

Temple Adath B'nai Israel
P.O. Box 5265
Evansville, Indiana 47716

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(Detail) Judas Maccabeus before the Army of Nicanor (11 Maccabees 15:15-29)



KISLEV/TEVET 5774

The Tabi Times

Date: December 5

Time: 5:30pm!

Party



Join us for a Chanukah Celebration!
Dinner, games, singing and holiday lights!

Dinner of chicken kabob, Greek salad, hummus and pita, jelly donuts and HOMEMADE LATKES!

Adults \$10 each

Children 8 and over \$5 each

Gift to Albion Bacon Fellows for our Chanukah Mitzvah or bring a toy that we will take over!

Call Barbie at 477-1577 for reservations!



Temple Adath B'Nai Israel

2pm—Latke making with Jeffrey Berger and Michele Malitz. Please call Jeffrey if you are interested!

5:30pm—Dedication of the Shavitz Memorial Plaque

5:40—Lighting the Chanukiyah (and we have candles!)

5:45—Dinner

6:15—Fun and celebration!!

MAZEL TOV

Congratulations for a job well done to Gloria Mazo and her able assistants, Michele Malitz and Lynn Senzell, for presenting the role of bread-challah and matzah-in Jewish history at the University of Evansville's Interfaith Bread Festival on November 2. Gloria's challah was delicious and enjoyed by all in attendance as were the breads from other countries and ethnicities. And the matzah was made especially appealing with a topping of freshly made charoset.

The Bread Festival evolved from research of Jennie Ebeling undertaken last year while leading digs in Jezreel, Israel and Jordan. She and husband, Menachem Rogel, talked about Israeli breads and served some they made for the event. The attendees were able to view the documentary Jennie created and produced called "Bread Making in Jordan."

Mazel tov to all of you on an educational-and delicious-program!



TEMPLE ADATH B'NAI ISRAEL

THE TABI TIMES



Religious School Students Practicing Hebrew Calligraphy as a part of the Scholar in Residence Program

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Does anyone in the congregation have an OLD record player they would like to donate to the Archive collection? We have many records and no way to play them.

If you would like to make this donation please call the Temple office. It would be permanently located in the Archive room.

Many of you have prepared food for the Temple for various reasons--Oneg Shabbot, Break Fast, Temple dinners. We would like to remind you to take your dishes home. We have accumulated a number of these items. If you are missing some of your items, please check in the Temple kitchen and take your property home. If the items are not picked up by Dec. 28 they will be disposed of.




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Congregants gather around Scholar in Residence Rabbi Hale

A THANK YOU

To the congregants of TABI:
What a great year of giving! We had our all time high of 92 Thanksgiving baskets. WOW, it fills my heart with pride that we at TABI were able to contribute and give to those families who now will have, and enjoy food for Thanksgiving, which they otherwise would not have had. This is an annual event for many years and is so appreciated by the families in our Evansville community. All of the baskets have labels on them saying that the donation came from TABI. This year we gave to the House of Bread and Peace (3), Albion Bacon Fellows (5), Aurora (44), YWCA (4) and the Food Bank (36).

A big thanks goes to "Scott" at Schnucks on Lynch Road, who puts them together for us and hands them out on the morning of Tuesday, November 26th. He has been my go to person for many years, and if you see him please acknowledge his efforts.

Again I want to thank all of you who gave so generously.

Doris Siegel, Chairman

Yahrzeit Observances

December 1 / 28 Kislev

Sally Anhalt, Jack Goldman, Etta Kaplan, Helen Kaplan, Ralph Kaplan

December 3 / 30 Kislev

Philip Goldstein, Meyer Siegel

December 5 / 02 Tevet

Ruth Goldben, Mortimer Present, Jacob Rechnic

December 6 / 03 Tevet

Dora Lasky

December 7 / 04 Tevet

Goldie & Jacob Simon & David Rosenberg

December 8 / 05 Tevet

August A. Brentano, Rebecca Fishman, Anna Wiener

December 9 / 06 Tevet

Bernice Shapiro

December 10 / 07 Tevet

Irvin Heiman, Isaac Neustadt, Saul Present, Arthur T. Weil

December 11 / 08 Tevet

Frieda Begner

December 12 / 09 Tevet

Sharon Karp, Margaret Sugar Lewis, Adolph Nadelstein

December 13 / 10 Tevet

Gittel Baker, Rebecca Lieberman, Isaac Moskowitz, Joyce Schmitt, Lillian K. Siegel, Sara S. Weil

