

# Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for 120 years

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# The Rising Star

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Richard  
Dimentstein

## Editor's Notes

I was motivated to share the above picture after reading Suzan Cohen's article on p. 2 ("Wisdom from Afar"). In my ten years of Sunday school, where ritual was very much a part of the curriculum, *Tu B'Av* was never mentioned – not even once. However, my *B'nai B'rith* calendar displays it proudly.

On Friday, 26 June 2026, Temple Beth Elohim held its Annual Membership Meeting. The President reviewed the events of the year; the Treasurer advised us of the financial condition of the Temple and the major expenses before us; our Vice President reported on new memberships and proudly informed us that we now total 53; our Building Committee informed us of the repairs that have been made and the progress of the installation of our security doors; the Cemetery Committee reported on the completion of the wall and the ironwork and the projects that need to be done; our Financial Adviser informed us that the fundraising appeals are being met

and we are reaching our goal. The progress has been very good as we complete each task, but there is still more to be done. We know that there were many challenges that had to be met and there are more that we will have to face. We are ready to do it.

The last item on the agenda was the election results:  
President - ARIANE LIEBERMAN  
Vice President – JOY BIRNBAUM  
Treasurer – MICHELE GERSHMAN BENNETT  
Secretary – TISH RICHTER

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## Wisdom From Afar....



*Tisha B'Av* (Hebrew: תשעה באב or ט' באב, "the Ninth of Av") is an annual fast day in Judaism, named for the ninth day (*Tisha*) of the month of *Av* in the Hebrew calendar. It is observed on 22/23 July on the secular calendar. The fast commemorates the destruction of both the First Temple and Second Temple in Jerusalem, which occurred about 655 years apart, but on the same Hebrew calendar date. But other calamities have also befallen the Jewish on or near this date, including the expulsion of all Jews from

England in 1290 and the start of World War I. *Tisha B'Av* also has become a day to commemorate many other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people, including the Crusades, the pogroms, and the Holocaust. In other words, it has become known as a day of really bad luck for Jews. The day is marked by mourning practices, including fasting and refraining from work, and reading the Book of Lamentations, which expresses grief over the Temple's destruction.

Because the destruction of the ancient Temples is not assigned a central religious role within many progressive (non-Orthodox) denominations of Judaism, many Reform temples do not observe *Tisha B'Av*. Some Reform Jews who do observe *Tisha B'Av* frame their observance through the lens of social justice or progressive Zionism.

On a much lighter note, *Tu B'Av*, the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of *Av* (29 July) is known as the Jewish Day of Love. It is a minor Jewish holiday with roots in the Second Temple period. It is associated with the grape harvest and matchmaking, when unmarried women of Jerusalem dressed in white and danced in the vineyards, inviting

young men to choose a spouse. *Tu B'Av* was almost unnoticed in the Jewish calendar for many centuries, but it has been rejuvenated in recent decades, especially in the modern state of Israel. In its modern incarnation it somewhat resembles Valentine's Day in English-speaking countries.

It should be noted that *Tu B'Av* begins on the night between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the Hebrew month, since this is the night of a full moon in our lunar calendar. Linking the night of a full moon with romance, love, and fertility is not uncommon in ancient cultures.

In recent decades, Israeli civil culture promotes festivals of singing and dancing on the night of *Tu B'Av*. It has no formal legal status as a holiday (it is a regular workday), nor has the Israeli rabbinate initiated any addition to the liturgy or called for the introduction of any ancient religious practices. The Cultural gap between Israeli secular society and the Orthodox rabbinate makes it unlikely that these two will find a common denominator in the celebration of this ancient/modern holiday in the foreseeable future.

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Dear God, I come before you, lifting the United States of America. I pray for unity among its people, that love may bridge the divides, and that grace may guide our interactions. Grant wisdom and discernment to our leaders, so that they may govern with integrity and seek the well-being of all. May Your peace reign in our land, and may Your purposes prevail. In Your mercy, heal our nation, restore hope, and let righteousness and justice flow like a mighty river. Amen.

## Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

**President:** Ariane Lieberman ([rundoc13@gmail.com](mailto:rundoc13@gmail.com))

**Vice President:** Joy Birnbaum

([joyandseymour@gmail.com](mailto:joyandseymour@gmail.com))

**Secretary:** Tish Richter ([tish227@yahoo.com](mailto:tish227@yahoo.com))

**Treasurer:** Michele Gershman Bennett

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**Trustees:** Carrol Sallas ([sallas2@sccoast.net](mailto:sallas2@sccoast.net)), Ronnie

Craig ([rcraig@cslaw.com](mailto:rcraig@cslaw.com)), Lou Greenzweig

([ldgreenzweig@gmail.com](mailto:ldgreenzweig@gmail.com)) **Andy Friedman**

([andy.friedman@hotmail.com](mailto:andy.friedman@hotmail.com)); **Seymour Birnbaum**

([joyandseymour@gmail.com](mailto:joyandseymour@gmail.com)); **Ted Weiss**

([tedweiss51@gmail.com](mailto:tedweiss51@gmail.com))

TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to [www.chaitrack.com](http://www.chaitrack.com). If you need a user name and password, contact Andy Friedman, [andy.friedman@hotmail.com](mailto:andy.friedman@hotmail.com).



### Rabbi Scott Weiner

Rabbi Scott is scheduled to lead *Shabbat* services on **7 August 2026**.

The rabbi will lead a class on Saturday morning, **8 August 2026**.

Arrangements for Rabbi Weiner are made possible through THE ALWYN O. GOLDSTEIN MEMORIAL SHABBAT FUND.

