

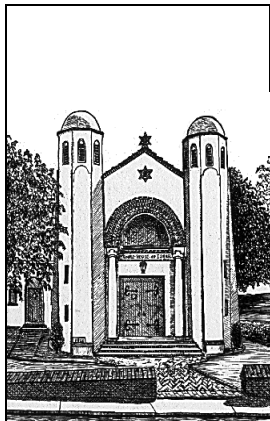
# Temple House of Israel Bulletin

A Member Congregation of the Union for Reform Judaism  
15 North Market Street, Staunton, VA 24401 (540) 886-4091  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1412, Staunton VA 24402

[www.thoi.org](http://www.thoi.org)

*Our mission is to perpetuate Jewish life and identity through a welcoming community of spirituality, learning, service, joy and worship.*

**October 2009, Tishrei → Chesvan 5770**



## From the President

Dear Members and Friends,

Our most sincere thanks go to Rabbi Joe and Rabbi Sue and Laura Mandeles for leading us through the beautiful High Holy Days services. The services were wonderfully uplifting and meaningful for all. May we all be blessed with a year of good health, love and wealth in its many forms and may we have the time to enjoy them!

With the holidays behind us and the New Year ahead, please join us in continuing the wealth of our caring community and family that is so much a part of Temple House of Israel. Our mission is to perpetuate Jewish life and identity through a welcoming community of spirituality, learning, service, and worship. Part of our five year vision is to create a place that brings people together – to build a sense of belonging to our community. That sense of belonging can be in the form of worship services or various educational programs or our special Community Awareness Shabbat. Perhaps it's more meaningful to be involved with our Jewish Film Festival or the Shenandoah Valley Holocaust Education Project or, for those with young children, to enjoy our monthly Kinderlachen program. We can be the center for Jewish life for our members and the larger community. Pick one (or five!) and become an active part of Temple.

*L'shanah tovah, Beth*

## Interfaith News

**InterfaithFamily.com** is a non-profit online resource for interfaith families exploring Jewish choices. InterfaithFamily.com's resources include more than 2000 articles written by, for and about interfaith families. InterfaithFamily.com re-launched their website with tools to help users personalize their experience and build communities online and in person. Log on to the network and connect with other interfaith families and with welcoming organizations. As part of the InterfaithFamily.com network be sure to "join" our synagogue's page, under Organizations. --- Rabbi Joe

## From The Rabbi's Desk

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,

Shalom. As you read this, the High Holy days are coming to a close for this year, and our congregational year is in full swing. May it come to pass for all just as we have been wishing each other: LeShanah Tovah Umetukah, shanah shel mevorchim – for a good and sweet year, a year of blessings! May our efforts this year help to bring good news, and support better times for all of us.

### Holidays

This is a month with a surplus of holidays and observances. ☺

It is customary to hold a Yizkor (memorial) service at the cemetery in the Yamim Nora'im (days of awe) between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The date for the congregational observance of this custom is September 27<sup>th</sup>, Sunday. The brief memorial service will be held at each cemetery, 11:30 am at the Beth El cemetery, and at 1:30 pm at the THOI cemetery on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. If we have inclement weather, we will hold the services in the sanctuary.

For **Yom Kippur** (the day of atonement) our services will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm at Beth El and 8 pm at THOI, and continues on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at both locations, then continue after a break at 3 pm.

**Sukkot** (the festival of booths) begins the evening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October and runs through October 10<sup>th</sup>, immediately followed on the 11<sup>th</sup> by Simchat Torah (rejoicing in the law). There will be a Shabbat (Sabbath) & Sukkot service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at Beth El, and a Shabbat & Shemini Atzeret (eighth

day of tarrying) service on the 9<sup>th</sup> at THOI.

**Simchat Torah** will be observed on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October during Religious school. We will have a full service beginning at 10:30 am in the sanctuary at Beth El. The service is intended for both congregations, as well as for the Religious school students, so all are invited to come and participate.

