

There are many tests in this Torah portion. Visitors come to see Abraham, and he welcomes them with extraordinary hospitality. Sarah and Abraham learn that, despite their advanced years, they will have a son together. Sarah laughs at the possibility, leading to the child being named Isaac ("she will laugh"). G-d consults with Abraham about His plan to destroy Sodom and Gemorrah, and Abraham negotiates a plan to try to save the city. Later, Abraham is tested by being asked by G-d to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham is prepared to make this ultimate sacrifice before an angel of G-d stops him, and a ram is sacrificed instead of his son.

November 10-11, 2023, Chaya Sarah, Genesis 23:1-25:18

Almost immediately after the near-death of her son, Sarah dies at 127 years old. Abraham wants to make sure she has an honorable burial. Though the landowner offers to give him burial land for free, Abraham insists on paying the full price. He then sends his servant to look for a wife for Isaac. Rebecca, a distant cousin, is chosen because her kindness to humans and animals indicates a unique sensitivity.

November 17-18, 2023, Toldot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

The most volatile sibling rivalry since Cain and Abel begins with the twins, Esau and Jacob, battling in the womb. Mother Rebecca is told by G-d that the greater of the two shall serve the younger. Esau sells Jacob his birthright for some soup, and Jacob collects the blessing of the firstborn with Rebecca's help. Having built a brotherly relationship based on trickery, deceit and manipulation, Jacob and Esau realize that the town isn't big enough for both of them. Both brothers go to uncles. Jacob travels to Rebecca's father's house (where he will marry both of Laban's daughters), and Esau finds himself a wife from the daughters of Uncle Ishmael.

November 24-25, 2023, Vayitzei, Genesis 28:10-32:3

Along his journey, Jacob experiences G-d's presence through dreaming of a ladder with angels ascending and descending from heaven. He pledges himself to G-d and continues to his uncle Laban's home. He falls in love with Laban's daughter, Rachel and asks to marry her. He promises to work for Laban for seven years to marry his daughter, but is surprised to find the older sister, Leah, in his wedding bed. Laban informs him it is customary to marry the older child first, so Jacob pledges another seven years of labor to marry Rachel. Leah is more fertile, bearing six sons and a daughter. Rachel pleads to G-d for children, and eventually bears Joseph and Benjamin.

For HAAM (Humble Area Assistance Ministries)

HAAM collects non-perishable foods and hygiene items. It is time for caring is sharing and TBT has been asked to **donate Corn Bread mixes** for the Thanksgiving baskets. Please bring to the Temple. HAAM is always in need of canned beans, canned fruit (low sugar), canned chicken and tuna and canned vegetables (low sodium). If you prefer to donate hygiene items they need toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shampoo, and conditioner. Thank you for your support!

Join a Committee!

Have you thought about becoming more active at TBT? One way is to join a committee. Some of our committees include the building, ritual, social, membership, fundraising, education, social justice and safety & security committees.

If you are interested in serving on a committee or for more information, please contact Shari Ellsworth at president@tbthumble.org

DONATIONS

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

*Brian Eoff
John and Bobbylee Ruskis
Ellen Grayson – in memory of Hanna and Bernard Lewis
Karen Heller
Bobbi Hoyt*

TOM THERIOT MEMORIAL PROGRAM FUND

Donna Sallee – In Memory of Jeffrey Sallee

GENERAL FUND

*Linda Farber
Herbert Sachs
Ellen Grayson
David and Lori Acosta*

If you would like to sponsor a TBT service or event in honor of an occasion or in memory of a loved one, please contact Stacey at admin@tbthumble.org.

TBT Sisterhood

Fellowship and fun were in bloom at the Sisterhood Gathering last month. Thank you to James and Erica, owners of Treasures To Adore in Humble for donating their time and flowers for us to create beautiful arrangements. Thank you to Marsha Weiss for hosting!

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP SUNDAYS at 11:30 A.M.

The Sunday Discussion group reads a new book every couple of weeks. Currently reading and discussing “Zealot” by Reza Aslan.

New members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining the discussion or have any questions, please email Susan at spollard@tbthumble.org. The discussion group meets through Zoom. The link remains the same each week and is sent out in our weekly emails.

ADULT EDUCATION - TORCH (TORAH OUTREACH RESOURCE CENTER OF HOUSTON) SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM VIA ZOOM

TORCH Rabbi Yaakov Wolbe leads a discussion of **Pirke Avot** (Ethics of the Fathers). All meetings will be through Zoom. Any questions please contact admin@tbthumble.org. The Zoom links are sent out in the weekly email.

DONATIONS

Making a donation to TBT is a perfect way to honor a joyous occasion like a birthday, anniversary, wedding/engagement, new home, job change, or retirement. It is also appropriate to honor someone who has passed away with a donation in his/her memory at the time of the passing or on the yahrzeit (anniversary) of the passing. All donations to Temple Beth Torah are tax deductible. You can choose where you would like your donation to be applied.

You can now make a donation online to any of our funds. Tell your friends and family to visit our website, www.tbthumble.org, to make a donation or see the donations form in this newsletter.