December 14 / 11 Tevet

Benjamin Bernstein, Sarah Lavine, Joseph Rosenfeld

December 16 / 13 Tevet

Morris Langsam, Leona Lawitts, Dr. Zol Muskovitch

December 17 / 14 Tevet

Herman Berman, Sheva Tillie Fram, Dr. Julian Present

December 18 / 15 Tevet

Herman (Hymie) Levin

December 19 / 16 Tevet

Joel Lasker, Manda Roser, Lee Scholem, Emanuel Herbsman Zendell

December 20 / 17 Tevet

Nathan Lieberman

December 22 / 19 Tevet

Beatrice Kramer

December 23 / 20 Tevet

Harold Brooks, Percy Goldberg, Clarence M. Mann, Joseph Tetzner

December 24 / 21 Tevet

Chesley Tapp Allen, Fannie Hinda Davis

December 25 / 22 Tevet

Samuel Cibull, Gilbert Peal, Jerome Moses Trotter

December 26 / 23 Tevet

Abe Rosenthal, Hymen Slavkin

December 27 / 24 Tevet

Hayim Givon

December 28 / 25 Tevet

Edward J. Shovers

December 29 / 26 Tevet

Solomon Bronstein, Anna Fishman, Mary Sabel

December 30 / 27 Tevet

Ann Stone Michael, Temmie Sacks, Jacob Schamberg

December 31 / 28 Tevet

Fannie Haas, Abe Silver

Birthdays

12/01 Joe Levi	Eugene Fine	Adam Ellenstein
12/02 Gayle Shomer	12/14 Alvrone Sater	12/26 Rebecca Berger
12/03 Rabbi Gary Mazo	12/17 Leslie Ann Guria	12/27 Lisa Seif
12/04 Howard Senzell	12/18 Matthew Jeremy Sarett	12/28 Ashley Sater
12/05 Selma Levi	Jenna Sophia Sarett	Natalie Malitz
Anna Claire Reby	Daniel Simon Paley	Meredith Stone
Saul Justus Cohen	12/19 David Malitz	Menachem Rogel
12/06 Julie Lynn Siegel	Joel Marver	12/29 Steven Kessler
August Katz	Roslyn Marver	Jeff Radov
12/09 Adina Moss	12/20 Mike Guria	Bob Gold
12/10 Dana Renay	12/21 Michael Alan Silver	12/30 Abe Givon
Abbi Ellenstein	12/22 Ben Nathan	Elaine Weiman
Patty Haas	12/23 Steve Cohen	12/30 Illana Winter
12/11 Mark Malitz	Carol Abrams	12/31 Jim Marver
12/12 Sandra Downing	12/25 Sy Haas	

Birthdays Over 90 Years

Roslyn Marver, 12/19/17, 96 Ben Nathan, 12/22/22, 91

Anniversaries

12/26 Andrew & Phyllis Present Dr. Michael & Nancy Drake	12/28 Jonathan & Patricia Weinzapfel	12/29 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Pearson
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Contributions

Memorial Fund

Joan Salk in memory of Tillie Wolfson (Silver)

Library Fund

Julie and Steve Karp in memory of Irving Levin

Susan & Alan Shovers in honor of Lenard Pearson's birthday (Silver)

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Troffkin (Ruby, Ruby)

General Fund

Dolores Weiss Toder in becoming reacquainted with Jean Danenberg Berger (Silver)

Marilyn Peachin in memory of Minnie Opie

Ed Lieberman in memory of Dr. Heiman G. Lieberman (Silver)

Fred Levin in memory of Irving

Levin (Gold)

Phyllis Weinstein in honor of Judy Rattner's 90th birthday with love (Gold)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Ron & Alvrone Sater in memory of Pauline Berman (Ruby)

Education Fund

Jon & Martha Goldman in memory of Pauline Berman (Silver)

From the Rabbi

Gary A Mazo

By the time you read this article, we will be already in the midst of celebrating Chanukah. For the first time, in a long time – possibly ever, Chanukah falls on Thanksgiving and will be over after the first week of this month. Looking back in history, according to one source, the last time this would have happened is 1861. However, since President Lincoln only formally established Thanksgiving in 1863 this is the first time this overlap has occurred. I did find one other source that said it occurred in 1888. Whichever is correct, one thing is clear – this is very rare!

Chanukah, the festival of lights and the commemoration of Jewish perseverance has become so misunderstood not only by our non Jewish neighbors – but also by many in the Jewish community. Chanukah has that unique quality of being a popular Jewish holiday even among the non-affiliated as well as the tenuously affiliated Jews. It is ironic and frustrating to those of us steeped in the Jewish community that contained within the message of Chanukah is the warning to strengthen one's affiliation and become more Jewishly connected.