### **Tzedakah**

In the spirit of Tzedakah and during the High Holiday celebrations, we ask those attending services consider donating monies and/or items to those in need. We will once again have grocery bags at the synagogue that you can take and fill at home, then return around Yom Kippur (and after). On these bags will also be attached envelopes from **Mazon**, the Jewish response to hunger, for donations.

You are invited to bring items (or monetary donations) to the synagogue year round, particularly during this period, and we will arrange for delivery to locations/organizations, including **Mazon**, the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, First Step, the Valley Mission, the Volunteer Farm, and other local and national organizations. Please keep in mind the requirements for non-perishable foodstuff, (items such as tuna, peanut butter, canned meats, soups, fruits, vegetables, and milk, boxed pasta, cereal, cake mixes, juices, baby formula and baby food, and spices/seasonings), household items (such as laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, trash bags, cleaning supplies), and personal care items (such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, diapers, and mouthwash).

### **Opportunities for Participation**

If you feel a conversation with the rabbi on any topic would be of benefit to you, please make an appointment. You can call or email Rabbi Joe as shown elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please know that we always seek congregant and guest participation in services throughout the year. If you are interested in leading a lay service, or in taking a role in a service, please be in touch with Rabbi Joe, Beth Young, Lisa Solod Warren, or Don Chodrow. Roles include: reading Torah (English or Hebrew), reading Haftarah (English or Hebrew), delivering a Devar Torah, serving as Gabbai (the “MC” for the Torah service), an English reading, or having an honor. The honors we usually confer in our services include being called up for an Aliyah (saying the blessings for the Torah or the Haftarah reading; there are some restrictions on who may have this honor), serving as Hagbah (lift, hold, and carry the Torah), Gelilah (undressing and dressing the Torah), Petichah Usegurah (opening and closing the Ark), and candle lighting with the blessings. The roles in services are being assigned ahead of the date of the service, so you may be hearing from someone about being assigned to one of these roles on specific dates. Please remember that these roles each are honors, and that we are counting on you to be there to help us make our services special.

And if you are interested in singing for our services, contact Sarah Grove-Humphries, who is coordinating music for our worship. You can also speak to Rabbi Joe, who will try to refrain from singing loudly. ☺

If you are interested in studying for and celebrating an adult B’nai Mitzvah, or in learning to leyn (read/chant) Torah and/or Haftarah, or to lead services, or serve as a gabbai, contact the rabbi.

If you are interested in or wish to consider conversion, or you just want to learn more about Judaism (whether you are Jewish or not), please be in touch with the rabbi. The *Introduction to Judaism* (ITJ) course is not currently scheduled for this year, but may be offered if there is sufficient interest. To date, there have been two inquiries; the course will be offered when there are seven or more students who will commit to the full schedule.

### **Congregational Trip to Israel**

As we begin this new Jewish year, I want to announce plans for another trip to Israel in late February or March of **2011**. This should give everyone time to put it on their calendars, and to save up for this fantastic opportunity. If this sounds interesting, please speak to me, or to any of those congregants who went on the last trip. It will be a somewhat different itinerary, but just as educational, enjoyable, and meaningful as the last time. Look for more information soon.

### **Closing**

Our traditional farewell to each other around the High Holidays is “LeShanah Tovah

