

Temple Beth Torah

NEWS FOR YOU

MAY 2026 IYAR – SIVAN 5786



Rabbi Dan
Gordon
**SPIRITUAL
LEADER**

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS AND
CHAIRPERSONS**

Debra Swaim
PRESIDENT

Sarah Miller
VICE PRESIDENT

Linda Stewart
TREASURER

Adi Quick
SECRETARY

Brain Eoff
DELEGATE

Debye Lurie
DELEGATE

David Acosta
DELEGATE

Carrie Keith
EDUCATION

Wes Goble
BUILDING

Elahn Quick
RITUAL

Emma Brawn
SOCIAL

Emily Simpson
MEMBERSHIP

Michael Miller
PAST PRESIDENT

Susan Meinholz
SISTERHOOD
PRESIDENT

Stacey Blumin
ADMINISTRATOR
AND NEWSLETTER
EDITOR

THE JEWISH NIGHT OF WHY – QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 9, BEGINNING 6:00 PM

DINNER, HAVDALLAH, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TEMPLE IS PROVIDING THE ENTRÉE.

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE

A favorite TBT tradition, the Jewish Night of Why is patterned after the popular resource, *The Jewish Book of Why*, by Rabbi Alfred Kolatch. Kolatch's book (and sequel, *The Second Jewish Book of Why*) answers hundreds of questions about Jewish customs. Some of the many questions in the book include:

- Why do Jews eat gefilte fish?
- Why is a glass broken at the end of a Jewish wedding ceremony?
- Why must the chapter of curses in the Torah be read quickly in a low voice?
- Why are shrimp and lobster not kosher?
- Why do Jews fast on Yom Kippur?
- Why are some Matzot square while others are round?

As complete as this book is, it does not answer ALL the questions our inquisitive members at Temple Beth Torah are capable of asking. Come prepared to ask and learn, from both the rabbi and from each other. Questions are written down and placed in a hat, taken out at random, so nobody knows who asked what. It will be a lively, fun and eye-opening evening. RSVP to admin@tbthumble.org

SHAVUOT PIZZA DINNER

FRIDAY, MAY 22, BEGINNING 6.30 PM

The holiday of Shavuot commemorates when the Israelites received the Ten Commandments from Moses at Mount Sinai. One of the traditions on Shavuot is to eat a dairy meal. Why dairy? There are several interpretations of this custom. One is that dairy is sweet and nourishing, like Torah. Another is that the word for milk, chalav, includes three Hebrew letters: chet, lamed and vet. Every Hebrew letter has a numerical value, and these three ('het'=8, 'lamed'=30, 'vet'=2), add up to 40 – the number of days Moses spent travelling to the top of the mountain to receive the Tablets. A third reason is that receiving the Torah indicated the very beginning of a new relationship between the Jewish people and God. When giving him the strength to confront the Pharaoh in Egypt, God said to Moses, "I will take you to be My people, and I will be your God." (Ex. 6:7) This is like the infancy of our people, and the first nourishment a baby tastes is milk.

Regardless of the reason, it's a good excuse to share a favorite dairy meal in both Israel and the U.S. – PIZZA! It is an evening to share social time, and we will have an abbreviated Shabbat worship in the social hall.

Optional donations accepted to help cover costs. Suggestion: \$10/adults, \$5/children, \$25 for a whole family. RSVP to admin@tbthumble.org so we know how many pizzas to order.

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

April brought us a truly meaningful Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance service. We were honored to have Cantor soloist Anita Bonanno join us—her parents were Holocaust survivors—and her music added so much to the service. A big thank you to Hy Penn and Lynn Gordon for sponsoring the evening. Hy's parents and grandmother were also survivors, which made the night even more personal. One of the most powerful moments was hearing from 90-year-old Holocaust survivor Edith Juker. She shared her story of being just three years old when she was captured by Russian forces while fleeing Krakow, Poland, and sent to Siberia. Listening to her story was incredibly moving. Services like this matter so much. They give us a chance to remember those who were lost and honor those who survived. And hearing directly from a survivor is something that stays with you.

