

The Clarion



Temple B'nai Emet

1975 Potrero Grande Drive Unit E
Monterey Park, California 91755

(626) 545-2053

Website: <https://templebnaimet.org>

Tishrei-Cheshvan 5787 Spiritual Leader Michael Feldman

October 2026

FROM OUR SPIRITUAL LEADER

Dear TBE Family,

I spent a good deal of my life without prayer. I resisted it. I was bored with it. In many ways, I believe I resented it. It took both early religious training and some rather extraordinary, often painful, events, including the death of my father, to open my eyes to the possibility of what prayer could do for me. And even then, the process was far from easy.

Flashforward to today. I write this shortly after Rosh Hashanah, and I feel truly grateful for the way our community (including both familiar and new faces) has come together. That togetherness includes some rather emotional prayers on the High Holidays. Hopefully this trend continues by the time you receive the newsletter. When you are first able to read this, it is likely that we are finishing or just finished our Sukkot and Simchat Torah in joyous fashion.

But what about after that? I can think of at least two common reactions to the big, prayer-filled holiday month. One is something along the lines of: “That was *a lot*. I think I’m good for a while, maybe another year...” The other is something more like: “That was *a lot*. If I come back again soon, maybe I can experience a bit of that again...”

It’s obvious which of those reactions I hope you’ll have. And many of us have a little of both reactions. But if you just can’t normally bring yourself to prayer or other aspects of ritual life, I understand. That used to be me.

I try to make the experience as resonant as I can, and there are many of you that lift our services with your energy or contributions. But, sometimes, prayer just doesn’t seem to “work” for us. And even those of us that find benefit from it typically wonder whether we are getting as much from it as we ought to. Then again, what does it really mean for prayer to “work”? What’s the real point of it anyway?

This brings me to one of my early *Clarion* articles last summer. I highlighted—and still heavily believe in—the ability of our community to come together and support each other through our struggles over health issues, loss, or worry about world events. And to celebrate each other’s successes as well. This

FROM OUR SPIRITUAL LEADER CONT....

alone can easily make regular service attendance worth it, even without knowing the purpose of each of the prayers.

But as I further explained in that article, there is so much more that prayer can do, whether or not God “answers” prayer. “The act of prayer ... has enormous potential for our mental and spiritual health, even practical direction for our daily tasks...” This is all the truer if prayer is informed by a serious attempt at understanding.

And it is high time I make that a priority. Together, we have had a wonderful Intro to Judaism class and a Hebrew class taught by Rabbi Malka (that we are likely to be able to continue after the holidays!). Now, I would like to devote my own teachings primarily to the meanings of the prayers. This has been a special pursuit of mine for quite some time. Not just translation, but a way to appreciate what each prayer is designed to help us understand, connect to, yearn for, and achieve. More than that, I want to explore what each prayer can mean to each of us, whether or not that is connected to traditional meaning. We can pray together and create a safe discussion space where we can be vulnerable enough to share what we might pray for.

I often give a little mention of what prayers are about during services. And many of you attended a special session on prayer that I added to the Intro classes. I hope I have helped some of us find more meaning in the prayers. But there is so much more that we can learn. Our liturgy is beautifully rich and interconnected. And one cannot get a full appreciation in snippets.

I will kick off this learning with a special sermon on the purposes of prayer to be delivered over lunch on the Shabbat of October 24, 2026. After that, we will take the time to look deeply at the prayers as a community and as individuals. As we do so, we might adjust the way that we pray, including changes to our format based on a combination of tradition and what we decide is most important as a community. And I fully intend to help each willing congregant to develop an individual prayer routine, no matter the life circumstance or previous knowledge. In our Movement, tradition plays a substantial role, but so does personal need. No two people connect with any particular liturgical piece the same way.

Even if you don't normally come to services, please give that sermon a shot. In person is best, but we will make sure to keep the Zoom connection on through lunch. *Any* time spent in synagogue, or investment made in a space of prayer, can benefit enormously from a good faith attempt at knowing what our liturgy developed over literal millennia can mean.