	<p>Umetukah Tikateivu or Tichateimu” (may you be written - or sealed - ‘in the book of life’ for a good and sweet year). As we come to the end of these holidays, I extend this wish to each of you, along with the hope that this may be a year for all of us of blessing, a year of love, a year of health, a year of prosperity, a year of healing, a year of success, and a year of love. May you and your loved ones know peace, prosperity, and joy in the coming year, and receive even more and better than you deserve. Ken Yehi Ratzon (so may it be G-d’s will).</p> <p>I will look forward to shaking the lulav and etrog in the Sukkah with each of you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Rabbi Joe Blair</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Adult Education</b></p>	<p>Please note the first offerings for adults will be taking place this month. There are three on the calendar at this point. Please watch the bulletin for information on upcoming classes and courses each month.</p> <p>First, on October 18<sup>th</sup>, Sunday at 2 to 3 pm, is the next in the series on <b>Women in the Tanakh</b> (Bible). This will be held at Beth El. All are welcome to join in our conversation.</p> <p>Second, on October 19<sup>th</sup> (at THOI), or October 22<sup>nd</sup> (at Beth El) at 6-9 pm, the first of the five session <b>Introduction to Hebrew</b> (Read Hebrew America) classes is being held. This is free, and open to anyone who wishes to learn the Hebrew alefbet and vowels, in order to decode (sound out) any Hebrew they may encounter. We may be able to point out a few root words that are in frequent and common use, to build a vocabulary, as well.</p> <p>Third, beginning on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October at 1 to 3 pm at Beth El, I am offering a five session class through the <b>JMU Lifelong Learning Institute</b>. Members of Beth El or THOI who wishes is welcome to attend for no cost. I will be exploring five topics based on questions that arose in past, including: who wrote the Bible, what is kabbalah, how Judaism has influenced the world, what is and why is there anti-Semitism, and a brief history of Israel. Come to any or all of these sessions.</p> <p>If there is enough interest, I will offer the <b>Introduction to Judaism</b> course. I am reluctant to commit the time and resources required unless there are seven students who will undertake the full twenty-two session course.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Caring Committee</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please let the Temple know of any illnesses, deaths or joyous occasions so that Rabbi Joe and the congregation can respond appropriately. To reach Rabbi Joe in an emergency, please call his cell phone (434) 981-3959.</li> <li>• It is a mitzvah to visit those who are ill. We ask that if you are aware that one of our members or friends is in the hospital to please call the Temple, Rabbi Joe or contact our Caring Committee members: Lou at <a href="mailto:caring-committee2@thoi.org">caring-committee2@thoi.org</a>, Janet at 851-0877 or Rosalie at <a href="mailto:caring-committee1@thoi.org">caring-committee1@thoi.org</a> so that we may visit them.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Religious School</b></p>	<p>L’Shanah Tovah from Religious School!</p> <p>Religious school has begun with 25 bright, smiling faces of children eager to learn Hebrew and all about Judaism. We welcome 3 new Alef students and 2 new families (the Glago and Rock families). We also welcome 3 new teachers on staff and 5 returning teachers, and of course, Rabbi Joe! Thanks to all of the staff, parents, and children for helping this year off to such a wonderful beginning.</p> <p>Speaking of new beginnings – the High Holy days have conveniently fallen in such a way that we have been able to celebrate in style as Religious School. On Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, we heard the Shofar blow during our service (since we couldn’t hear it on the Sabbath). Then, our Gimmel and Dalet students will go to the cemetery for Yizkor on 9/27; and join us all at Beth El for Simchat Torah services on <b>10/11</b>. What a joy it will be to celebrate the beginning of our torah with community.</p> <p>Our music director and assistant principal, Roberta Stein, has some great ideas for musicals this year – so be sure to stay tuned for information about our performances over the next couple of months. If you have any questions, contact Dara Hall, principal, at 540-433-5596 <a href="mailto:mddmhall@verizon.net">mddmhall@verizon.net</a>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>L’shalom, Dara</i></p>