Along with the service, our Religious School students and Sisterhood took part in a special project for the Holocaust Remembrance Association's Garden of Hope. Both groups painted rocks adding the names of children who perished in the Holocaust on each rock. In Jewish tradition, leaving stones is a way to honor and remember loved ones, symbolizing that their memory lives on. The rocks will now be part of the Garden of Hope in Kings Harbor. If you haven't had a chance to visit yet, it's really worth seeing.

L'shalom,

Debbie Swaim

President, Temple Beth Torah

MAY EVENTS

Friday, May 1	7:00PM	Student led Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan, Cantor Francyne and the Religious School Students In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsored by the TBT Religious School Families</i>
Friday, May 8	7:00PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsorship needed</i>
Saturday, May 9	6:00PM	<i>Jewish Night of Why? Dinner and Discussion</i> RSVP to Stacey at admin@tbthumble.org – bring a side or dessert.
Friday, May 15	7:00PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsored by Carrie Keith in memory of Bill Dendina.</i>
Wednesday, May 20	12:00PM	Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Dan
Friday, May 22	6:30PM	SHAVUOT PIZZA DINNER RSVP to Stacey at admin@tbthumble.org In Person ONLY <i>Oneg hosted by the Temple</i>
Friday, May 29	7:00PM	Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsored by the Acosta Family In Honor of Olivia's Birthday</i>

RABBI'S MESSAGE

What is a Mitzvah? Let's explore!

Hebrew is an interesting language because one word can mean many things. Usually, the things are connected in some way. For instance, at the beginning of the Torah, in the Book of Genesis, it says, “*When God began to create the heaven and earth, the earth was unformed and void...and a wind from God swept over the water.*” (Gen. 1:2) The word for “wind” in Hebrew is “*ruach*,” which also means “spirit.” Different interpretations use both translations, which are similar, but not exactly the same. Imagining a wind sweeping over the waters, you might visualize a hurricane or a tornado, spreading the beginnings of creation all over. With a spirit, you might imagine a sacred, holy presence that will descend upon all the upcoming creation. Both translations have validity, and it sparks curious discussion about the infinite ways Torah can be interpreted.

Another important word that starts in Torah is *mitzvah*. We all know that a mitzvah is a good deed. But it comes from the root letters for tzee-vah, or command. A mitzvah is technically a commandment. With 613 total commandments in the Torah, it is impossible to follow every one of them 100%. Some of the commandments are assigned to men, others to women, others to descendants of the Priestly class (the Kohanim), etc. There are ritualistic commandments, like lighting Shabbat candles, eating in a Sukkah and affixing a mezuzah to your doorpost. Some of the most interesting mitzvot are those that command a feeling, like “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Lev. 19:18) and “You shall love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might.” (Deut.6:5) In English, we think of a command as an order, like a military order. Disobeying a military commandment has severe consequences. But is it possible to manipulate our own feelings, like love, because we are ordered to do so?

Once, I was in a discussion about making choices, and someone said to me, “God doesn’t give us choices. God gives us commandments.” I’ve thought about that statement ever since, and decided there is a blend. We might follow some commandments only because God said so (in the Torah). This is a special kind of devotion, and the we might do it out of habit or routine. Another thought is that if we contemplate the meaning behind the commandment, we may or may not follow it; but we will be doing so out of knowledge rather than ignorance. Perhaps an understanding leads to fulfillment; perhaps fulfillment leads to understanding. The balance may be “God gives us commandments, and the choice of how to follow them.”