History tells us that Alexander the Great was kind to the Jews. Alexander the Great was a world conqueror who brought his nation to the pinnacle of its power and dominion. He revered the Jewish sages of his time, and their wisdom. He ruled beneficently over the Jews for all of his days. In Alexander's time, the intelligentsia of Greece appreciated the Torah, and even allowed the Jews their pride in being its chosen followers. That only lasted during Alexander's lifetime. His successors did not view Jewish pride in the same way. To them it was a form of rebellion. Even though the Jews were physical subjects of their kingdom, their attitudes were noticeably different.

After Alexander died, Athens remained the center of the culture of the Greeks, but the dominion shifted to the Syrian Greek rulers. They put great pressure on the Jews to conform, and indeed many did. The Greeks blamed the Torah for preventing the vast

majority of Jews from conforming, and targeted Torah observance. Laws were made outlawing Sabbath Observance, Circumcision, and Rosh Chodesh, the designation of the beginning of the new lunar month. The Greeks identified these three commandments as forces, which made the Jews unique, and kept them from conforming. Why were these three in particular the ones the Greeks chose?

As far as Shabbat was concerned, Sabbath observance is a statement that there is a Creator Who rested on the seventh day from God's creative activity. By resting on The Sabbath we show our belief in God's existence, and our subjugation to God's will. Clearly, this was a threat to the culture and belief structure of the Greek empire.

Circumcision is a stamp on the flesh. It states that the body and not just the soul are meant to work toward spiritual goals. This did not sit well with the Greeks who believed that the body rules in its world, and the soul in its world.

The Jewish calendar in those days was verbally established each month by the Jewish Sages through the first sightings of the waxing moon. All of the Jewish Festivals and the observances tied to them depend on the beginning of the months being established. Jewish life is inexorably tied in with the correct observance of the Festivals in their proper time.

Once aspect of the Chanukah story that we too often forget is that it was the first recorded Jewish civil war – as well as a war against the Greek empire. At first the Greeks tried to influence the more stubborn portion of the Jews through their brothers who had already taken on the new way of life. When they saw they were failing, they used force. Many continued to perform commandments in hiding. Perhaps the greatest catalyst for the Maccabees entrance into battle came from many of the brave Jewish women who actually shamed their husbands into battle. Woman went out of hiding and publicly

circumcised their children at the expense of their lives. Their message to their husbands was "go out and fight, for if you continue to hide and even observe Torah clandestinely, soon you'll have no wives and children, and you'll all perish. We will not hide, but we will keep our holy commandments publicly. If you want to save us, go out and fight. May God be with you!" That is when Mattityahu and his sons established armed forces, and they fought bitter and bloody battles. In the end, the weak and the few prevailed over the strong and the many.

Our holidays are not meant to be empty memorials of historical events. Our attitude is that we are living in the days that the miracles happened, albeit many years hence. We are also fighting the battle against prevailing influences, and we are trying to maintain our idealism in the face of new ideas and challenges to our faith and traditions, which we are constantly exposed to. The Greeks had conquered stronger nations before turning their attention to the Jews. They rose to the highest heights only to be humbled by a nation militarily inferior to them. They sought to extinguish the light of Torah, and not only did they fail, but through them a new holiday was established. Chanukah commemorates our eternal hold to Torah.

We must remember that this was a battle against assimilation. We must not try to assimilate this holiday into the holiday season. It stands on its own. The message of Chanukah is one against Jewish assimilation and lack of Jewish identification. Hopefully, the yearly repetition of the story motivates us towards a stronger Jewish identity for us as well as for our children.

I wish you a happy and joyous finale to Chanukah – please join us on Thursday, December 5th for a congregational celebration of the festival of lights.

B'shalom,

Gary Mazo, Rabbi

New in the Library

ADULT FICTION:

Mack, Karen and Jennifer Kaufman. Freud's Mistress. A page-turning novel inspired by the true-life love affair between Sigmund Freud and his sister-in-law. The authors skillfully mix fact and fiction, rounding out details of the famous analyst's academic work with depictions of his home life and Viennese society. A thrilling story of seduction, betrayal, and loss.

ADULT NON-FICTION:

Halevi, Yossi Klein. Like Dreamers: The Story of the Israeli Paratroopers Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation. Following the lives of seven young members from the 55th Paratroopers Reserve Brigade, the unit responsible for restoring Jewish sovereignty to Jerusalem, Halevi reveals how this band of brothers played pivotal roles in shaping Israel's destiny long after their historic victory. While they worked together to reunite their country in 1967, these men harbored drastically different visions for Israel's future.