GENERAL FUND

Any donation that is not specified to another specific fund goes to the General Fund, which helps maintain the operating budget of the temple. Building expenses, insurance, staff salaries and all program expenses that are not underwritten come out of the General Fund, as well as support for the Religious School.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

This separate tzedakah fund enables the rabbi to make confidential contributions to help individuals and causes that may be in crisis. The rabbi may also use this fund to help support unbudgeted programs that will benefit the temple or community.

BURT LEVY MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND BEAUTIFICATION FUND

This fund maintains the library and helps purchase new books, as well as other cosmetic improvements to the temple's interior. Our library, located in the back of the sanctuary, is named after TBT's founding president, Burt Levy, who was a major inspiration in starting Temple Beth Torah.

TRACY TOBIN JOHNSON MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND

This fund provides scholarships to Jewish summer camps for children and for educational conferences for teachers. It also helps support special educational programs that are not in the general budget. The fund honors Tracy Tobin Johnson, who was an active TBT member, volunteer and teacher before passing away at a young age.

TOM THERIOT MEMORIAL PROGRAM FUND

This fund supports special dynamic programs, often related to the arts. It is named after Tom Theriot, a lover of the arts, who was a constant presence at TBT and supported every cause.

LEGACY GIVING SOCIETY

TBT's Legacy Giving Society is a group of visionary donors who have committed themselves to the future of Temple Beth Torah. Legacy gifts are easily to establish, cost nothing during your lifetime, and make a difference for our community. Contact admin@tbthumble.org for more information.

SCOTT ERIC KAUFMAN TECHNOLOGY FUND

This fund helps support the technology needs of TBT including computers, screens, and cameras and will help with our virtual programming. The fund was established in memory of Dr. Scott Eric Kaufman.

Temple Beth Torah Donate a Brick Campaign

TBT member Will Pollard has built a brick path in front of our Sukkah as part of his Eagle Scout project. We are now giving everyone an opportunity to donate an engraved brick for the path with **all donations going to support Temple Beth Torah!**

This is a wonderful way to remember a loved one or honor a friend/family member. You can also use it to commemorate an occasion, like a bar/bat mitzvah, a wedding, an anniversary or a memorable birthday.

Each brick can be inscribed with 3 lines and 20 characters per line (letters, numbers, spaces, punctuation and other keyboard symbols are considered characters).

Various approved clip art designs can be made available for an additional \$20 donation per brick. If clip art is used, the text is limited to 15 characters per line.

Brick donations are:

1 Brick= \$100

2 Bricks= \$180 @ \$90/each

3 Bricks= \$240 @ \$80/each

4 Bricks= \$280 @ \$70/each

5 Bricks= \$300 @ \$60/each

6 or more Bricks= \$50 a brick

Please send your check with the engraving information to TBT:
320 Shallow Drive, Humble, Texas 77338.

Questions? Please contact project coordinator Jeremy Blumin at admin@tbthumble.org.

Name of donor: _____

Phone number or email address: _____

Engraving details (please print):

Brick 1:

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

Brick 2:

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

*Please consider making a donation to support
Temple Beth Torah's many worthy endeavors.
You can indicate which fund you would like your contribution
to support on the form below,
as well as the names of those you wish to honor or remember.*

You may contact the Temple by calling 281- 446-5611 with any questions.

THANK YOU

**Please mail your donation and form to the Treasurer at:
Temple Beth Torah 320 Shallow Drive Humble, TX 77338**



**TEMPLE
BETH TORAH**

Donation Form

Thank You!

From: _____

In honor of In memory of

Name _____

Please apply donation to (check one):

- General Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Burt Levy Memorial Library Fund
- Scott Eric Kaufman Technology Fund
- Tracy Tobin Johnson Memorial Education Fund
- Tom Theriot Memorial Program Fund
- Temple Security Fund

Please send acknowledgement of the donation to:

Name _____

Address _____

TEMPLE BETH TORAH 320 SHALLOW DRIVE HUMBLE, TX 77338

(281) 446-5611 WWW.TBTHUMBLE.ORG

NOVEMBER 2023 CHESHVAN - KISLEV 5784

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
			NOV 1	2	3	4
12:00 PM Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Dan Please contact admin@tbthumble.org to get the date.					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan - In Person and VIRTUAL	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Religious School 9:00 AM – 11:15 AM Hebrew 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM 10:30 AM Adult Ed TORCH - Virtual 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					6:00 PM Family Youth Service - In Person ONLY and Potluck 7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan - In Person and VIRTUAL	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Religious School 9:00 AM – 11:15 AM Hebrew 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM 10:30 AM Adult Ed TORCH - Virtual 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan - In Person and VIRTUAL	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:30 AM Adult Ed TORCH - Virtual 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					6:00 PM (special time) Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan - In Person and VIRTUAL	
26	27	28	29	30	DEC. 1	2
NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:30 AM Adult Ed TORCH - Virtual 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan - In Person and VIRTUAL	6:15PM – 9:30PM Ner Tamid Event Honoring Carrie Keith