This is the difference between the Hebrew terms *keva* – the form, ritual and structure of observance - and *kavanah* – the sacred intention and mindfulness that motivate us. Which brings us to the importance of learning. The more we learn what the Torah teaches, the more we can delve into our hearts and souls to find deeper meaning. I invite you to come explore the balance when we get together the evening of May 9th for THE JEWISH NIGHT OF WHY. Learning from each other is quite a mitzvah! As 1st Century scholar Rabbi Akiva said, “Study is most important when it leads to action.” (Babylonian Talmud, Kiddushin 40b). Or, as a slightly older Talmudic scholar, Hillel the Elder (110 BCE – 8 CE) said, “What is hateful to you, do not do to another. All the rest is commentary. Now, go study.”

As we study together, we can understand the commandments and make choices about how to follow them with both *keva* and *kavannah*.

L’shalom,

Rabbi Dan Gordon

**Adult Learning with the Rabbi
at TBT**

What do Jews think about...?

Wednesday, May 20 12:00 NOON

Bring your Lunch

*Informal discussion covering a wide
range of topics*

*Everything you always wanted to know
about Judaism but were afraid to ask!*

CUP OF WISDOM

**A VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB AND DISCUSSION GROUP
MEETING EACH SUNDAY
AT 11:30 AM ON ZOOM**

The Sunday Discussion group meets every Sunday at 11:30 AM virtually. Books are read and discussed. The books chosen are always thought provoking and generate interesting discussions. 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.

**For HAAM (Humble Area
Assistance Ministries)**

HAAM is collecting non-perishable foods and hygiene items: They are 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!

SAVE THE DATES

CAMP RUACH IS RETURNING

JUNE 1, 2 AND 3RD

9AM-11:30AM

Rachael Blumin will lead a Fun,
Creative and Educational Camp for
kids age 4-12yrs.

More information will be available
soon.

Camp will be at Temple Beth Torah

Join a Committee!

**It's a New Year – Time to Get
Involved!**

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.

A new committee that is being brought back is the caring committee. This committee is designed to remember members on special occasions, help with meals if ill, and brighten people's lives.

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

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 Yahrzeit for a loved one. If you would like to do an oneg, please leave a message for Stacey Blumin at 281-446-5611, or email admin@tbthumble.org

Please sign up at this link to prepare an oneg – thank you in advance.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084BAEAA22A2FB6-57857673-tbtoneg#/>

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL HAPPENNINGS

This school year has flown by! We will have class on May 3rd and our last day on May 17. This year, our classes learned about Jewish holidays, history, traditions, Israel, and Hebrew through engaging lessons. Thank you to the teachers for their creative lessons this year.

On May 17th, we will begin at 10:00am in the sanctuary. All parents and any members that would like to attend are invited to our closing program with student awards and the confirmation of Manny Miller. We are very proud of all that Manny has accomplished in his years at TBT Religious School.

Following the awards program, the students will do a handprint painting on the outdoor benches. Then we will all enjoy a hotdog lunch.

It has been a terrific year! Thank you to our Judaica teachers: Rachael Blumin, Linda Stewart, Andrea Miller, Aaron Blumin, Michael Miller and Craig Lira-Waguespack. Thank you to Rachel McConnell for being our chef extraordinaire for Religious School. She baked challah, made hamantaschen, made matzah and kugels with the students. Special thank you to Andrea Miller and Craig Lira for being our Hebrew Coordinators and Hebrew teachers along with Rabbi Dan, Rachael Blumin and Aaron Blumin. And as always, thank you to Rabbi Dan who brings the stories and joy of Judaism to life for all of our students, teachers and parents.

Have a wonderful summer

And

READ A GOOD BOOK, TAKE A LONG WALK AND MAKE A NEW FRIEND!!

Carrie Keith

TBT Religious School Principal

Senior Spotlight!!

TBT Congratulates 2 Seniors graduating this year!

Vicki Aizenberg – Vicki is graduating from Atascocita High School and will attend Texas A&M to study psychology as an undergraduate. She chose this field because it may lead to many future different career paths from medicine to law to life sciences.