After praying regularly for many years, I realized I had little guidance, in any Jewish denomination, as to the depth of Jewish prayer. So, I undertook many years of prayer study. And I want you to have at least some of the guidance I wish I had to begin with, whatever your journey.

I will share more of my personal story, as well as a whole lot more about what prayer can do, in that upcoming sermon. In the meantime, let's keep the faith together.

With love and hope,

Michael Feldman

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Praise Hashem,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and meaningful **Rosh Hashanah**. We were truly blessed to celebrate together during these inspiring days, and I pray that your holidays were filled with joy and blessings.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended our services, whether in person or via Zoom. Thank you as well to all those who made pledges, donated, and purchased tickets for the High Holy Days. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps make our congregation stronger.

A special thank you to **Elvia Aespuro** for providing the food for Rosh Hashanah. I would also like to thank **Elvia Aespuro** and **Judith Perez** for their help with setting up, serving, and cleaning up after the meals. In addition, I want to recognize **Joel, Joseph, and Benjamin Perez** for helping prepare for our lunches. Your willingness to serve is a tremendous help and is greatly appreciated. Also, thank you **Joel, Joseph and Benjamin Perez** for your countless hours building and decorating our Sukkah for us to enjoy.

As we recently reflected on the events of September 11, 2001, I learned that the attacks occurred during the time of Rosh Hashanah that year. Now, twenty-five years later, the anniversary once again falls on Rosh Hashanah. It is a reminder that we are always learning and growing in our understanding of history and faith.

May **Adonai** bless this country, watch over us, and grant peace, protection, and strength to all.

Ricardo Aespuro

☆☆

TEMPLE B'NAI EMET TRIBUTE FUND....

Send a thoughtful card to a friend or relative for all occasions.

ALL contributions further the support of our Temple. Tributes are **\$3.00**. WE NEED AND WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT.... Call the Temple office **(626) 545-2053**

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Janis Kramer – From Judi Tefft

CONDOLENCES TO:

Mahalia Siegel Stahl – on the loss of your beloved Husband and Father Matt. From Roslyn, LesLee, Amanda and Ian.

Mr. Alex Shipievker – on the loss of his beloved Wife Emma. From The Temple B'nai Emet Board, Janis and David Kramer.

Mr. Steve Bordy – on the loss of his beloved Wife Betty. From Janis and David Kramer.

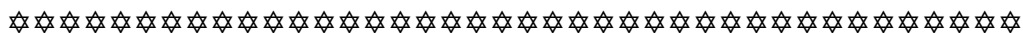
The Esquenazi Family – on the loss of their beloved Wife, Mother and Grandmother Esther. From The Temple B'nai Emet Board, Janis and David Kramer

☆☆

**HIGH HOLY DAYS
PRE-PLEDGES 2026**

Our sincere appreciation to those who responded so generously to our appeals to help keep our Temple going. A special thank you to those who did a pre-pledge. Some of our contributors made more than one pledge however their names are only mentioned once. We are very grateful for your generosity. Also, at this time we wish to thank everyone who sent in their donation.

Howard and Nikki Applebaum, Linda and Laurence Bear, Rachel Wu, Louie and Bea Danoff, David & Janis Kramer, Janet Karter, Jack and Rhonda Baron, Robyn Rakov, Jack and Susan Selcer, Gail Feuerstein, Judi Tefft, Sarah Lerner, Sara Loaiza and Ara Najarian, Wesley Markenson, Susan Spitzer, Sandy Olesen, The Esquenazi Family, Todd and Barbara Bolinger, David Weiss.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2026 – 5787**

L' Shana Tova
David and Alison Gostlin
Happy New Year
Howard and Nikki Applebaum
L' Shana Tova
George and Luba Gelmis
L' Shana Tova
Sandy Olesen
Happy New Year
Gail Feuerstein
L' Shana Tova
Jack and Susan Selcer
L' Shana Tova
Todd and Barbara, Matt and Amanda Bolinger
L' Shana Tova
Linda and Laurence Bear
Yehezkel and Greenfield Families
Prayers for Peace and Health For
All Mankind
Sandra Greene Taradash