Unscrolled: 54 Writers & Artists Wrestle with the Torah

Eclectic and clever group of contributors create an often irreverent, but always insight-

ful, treatment of each of the 54 portions of the Torah. Each section is preceded by a brief, conversational, and accessible synopsis of the text.

KIDS/TEENS:

Brown, Barbara and Stacy Schuett. Hanukkah in Alaska. A young girl lives in Alaska, where a moose might be right around the corner. In fact, there's one in the girl's backyard, and she is not happy. Even Hanukkah hasn't cheered her, because that moose seems determined to tear down her swing. Not until her father takes her out to look at the amazing northern lights does she figure out just what kind of food will take the moose's attention away from the swing—latkes! Pre-school-Grade 3.

Freedman, Paula. My Basmati Bat Mitzvah. This is another new middle school novel about a young teen with one Jewish and one Indian parent. "Tara's inquisitiveness, openness, and determination to chart her own path stand out in this warm story of family, faith and the ways people are unique yet intertwined," says Publisher's Weekly.

Leyson, Leon. Boy on the Wooden Box. Even in the darkest of times, there is room

for strength and bravery. A remarkable memoir from Leon Leyson, one of the youngest children (age 10) on Oskar Schindler's list to survive the Holocaust. Grades 7 and up.

Wohl, Lauren. The Eighth Menorah. Hanukkah is a few weeks away, and Sam can't wait to celebrate with his family. At Sunday school, everyone in his class is busy making clay menorahs to give as Hanukkah gifts! Sam likes how his menorah is turning out, but he's worried—his family already has seven menorahs! Preschool-Grade 2.

DVD:

A Tickle in the Heart. This is a totally charming movie about the Epstein brothers, Max, Julie, and Willie, the King of the Klezmers. Listen to their music played joyously throughout the documentary and you'll be dancing around the room. Very well done.

Sue Barancik

In the Classroom

There have been lots of changes in the religious school over the past several months. There is new leadership, new hours, and new curriculum. Our Tots class has officially become the Pre-School class. Our oldest class has officially become the Bar and Bat Mitzvah class. You would not believe how much these kids have grown!

One of the most exciting changes has been the addition of parents to the Bar and Bat Mitzvah class. Parents join their students in class every other week. It is great to see parents and kids learning together. It is my hope that conversations that begin in class continue beyond the Temple. We as a staff do our best to educate kids about Judaism,

but the most important learning happens at home.

For parents whose children are not yet at the Bar and Bat Mitzvah age, there is plenty of opportunity to be involved and engaged with your child's class. I encourage you to think about what skills or talents you might be able to share with the religious school. Maybe you have a story to share about a favorite holiday memory, or a meaningful object of Judaica that you could teach the kids about. The more people we have involved in the school the richer experience it is for the kids. And that does not just pertain to parents. Aunts, Uncles, Grandmas, or Grandpas, all are welcome. And if you are not related to a

student we will adopt you for the day!

We are looking ahead to many social activities that will allow the kids to put their learning into practice while making memories that will become an important part of their Jewish identities. We will be having holiday parties and Shabbat dinners, and we will need volunteers! Please contact me if you are interested in helping, or have any comments or questions about the school.

Jessica Pajdo

Education Coordinator

Pajdo@sbcglobal.net

Jewish Community Council

Sonnie Cibull

The JCC Federation Campaign of the United Jewish Communities is at the heart of a sacred Jewish trust to build, strengthen, and care for our community around the world. At home, in Israel, and in countries around the world, no gift touches more lives.

You connect to tzedakah, tikkun olam, and k'lal Yisrael—traditional Jewish values that depend on each and every one of us to flourish. You connect to a community at the heart of a partnership with Israel. A partnership made even more

powerful when one hand reaches beyond its differences to another, and together they plant the seeds of a global Jewish beginning.

Connect to a Jewish federation and you join a community that assures that every voice will be heard. Your connection to this vast group assures a strong network of social services that stretches from our own comfortable neighborhoods in Indiana, to around the world. As a group, we support the weak, feed the hungry and nourish the spirit of every Jew no matter where they may

live. You connect to the men, women and children who influence change, raise funds, and offer hope to all people.

Do not waste this wonderful opportunity we have--support the Jewish Community Council of Evansville with your heart and with your donation. You will be truly blessed.