Sydney Baur – Sydney is graduating from Kingwood High School and will attend Drew University, in Madison New Jersey to study Biology on a Premed track. She was also recruited to play on the Drew Volleyball Team and looks forward being a Ranger! She is excited to start this chapter of her life as a student athlete.

ANDREA URGENTLY NEEDS A KIDNEY DONOR



Andrea is a beloved wife, mother and aunt.
She wants to continue to be there for her family.
Kidney failure is getting in her way.

To learn more about kidney donation or to see if you are
a match, scan the QR code, visit renewal.org/RN26819,
email RN26819@renewal.org or call 718-431-9831 Ext. 315



SEE PAST KIDNEY DONOR STORIES
www.renewal.org [f](https://www.facebook.com/renewalnews) [i](https://www.instagram.com/renewalnews) [@renewalnews](https://www.tiktok.com/@renewalnews)

Renewal is a non-profit organization dedicated to
saving lives by helping kidney donors and recipients
navigate all aspects of the transplant process.

It's Miller Time for a Mitzvah Looking for Potential Kidney Donors

Acheinu kol beyt Yisrael begins a prayer dating back to 9th Century C.E. in Babylon that means, in effect, “We are all one family.” It is a central aspect of Judaism that we look out for each other. The Talmud states, “Whoever saves one life, has saved an entire world.” (Sanhedrin 4:5) And the Torah says, “Do not stand idly by while a neighbor bleeds.” (Leviticus 19:16) One of our family members, Andrea Miller, needs a kidney transplant to maintain a healthy life.

Andrea and her husband, Mike, have been valuable members of Temple Beth Torah since they first joined, over 15 years ago, shortly before their son, Manny, came into their lives. Both have served on the board for several years on the board of directors. Andrea has been treasurer and ritual chair and currently coordinates our cleaning services and bills payable. Mike has been the technology master through the Covid era, providing and setting up our popular Zoom system while also maintaining the website. For the past two years, Mike served as president of the board, leading us to our current position of strength. Both Mike and Andrea are volunteer teachers in Sunday School, and their boys, Manny and Levi, willingly help out whenever needed.

The efforts to find a kidney for Andrea are being coordinated by Renewal, a non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives by helping kidney donors and kidney recipients navigate all aspects of the transplant process. Testing is easy; finding the perfect match is not. There is complete anonymity with any questions. The staff at Renewal can answer any questions about the safety of being a kidney donor. Passing this information along to anyone you know will help spread the word and help Renewal have a list of potential matches for Andrea and other patients in need. Please call (718) 431-9831 Ext. 315 or email RN26819@renewal.org There is no obligation to get tested. The more people who know about this opportunity, the better are the chances to save lives.

Simchas in May

Birthdays

1	Vick Aizenberg
1	Susan Pollard
1	Adam Waxman
3	David Acosta
3	Mark Lubel
4	Scott Manusov
5	Leslie Witkov
6	Caleb Brawn
8	Sydney Baur
8	Allan Carroll
8	Esther Couch
9	Lisa Levy
11	Cameron Miller
22	Manny Miller
25	Andrea Miller
25	Stephen Levy
25	Craig Lira-Waguespack
28	Olivia Acosta
29	JQ Delap
30	Karen Heller
31	Judah Simpson

Anniversary

15	Jonathan and Sarah Couch
16	Vitaly and LiJuan Aizenberg
19	Cameron and Sarah Miller
21	Greg and Mindy LaCour
23	Jim and Susan Meinholz
27	Bruce and Susan Pollard
29	Michael and Susan Cahn

Sisterhood

Thank you to Marsha Weiss for organizing the stone painting activity at the April Sisterhood gathering. We painted 20 stones, each with a name of a child who perished in the holocaust. The stones will become part of the permanent exhibit at the Holocaust Garden of Hope in Kingwood.