Judi Tefft

CONTRIBUTIONS

YORZEITS

Mr. and Mrs. George Gelmis
In memory of Yakov Gelmis
Sarah Lerner
In memory of Norman B. Lerner
Sandra Padgett
In memory of Murry Porges
Mrs. Marion Barsky
In memory of John Barsky
and Stanley Stone
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wolinsky
In memory of Esther Wolinsky
Mrs. Sandy Olesen
In memory of Aaron Frolove
Mr. and Mrs. David Gostlin
In memory of Aaron Frolove
Elyse Eiser
In memory of Sarah Eiser
Margot Eiser
In memory of Sarah Eiser
Elyse Eiser
In memory of Gertrude Frank
Margot Eiser
In memory of Gertrude Eiser
Mr. and Mrs. David Gostlin
In memory of Henry Tobin
Mrs. Sandy Olesen
In memory of Henry Tobin
Mr. Marc Maretsky
In memory of Regina Maretsky
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Levinson
In memory of Alfrieda Shinbane
Mr. Nathan Esquenazi and Family
In memory of Victoria Esquenazi
and Mordechai Esquenazi

GENERAL FUND

Elyse Eiser
In memory of Charlotte Eiser
and Irving J. Frank
Mr. Joel Blass
In memory of Sam Blass
Mrs. Nina Barsky
In memory of John Barsky
Mr. Charles Adelman
In memory of Sylvia Goldstein

YORZEITS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND

Freema Nep	Oct. 2-3
Peter Boyarsky	Oct. 3-4
Harold A. Davis	Oct. 3-4
Jack Maid	Oct. 3-4
Mildred Nerenberg	Oct. 3-4
Arthur Peale	Oct. 3-4
Nat Shapiro	Oct. 3-4
Ruth Silverman	Oct. 3-4
Alice Smith	Oct. 3-4
Howard Walshok	Oct. 3-4
Eillen Benjamin	Oct. 4-5
Marilynn Nelson Genovese	Oct. 4-5
William Olitzky	Oct. 4-5
Barney Prussman	Oct. 4-5
Ruth Savin	Oct. 4-5
Hyman Shulman	Oct. 4-5
Kenneth "Larry" Cohen	Oct. 5-6
Louis Robert Cohen	Oct. 5-6
Albert Fonstein	Oct. 5-6
Beatrice Hahn	Oct. 5-6
Faye Rose Horton	Oct. 5-6
Ruchel Pazornik	Oct. 5-6
Abraham Solomon Garber	Oct. 6-7
Sarah Hellman	Oct. 6-7
Leon Kaplan	Oct. 6-7
Annie Leibl	Oct. 6-7
Edith Babbush	Oct. 7-8
Pearl Cutter	Oct. 7-8
Tillie Jankins	Oct. 7-8
Gladys Rosen	Oct. 7-8
Howard Stein	Oct. 7-8
Ada Caine	Oct. 8-9
Beckie Kinsbursky	Oct. 8-9
Candace Lichtbach	Oct. 8-9
Robin Rosen	Oct. 8-9
Abraham Umansky	Oct. 8-9
Edith Wolen	Oct. 8-9

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

Edythe Applebaum	Oct. 9-10
Samuel Aznoff	Oct. 9-10
Anna Blauner	Oct. 9-10
Ida Brownstein	Oct. 9-10
Julius Chernicoff	Oct. 9-10
Samuel B. Harris	Oct. 9-10
Marlene Helen Kelman	Oct. 9-10
Nathan Snyder	Oct. 9-10
Celia Weiner	Oct. 9-10
Hannah Wiener	Oct. 9-10

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH CONT.