<p><b>Women's Group</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are happy to support continuing education that contributes to our congregation such as Sarah Groves Humphries summer cantorial workshop and Beth Young's upcoming <i>Small Congregations Conference</i> in Toronto.</li> <li>• At our last meeting we discussed two new projects to offer to both our Jewish community and the community around us. One project is a Jewish baking/cooking class and the second a wine tasting. Let us know if you like our ideas and might want to help</li> <li>• There are still some special onegs and holidays to host/ coordinate. Contact Marsha Pillet 249-4946 if you'd like to choose one.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Torah Parashiot</b></p>	<p>The Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the period covered by this newsletter include the following in October: Sukkot - Vayikra (Lev.) 22:26-23:44 and Bamidbar (Num.) 29:12-16; Shemini Atzeret – Devarim (Deut.) 14:22-16:17 and Bamidbar (Num.) 29:35-30:1; as well as Bereshit, Noach, &amp; Lech Lecha drawn from Bereshit (Gen.) 1:1-17:27.</p> <p>Haftarot read on Shabbatot (Sabbaths) in September include selections from Zechariah 14; 1 Kings 8-9; 1 Samuel 20; Isaiah 40-41, 54-</p>
<p><b>Judaica Shop</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hanukkah order is going to be submitted on <b>10/1/09</b>. Any special requests need to be made to Natasha B. by email or at 886-1157.</li> <li>• Hanukkah items will be on display around Nov. 1st.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Calendar</b></p>	<p>TISHREI → CHESHVAN (OCTOBER)</p> <p>Elul runs from the 19<sup>th</sup> of September through October 18<sup>th</sup>, with the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of October being Rosh Chodesh for Cheshvan. Friday evening, October 2<sup>nd</sup> is Erev Sukkot (the Feast of Booths). The eight day holiday of Sukkot runs from the eve of October 2<sup>nd</sup> through sundown October 10<sup>th</sup>. From sundown October 8<sup>th</sup> to sundown October 9<sup>th</sup> is known as Hoshana Rabbah, the great hosanna. The eve of October 9<sup>th</sup> until sundown on October 10<sup>th</sup> is Shemini Atzeret, the eighth day of tarrying, which concludes the official Sukkot holiday. We are not quite done, however, because from sundown on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October through sundown on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October is yet another holiday: Simchat Torah, the rejoicing in the Torah. After Simchat Torah, we reach the end of the holiday season, at least for a time, for this year.</p>
<p><b>Thanks From Sarah</b></p>	<p>Dear Friends at THOI,</p> <p>I want to thank you for sending me to the <b>Western Wind</b> ensemble singing workshop. This workshop was held from July 24-August 1 at Smith College in Northampton, MA. There were 96 participants from the US, UK, Japan, and Australia, as well as 9 faculty at the workshop. Western Wind, celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, is led by William Zukof, and includes Laura Christian, Michele Kennedy, Todd Frizzell, Richard Slade, and Elliot Z. Levine. This group sings a wide variety of music, including classical music from medieval times to the present, as well as hymns, folksongs, jazz, pop, improvisations, and they specialize in Jewish and early American music. Other faculty members included Yumiko Matsuoka from Berklee College of Music; Robert Eisenstein from Smith College; and Gwen Toth, director of the early music ensemble Artek. During the week, we were treated to two concerts by the faculty and four student concerts. The faculty was excellent and they were professional, warm, and supportive to all.</p> <p>I spent 10-12 hours every day singing or listening to others sing (with breaks for meals). Each day began with vocal and body warm-ups and the rehearsal of the large group piece. Then we broke into small groups of 10-15 singers based on skill level, since the workshop was open to singers at all levels from professionals to amateurs, and I made it into the second-highest level group. Each group had a Western Wind member as a coach. We rehearsed several pieces in our small groups, and then the groups were further divided into solo ensembles with one singer on a part. There was no hiding if you didn't know your part and you all had to work together as a group to be able to perform each piece as soon as it was learned. I haven't been challenged musically like that since college and it was an exhilarating experience. Every evening there was a seminar where groups shared the pieces they</p>