Our next Sisterhood gathering will be Sunday, August 2nd, 1:00pm at Sisterhood's favorite meeting spot...Kenny & Ziggy's. Save the Date!

May Yahrzeits

The following names will be read each week during May 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.

Tommy Mounger, Riva Kremer, Ruth Gerhardt, Edythe Levy, David Auerbach, Beverly Litt, Evelyn Lovitt, David Sayovitz, Lester Nussbaum Sr., Victor Rosen, Jolan Halpern, Morton Wallack, Irwin Gotfried, Philip Salkin, David Rosenberg, William L Denbina, Benjamin Hirsch, Alice Dunnam, Spurgeon Dunnam, Cliff Thomas Smith, Ernest Graf, Irving Biegel, Robert Kharasch, William Hulland, Sadie Nussbaum, Harold J Gordon, Helen Howard, Mike Pope, Rebecca Kolichstein, Charlene Waguespack, Joan Trimpe, Karen Fox, Bill Myers

Yahrtzeit Memorial Plaques

Order Now – Price increase as of August 1

The minimum donation for one memorial plaque to be placed on the wall in the sanctuary is currently \$300. Those purchasing two plaques at the same time can do so for \$500, a savings of \$100. After many years of keeping prices the same, due to the cost of materials, labor, insurance, taxes and shipping, our supplier was forced to increase the cost as of March 15, 2026. Rather than pass the price increase on to temple members immediately, we are keeping the prices through the summer, so you can purchase new plaques in time for High Holidays. Beginning August 1, the new price will be \$360 for one and \$620 for two – still a savings of \$100. It usually takes at least a month for plaques to be engraved and sent back to the temple, but in the summer months, it can take longer because many synagogues are purchasing plaques to be ready for High Holidays. 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.

Torah Portions for April 2026

Summarized by Rabbi Dan Gordon

May 1-2, 2026 Emor, Leviticus 21:1-24:23

Emor begins with instructions for the priests, who were considered separate from others. Priests could not have any blemishes, and had to refrain from any activity that could potentially contaminate their purity. Several rituals are described, including setting aside a portion of “cake” as a burnt offering. In modern times, this burnt offering is still practiced by many who bake challah. We are also given instructions for harvesting our fields. We are to leave the corners for poor people to be able to glean what they need without the embarrassment of having to ask.

May 8-9, 2026 Behar/Bechukotai, Leviticus 25:1-27:34 (double portion)

Just as people and animals must observe a Sabbath every seven days, the land must have a Sabbath every seven years. The land will produce enough in the sixth year to provide for the seventh, so no harvesting shall take place. In the fiftieth year, on Yom Kippur, a jubilee is celebrated. Debts are reduced and slaves are freed. The Torah portion ends with a reminder of the prohibitions of idolatry and the obligation to observe the weekly Sabbath. This reminds us that freedom always comes with responsibility, and the Jubilee year is no exception. In *Bechukotai*, G-d promises that there will be great rewards for following the proper path of the commandments. Not only will the rain come at the proper times and produce our necessary food, but we will also live without fear of enemies. G-d will remember the promises made to Jacob, Isaac and to Abraham (curiously listed here in reverse order) to help us maintain our homeland. We're also commanded to tithe, donating ten percent of all we gain, realizing that all our gifts come from G-d.

May 15-16, 2026 Bamidbar, Numbers 1:1-4:20

At the beginning of the Book of Numbers, Moses is instructed to take a census of the entire Israelite nation. Each of the tribes is listed with their descendants, and a number is assigned to each. Each tribe is given specific tasks. Aaron and his sons prepare the sacred objects and curtains connected to the Ark of the Covenant, where the tablets of the Ten Commandments are carried throughout the desert. We are taught that both sets of tablets – the ones Moses broke and the completed ones – travelled with us through the wilderness.