Evelyn Bergman	Oct. 10-11
Riva Cofsky	Oct. 10-11
Annie Drexler	Oct. 10-11
Lea Fanarof	Oct. 10-11
Meyer Glick	Oct. 10-11
Golda Jodosh	Oct. 10-11
Johnny Katz	Oct. 10-11
Ellsworth Martz	Oct. 10-11
Marcus Rosenthal	Oct. 10-11
Moshe Solowitz	Oct. 10-11
Hy Spitz	Oct. 10-11
Mervin Steinberg	Oct. 10-11
Lawrence R. Gordon	Oct. 11-12
Esther Claman	Oct. 11-12
Rose Gottesman	Oct. 11-12
Bluma Sorrell	Oct. 11-12
Anna Weingart	Oct. 11-12
David Wilner	Oct. 11-12
Bernard Barsky	Oct. 12-13
Diamante Behar	Oct. 12-13
Frime Behar	Oct. 12-13
Gertrude Bromberg	Oct. 12-13
Alicia J. Fenton	Oct. 12-13
Paul Unger	Oct. 12-13
Esther Allen	Oct. 13-14
Abraham "Abe" Baron	Oct. 13-14
Bella Brand	Oct. 13-14
Belle Ermann	Oct. 13-14
Harry Finegood	Oct. 13-14
Ernst Goldstein	Oct. 13-14
Irwin Rosoff	Oct. 13-14
Ida Schwartz	Oct. 13-14
Harry Shapiro	Oct. 13-14
Annie Ziff	Oct. 13-14
Aron Drutz	Oct. 14-15
Bernice Goldstein	Oct. 14-15
Bella Krause	Oct. 14-15
Herman Marcus	Oct. 14-15
Elizabeth Newman	Oct. 14-15
Tillie Oberstein	Oct. 14-15
Meyer Paskil	Oct. 14-15
Beverlee Peck	Oct. 14-15
Rodell "Randy" Spitzer	Oct. 14-15
Charles M. Arak	Oct. 15-16
Gitel Marcus	Oct. 15-16
Edith Mittleman	Oct. 15-16

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

Sam Henry Fenig	Oct. 16-17
Milton Glabman	Oct. 16-17
Samuel Golditch	Oct. 16-17
Norman Kirschenbaum	Oct. 16-17
Samuel Loober	Oct. 16-17
Ray Mitzman	Oct. 16-17
Albert Renkin	Oct. 16-17
Jeanette Rubenstein	Oct. 16-17
Dora Schwartz	Oct. 16-17
Sylvia Berner	Oct. 17-18
Robert (Bob) Gilderman	Oct. 17-18
Martha Greene	Oct. 17-18
Marvin Greene	Oct. 17-18
Freda Resnick	Oct. 17-18
Sigmund Shonholtz	Oct. 17-18
John Brown	Oct. 18-19
Hyman Danoff	Oct. 18-19
Ida A. Klein	Oct. 18-19
Fannie Resnikoff	Oct. 18-19
Herman Schwab	Oct. 18-19
Arthur Sieroty	Oct. 18-19
Andrew Smith	Oct. 18-19
Samuel Zinman	Oct. 18-19
Maurice Gluskoter	Oct. 19-20
Frieda Moldaver	Oct. 19-20
Meyer Stone	Oct. 19-20
Harry Zinman	Oct. 19-20
Anna Bukshpan	Oct. 20-21
Erna Fischbaum	Oct. 20-21
Jay J. Ginsburg	Oct. 20-21
Daisy Meisner	Oct. 20-21
Bertha Owett	Oct. 20-21
Abraham Robbins	Oct. 20-21
Lillian Rock	Oct. 20-21
Oscar Smith	Oct. 20-21
Ruth Treuhofit Swartz	Oct. 20-21
Bernard Teller	Oct. 20-21
Ann Zimmerman	Oct. 20-21
Sally Goldstein	Oct. 21-22
Esther Harris	Oct. 21-22
Ricah Hazan	Oct. 21-22
Jennie Markowitz	Oct. 21-22
Irving Meckler	Oct. 21-22
Annette P. Spielman	Oct. 21-22
Jean Black	Oct. 22-23
Faye Butler	Oct. 22-23
Mina Goldgewicht	Oct. 22-23
Murray Gradman	Oct. 22-23

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

Jack Alan	Oct. 23-24
Helen Asher	Oct. 23-24
Ann Avirom	Oct. 23-24
Max Cohen	Oct. 23-24

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD CONT.