	<p>learned that day and the Western Wind members would offer suggestions on how to improve each piece or the sound of the ensemble. I sang in 8 different languages and in every style offered including jazz, which was new for me.</p> <p>On Monday, our free day, I acquainted myself with the music of Western Wind member and composer Elliot Levine. Elliot composed and directed settings of two Jewish songs, <i>L'dor Vador</i> and <i>Praise the Lord, O My Soul</i> (Psalm 130), which was the large group piece that ended our final concert and the workshop. It's a special treat to be able to perform a work led by the composer.</p> <p>Thank you again for your support sending me to the Western Wind workshop. I learned a great deal and I hope to continue to share what I learned with our congregation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>B'shalom, Sarah</i></p>																																							
<b>Donations</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Mark &amp; Laura Mandeles</td></tr> <tr><td>Jan Kaufman &amp; Art Goldsmith</td></tr> <tr><td>Beth &amp; Rich Young</td></tr> <tr><td>Debbie Bishop</td></tr> <tr><td>Lou &amp; Ellen Boden, Pauline Drucker</td></tr> <tr><td>Shirley &amp; Rafael Brand</td></tr> <tr><td>Gail Brusoe</td></tr> <tr><td>Stuart Davidson &amp; Ann Aohen</td></tr> <tr><td>Leah Farmer</td></tr> <tr><td>Steven Goldfarb</td></tr> <tr><td>Rabbi Lynne Landsberg</td></tr> <tr><td>Rachel Peretz Comes</td></tr> <tr><td>Ken Schwartz</td></tr> <tr><td>Barth &amp; Martha Weinberg</td></tr> <tr><td>Ellen Werther</td></tr> <tr><td>Dr Steven Lewis</td></tr> <tr><td>Nancy Witt</td></tr> <tr><td>David &amp; Rosalie Waterman</td></tr> <tr><td>Sarah Lunsford</td></tr> </table>	Mark & Laura Mandeles	Jan Kaufman & Art Goldsmith	Beth & Rich Young	Debbie Bishop	Lou & Ellen Boden, Pauline Drucker	Shirley & Rafael Brand	Gail Brusoe	Stuart Davidson & Ann Aohen	Leah Farmer	Steven Goldfarb	Rabbi Lynne Landsberg	Rachel Peretz Comes	Ken Schwartz	Barth & Martha Weinberg	Ellen Werther	Dr Steven Lewis	Nancy Witt	David & Rosalie Waterman	Sarah Lunsford	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>IMO Melvin &amp; Marian Lewis , Dr. Stanley &amp; Francine Mandeles</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Ada Kaufman, Arthur Kaufman, Bernard Goldsmith, Gloria Goldsmith</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Betty Young, Manny &amp; Beryl Gutnick and their grandparents</td></tr> <tr><td>Cemetery &amp; Matching Endowment</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Goldie &amp; Bernard Boden, Benjamin B. Drucker</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Regina &amp; Joseph Ruttenberg, Brach &amp; Yechi Brand, Elan Brand, Morris Ruttenberg, Pearl &amp; Bernard Ruttenberg, Morris Budin</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Benjamin &amp; Harriet Schwartz, Kenneth F. Brusoe</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Abraham Cohen, Sonya Davidson</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Mabel Kaplan, Jacob Kaplan, Bernard Kaplan, Joseph Kaplan, David Kaplan</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Leo Goldfarb, Celia Goldfarb, Sarah Jill Goldfarb</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Bobbie Landsberg, Bessie Landsberg, Jesse Masnikoff &amp; Joe Masnikoff</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Shirley Peretz, Abraham David Peretz, Bertram Peretz, Lisa Fizdale</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Harriet Schwartz, Benjamin Schwartz</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO C. Herman Weinberg, MD, Clare S. Weinberg, Irvin Weinberg, Ethel Weinberg, Sol. B. Weinberg</td></tr> <tr><td>IMO Elaine Werther, Robert Werther, Edward Werther, Sadie Werther, Ida Klien, Jerry Evans, Laurie Evans, Jerry Werther</td></tr> <tr><td>Rabbi's Descretionary Fund</td></tr> <tr><td>Matching Funds Donation</td></tr> <tr><td>Rabbi's Descretionary Fund</td></tr> <tr><td>Rabbi's Descretionary Fund</td></tr> </table>	IMO Melvin & Marian Lewis , Dr. Stanley & Francine Mandeles	IMO Ada Kaufman, Arthur Kaufman, Bernard Goldsmith, Gloria Goldsmith	IMO Betty Young, Manny & Beryl Gutnick and their grandparents	Cemetery & Matching Endowment	IMO Goldie & Bernard Boden, Benjamin B. Drucker	IMO Regina & Joseph Ruttenberg, Brach & Yechi Brand, Elan Brand, Morris Ruttenberg, Pearl & Bernard Ruttenberg, Morris Budin	IMO Benjamin & Harriet Schwartz, Kenneth F. Brusoe	IMO Abraham Cohen, Sonya Davidson	IMO Mabel Kaplan, Jacob Kaplan, Bernard Kaplan, Joseph Kaplan, David Kaplan	IMO Leo Goldfarb, Celia Goldfarb, Sarah Jill Goldfarb	IMO Bobbie Landsberg, Bessie Landsberg, Jesse Masnikoff & Joe Masnikoff	IMO Shirley Peretz, Abraham David Peretz, Bertram Peretz, Lisa Fizdale	IMO Harriet Schwartz, Benjamin Schwartz	IMO C. Herman Weinberg, MD, Clare S. Weinberg, Irvin Weinberg, Ethel Weinberg, Sol. B. Weinberg	IMO Elaine Werther, Robert Werther, Edward Werther, Sadie Werther, Ida Klien, Jerry Evans, Laurie Evans, Jerry Werther	Rabbi's Descretionary Fund	Matching Funds Donation	Rabbi's Descretionary Fund	Rabbi's Descretionary Fund
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<b>Celebrating Birthdays</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Charles Fox - 5th</i></li> <li>• <i>Bonnie Legum - 6th</i></li> <li>• <i>Elias Gardner - 9<sup>th</sup></i></li> <li>• <i>Marsha Pillet - 21<sup>st</sup></i></li> <li>• <i>Pauline Drucker - 22<sup>nd</sup></i></li> <li>• <i>Paul Klein - 22nd</i></li> <li>• <i>Benn Legum - 23rd</i></li> <li>• <i>Bonnie Brown - 28<sup>th</sup></i></li> <li>• <i>Happy Anniversary Paul and Diane Klein</i></li> </ul>																																							
<b>Oneg Reminder</b>	<p>THOI Oneg assignment list for 2009-2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October 9 – Sukkot Oneg in the Hut</li> <li>• October 23 – Steven &amp; Catherine Rosenberg , Vicki &amp; Alan Goldenberg</li> </ul>																																							