May 22-23, 2026 Special Readings for Shavuot, Exodus 19:1-20:23 and Numbers 28:26-31

On Shavuot, it is traditional to read the story of our experience in the desert that leads up to receiving the Ten Commandments, and then hearing Moses recite the commandments to us. Even before hearing the words, the Israelites proclaimed in unison, “All that the LORD has spoken, we shall do!” Prior to Moses' visit with G-d to bring down the Law, there was an intense preparation period. The drama of thunder, lightning, smoke and fire emphasized the importance of this moment. Following the recitation of the Commandments, the Torah reading is followed by the extensive sacrifice rituals, which include offering the first fruits, the traditional offering of Shavuot. It is a Shavuot tradition to eat dairy on the holiday to remind us that, receiving the commandments was the infancy of our covenantal relationship with God. There is also a tradition of staying up all night to study Torah, so we will not be caught sleeping when there is the possibility of revelation.

May 29-30, 2026 Naso Numbers 4:21-7:89

"Naso" concludes the census, and the work of the various clans is described. Practical instructions are given regarding sanitary conditions in the Israelite camp and restitution for stolen property. To appease a suspicious husband, a "ritual in cases of jealousy" is given. People who wish to become Nazarites may not drink alcohol, have contact with a corpse or cut their hair. We find the Priestly Benediction in this Torah portion, which has become a blessing for all life cycle events: “*May the LORD bless you and watch over you; May the LORD's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the LORD's presence be with you, and may He grant you peace*” (Numbers 6:24-26).

DONATIONS

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Brian Eoff

Marsha and Norman Weiss - in honor of Joe and Casey Snyder's friendship and their conversion to Judaism

Suzanne and M. Barton Baker

Steve Lee

John and Bobbylee Ruskis

Cynthia Anapolsky – In Honor of Rabbi's Birthday

Mike Weisberg – In Memory of Iris Kelley

Debye Lurie

GENERAL FUND

Deborah Rodriguez-Castinado

Gloria Mendez – in Memory of Raymundo Mendez

Patrice Barron – In Honor of Rabbi Dan

Castine Theriot – for Security

Ellen Grayson – In Honor of Rabbi's Birthday

Linda Stewart – in Honor of Rabbi's Birthday

Debye Lurie

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.

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 Creamer

Forks

Bottled water

Dessert size plates

Copy paper

Decaf Coffee

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.

DONATIONS Cont.

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 AND JEFFREY KAUFMAN TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION FUND

This fund helps support the technology needs of TBT including computers, screens, and cameras and will help with our virtual programming. It also supports other educational pursuits related to technology. The fund was established in memory of Dr. Scott Eric Kaufman and his father, Jeffrey Kaufman.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC EDUCATION FUND

Enables TBT's students to enrich their learning of prayer and Jewish music by having a cantor or music educator come multiple times to Sunday School and lead services with the students.

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 and Beautification Fund
- Scott Eric Kaufman and Jeffery Kaufman Technology & Education Fund
- Tracy Tobin Johnson Memorial Education Fund
- Tom Theriot Memorial Program Fund
- Temple Security Fund
- Children's Music Education 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

May 2026 Iyar - Sivan 5786

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					MAY 1	2
					7:00 PM Student Led Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan, Cantor Francyne and the Religious School Students In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg provided by The Religious School Families</i>	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 AM – 12:15 PM Religious School 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsor needed</i>	6:00PM Jewish Night of Why? Potluck dinner RSVP to Stacey
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! NO Religious School 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsored by Carrie Keith in memory of Bill Denbina</i>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00 AM – 12:15 PM LAST DAY OF Religious School 11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual			12:00 noon Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Dan		6:30 PM Shavuot Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan and Pizza Dinner. In Person ONLY! <i>Oneg provided by the Temple</i>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual					7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Rabbi Dan In Person and Virtual <i>Oneg sponsored by the Acosta Family in Honor of Olivia's Birthday</i>	
31						
11:30 Adult Ed – Sunday Discussion Group-Virtual						