Marvin Friedman	Oct. 23-24
Ida Waldman	Oct. 23-24
Sigmund Whitman	Oct. 23-24
Alberto Benuzillo	Oct. 24-25
Getrude Gilston	Oct. 24-25
Pesach Goltz	Oct. 24-25
Nathan Hellman	Oct. 24-25
Sam Levine	Oct. 24-25
Abraham Marson	Oct. 24-25
Samuel Munitz	Oct. 24-25
Annie Silbert	Oct. 24-25
Gussie Steinberg	Oct. 24-25
Nathan Toibin	Oct. 24-25
Sarah Buchman	Oct. 25-26
Darlene Rubin	Oct. 25-26
Eva Zimberg	Oct. 25-26
Adele Gurnick	Oct. 26-27
Mildred Pearl Jacobs	Oct. 26-27
Fannie Miller	Oct. 26-27
Rose Weiser	Oct. 26-27
Avraham Finegood	Oct. 27-28
Paul Meskin	Oct. 27-28
Joseph Shapiro	Oct. 27-28
Beckie Shertzer	Oct. 27-28
Joseph Sloane	Oct. 28-29
Herman Sunshine	Oct. 28-29
Mathilda Lambert Brewer	Oct. 29-30
Rebecca Greengood	Oct. 29-30
Harriet Schwartz	Oct. 29-30
Sara Horberg	Oct. 29-30
Belle Shrager	Oct. 29-30

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

Esther Gordon Greenfield	Oct. 30-31
Benjamin Raif	Oct. 30-31
Gloria Rakov	Oct. 30-31
Emanuel Shinerock	Oct. 30-31
Blanche De Merit	Oct. 31-Nov. 1
Mollie Hess	Oct. 31-Nov. 1
Sam Horberg	Oct. 31-Nov. 1
Saul Nortel	Oct. 30-Nov. 1
Max Satin	Oct. 30-Nov. 1
Gracia Alhadeff Shahon	Oct. 30-Nov. 1
Paul Berg	Nov. 1-2
Morris Black	Nov. 1-2
Dora Nelson	Nov. 1-2
Carl Savin	Nov. 1-2
Irving Siegel	Nov. 1-2
Bernard Balonick	Nov. 2-3
Carl Weiser	Nov. 2-3
Dr. Theodore Stein	Nov. 3-4
Dr. Yitzhak Kister	Nov. 4-5
Jefferey Madnick	Nov. 4-5
Moises Wenger	Nov. 5-6

THANK YOU WITH DONATION:

We want to express our deepest appreciation to our synagogue community for your kindness and support following the loss of my mother, Esther Esquenazi. Thank you for attending her funeral, for your comforting condolence messages, and for the meaningful contribution made to the congregation in her honor.

Your thoughtfulness has brought great comfort to my family during this time of mourning.

The Esquenazi Family

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Memoriam

Esther Esquenazi

(Longtime TBE Member)

*May her family and friends know of no further sorrow
and may they find consolation
in their hour of grief.*

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sandy Olesen	Oct. 7 th
Rachel Wu	Oct. 10 th
Gary Cohen	Oct. 11 th
Ricardo Aespuro	Oct. 26 th



Linda & Laurence Bear	Oct. 1 st
Julie & Steve Dickman	Oct. 21 st
Sybil Flom & Michael Blank	Oct. 22 nd



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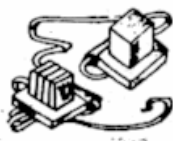
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PLEASE EXPEDITE

Spiritual Leader.....Michael Feldman
President..... Ricardo Aespuro
Office Administrator..... Valerie Cook

Schedule of Services



Saturday morning services continue to be conducted through **ZOOM** and **IN PERSON** starting at **9:30 am**. If you would like to join services via **ZOOM**, contact the Temple office **(626) 545-2053** and give Val your email address. You will then receive the **LINK** to join services.

Candle Lighting Time

"Beautify the Sabbath and
Your Home"



October 2.....	6:17
October 9.....	6:08
October 16.....	5:59
October 23.....	5:51
October 30.....	5:43