JCC
Box 2056
Evansville, IN
47715

Sayings from the B'nai B'rith Lodge Phil Siegel

At our recent Lodge Meeting our President, Dr. Michael Sontz, opened the meeting by saying that we should all "give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks." Discussion followed with comments from members, such as "we are grateful and fortunate that Rabbi Mazo chose TABI and that we are thankful for his wife, Gloria; that "Josh Riedford and his Shabbot Rocks band, is his favorite Friday night Service and that we are thankful and grateful for Chaplain Tamara Giesman at the University of Evansville who sponsored an Interfaith Worship Service, at which time Rabbi Mazo participated.

The Lodge is grateful and thankful for Nathan Sabel and David Sabel, formerly Evansville residents and now living in Beverly Hills, California, for their thoughtful and generous contribution to the Teddy Bear project, for Steve Ayers, who for years has been responsible for his landscaping at the Temple, for the donation from John P. Buck and from Kelley Coures in appreciation of Rabbi Mazo who conducted his mother's funeral.

The Lodge received from the children and staff of Evansville Arc Child Life Center a card saying "Thank you BEARY much for donating the teddy bears to our center.

The children were excited to take them home and love on them". A note was also received from United Caring Services by Cindy Klassy, a member of its Board of Directors, "that when kids come into the Day Shelter it can be very scary. Giving them a teddy bear has brought many a smile" The Evansville Jewish Community cares about other people, regardless of faith and race. Please mail your contribution to:

Philip H. Siegel
100 N. W. First Street, #202
Evansville, Indiana 47708

The Best Medicine

It was a terrible night, blowing cold and rain in a most frightful manner. The streets were deserted and the local baker was just about to close up shop when Bernie slipped through the door. He carried an umbrella, blown inside out, and was bundled in two sweaters and a thick coat. But even so he still looked wet and bedraggled.

As Bernie unwound his scarf he said to the baker, "May I have two bagels to go, please?"

The baker said in astonishment, "Two bagels? Nothing more?"

"That's right," answered Bernie, "One for me and one for Bernice."

"Bernice is your wife?" asked the baker.

"What do you think," snapped Bernie, "my mother would send me out on a night like this?"

Irving was just coming out of anesthesia after a series of tests in the hospital, and his wife, Kitty, was sitting at his bedside. His eyes fluttered open, and he murmured, "You're beautiful." Flattered, Kitty continued her vigil while he drifted back to sleep. Later he woke up and said, "You're cute."

"What happened to 'beautiful'?" Kitty asked Irwin.

"The drugs are wearing off," he replied.

My Spiel

Too little is made of the numerous hours, days and years contributed in personal time by our TABI members for the benefit of the congregation. From our kitchen to our library and gift shop. From the TABI office and our class rooms to our bulletin and web site. And, especially service by our Board of Trustees and TABI officers. Our dedicated members, your friends, give freely of their time and energy.

Our board, in particular, has the difficult and sometimes contentious job of responsibly managing Temple affairs. Prioritizing and allocating the expenditures of your hard earned and hard spent dollars is done with deliberate and thoughtful care.

Everyone is working to achieve the same thing: the sustainability of TABI and Jewish identity through ritual, education, entertainment and fellowship.

I want to personally thank Doris Siegel, Sonnie Cibull, Helen Anne Siegel and Joy Fine for their long association and hard work on the Kitchen Committee. We greatly appreciate your many years of service.

Our resurgence of weekly activity presents many opportunities for your involvement at TABI through volunteerism. Your help is welcome in rebuilding our social fabric through sisterhood and brotherhood, programming, social

Bob Goldman

action, membership development, and hospitality. You may also help maintain our TABI web site with Ed Scharf, our bulletin with Andy Goldman, our in-house technology, our kitchen, house and grounds. Extra hands and extra eyes are always useful. Your time invested in TABI is both self rewarding and self determined.

I thank all of you who serve your congregation. I know you are working to keep TABI relevant, solvent and sustainable.

In The Gift Shop

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our clients for their continued support for the Temple Gift Shop. Any success we have is due to you. We will continue to bring a bit of Judaica into your homes.

We still have lots of really special Chanukah materials on hand--decorations, cookie cutters, dreidels and menorahs. For the month of

December they will be 20% off. Now would be a perfect time to come in and purchase a desired item. You cannot beat these prices.

Do not think of the Gift Shop for Chanukah alone. Our merchandise is suitable for Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, birthdays anniversaries --any gift giving opportunity. Patronize the shop--we are fortunate that it exists. If we want to

keep the option of having the shop we must have the full support of the congregation. Check us out--you will be pleased.

Our hours are

Sunday from 10-12 AM
Tuesdays from 8:30 -10 AM

As always, appointments are available on request. All it takes is a phone call to the Temple office.

Sonnie Cibull