<b>Yahrzeits</b>	Annie Klotz Babette Switzer Benjamin Sragovitz Benjamin Schwartz Charles Blazer	Harriet Schwartz Joseph Kaplan Kenneth Lussen Leon Weinberg Leonard Legum Mary Kravitz	Benjamin Drucker Morris Geller Moses Walters Nathan Harrison Nina Finkel Samuel Goldenberg	Shirley Goldenberg Annette Biatch Daughter of Walters Gussie Greenspan Henrietta Siegel Irving Schwartz
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**Reaching the Rabbi**

The rabbi is available by appointment. If you wish to meet or speak with the rabbi, please email or call to set an appointment time. In that way, the rabbi will be able to respond and give you his full attention, as you deserve. The rabbi does not read or respond to email or phone messages on Shabbat or holidays.

In the event of an emergency, the rabbi may be contacted by telephone. In that case, please call the cell phone number listed: if you reach voicemail, please leave a message speaking clearly with your name, telephone numbers, the specific topic, and be sure to express the need for an urgent response. The rabbi will respond as soon as possible.

Rabbi Joe's Email: [RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com](mailto:RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com)  
Beth El Congregation 540-434-2744  
Temple House of Israel 540-886-4091  
Cell phone (Please use this # for emergencies) 434-981-3959

<b>THOI October 2009</b>				1	2 Family Shabbat – Beth El 6:00 PM	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Shabbat Services 7:30 pm	10 Kinderlachen 10:00 AM
11 Simchat Torah Service – Beth El 10:30 AM	12	13	14	15	16	17 Family Shabbat
18 Women in the Bible - Beth El 2 :00 pm	19 Intro to Hebrew Class –THOI 6 – 9 PM	20	21	22 Intro to Hebrew Class – Beth El 6 – 9 PM	23 Shabbat Services 7:30 pm	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Family Shabbat 6:00 PM	31