## T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP

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A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$36 per leaf**) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.

Thanks for your support.

Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442



### BIRTHDAYS

#### JULY

- 10 Patti Friedman
- 19 Randy Cavaliere
- 20 AJ Giegerich
- 29 Ted Weiss

#### AUGUST

- 2 Ronnie Craig
- 5 Bob Willey
- 8 Gary Koppel
- 9 Eileen Kramer
- 15 Sue Cohen
- 21 Marty Kleinrock

### ANNIVERSARIES



#### JULY

- 2 Debbie & Art Kaufman
- 7 Stan Earnhart & Eileen Kramer
- 15 Kali & Ira Tal
- 28 Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet

#### AUGUST

- 8 Joy & Seymour Birnbaum
- 22 Michele & Jim Bennett
- 23 Roz & Lou Greenzweig
- 28 Shirley & AJ Giegerich



Let us pray for the restoration of health of

**SHANE FINKEL**

grandson of Carrol Sallas

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# Yahrzeits



## Yahrzeits



### JULY

? Harry Gershman grandfather of Michele Bennett  
 2 Rose Ulrich grandmother of Ariane Lieberman  
 3 Lewis B. Schwartz son of Roberta & Steve Schwartz  
 5 Malva Ulrich mother of Ariane Lieberman  
 5 Sam Jacoby grandfather of Marty Kleinrock  
 5 Samuel Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim  
 6 Robert Todd Berkman Temple Beth Elohim memorial  
 10 Seth Rich cousin of Ruth Farb  
 11 Vita Cahn Danzig member Temple Beth Elohim  
 11 Myles Barry Derison Temple Beth Elohim memorial  
 12 Morris David Baker grandfather of Debbi Jones  
 15 Mary Levine mother of Carrol Sallas  
 16 Benjamin Baker father of Debbi Jones  
 16 John W. Bello father of Rosemarie Garrison  
 17 Lillian Danzig Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim  
 18 Harry G. Danzig member Temple Beth Elohim  
 23 Elizabeth Moses past president Temple Beth Elohim  
 24 Lena C. Crane member Temple Beth Elohim  
 24 Louis Farb father of Ruth Farb  
 26 Barbara Scherr Schwartz Member Temple Beth Elohim  
 31 Sallie Lewenthal great grandmother of Susan Berry



### AUGUST

1 Sara Cornis cousin of Ruth Farb  
 2 Phyllis Levine sister-in-law of Carrol Sallas  
 2 Max Birnbaum father of Seymour Birnbaum  
 4 Lou Nierenberg Temple Beth Elohim memorial  
 4 Allen Poaster father of Tish Richter  
 5 Sonia Kolsky great grandmother of Craig Lieberman  
 5 Rabbi Stanley Skolnik friend of Rosemarie Garrison  
 6 Paula Blum mother of Debbie Hart  
 10 Donna Hershberg Temple Beth Elohim memorial  
 12 Fred Gramet father of Alan Gramet  
 12 Anne Kleinrock grandmother of Marty Kleinrock  
 14 Barbara Lander sister of Janet Solomon  
 16 Louis Davidson father of Michael Davidson  
 16 Peggy Craig mother of Ronnie Craig  
 17 Albert Ader brother of Shirley Giegerich  
 18 Frieda Goldenberg grandmother of Steven Schwartz  
 18 Edna Dimentstein mother of Richard Dimentstein  
 20 Rose Schneider great aunt of Susan Berry  
 great grandmother of Debbie Smith  
 21 Nancy Cavaliere mother-in-law of Randy Cavaliere  
 21 Beatrice Fogel Kaufman member Temple Beth Elohim  
 22 Ben Kleinrock grandfather of Marty Kleinrock  
 23 Tillie Lieberman grandmother of Craig Lieberman  
 24 Neal Baker brother of Debbi Jones  
 26 Elayne Schwartz mother of Steven Schwartz  
 27 Alfred Weitzman cousin of Steven Schwartz  
 30 Dorothy B. Troutman Mulford mother of Donna Llewellyn

Any corrections or additions please contact Richard Dimentstein [rdimentstein@gmail.com](mailto:rdimentstein@gmail.com) or at [info.bethelohim@gmail.com](mailto:info.bethelohim@gmail.com) .  
 Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* in the upcoming week.

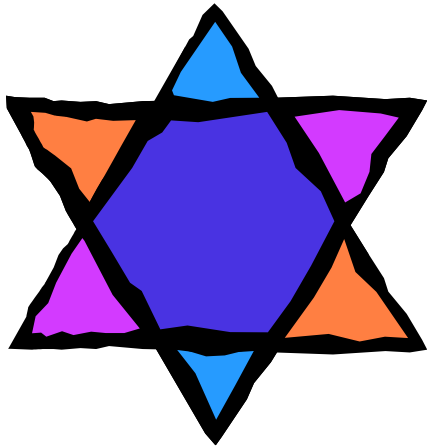
### BETH ELOHIM CEMETERY

Cemetery plots are for sale in our unique, historic resting place. The Cemetery Committee, chaired by SEYMOUR BIRNBAUM, has prepared the appropriate documentation for the purchase of gravesites.

Call the temple (843 325-0389) and request copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care. Plots are only available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to their families.

### *New Memorial Plaques*

Plaques are displayed permanently on our *Yahrzeit* Board and are lit on the death anniversary of the honoree. Any member who would like to memorialize a loved one should speak with one of our Board members.



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## ***SHALOM***

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**Georgetown, SC 29442**

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### **Committee Members**

Ritual Chair: Andy Friedman (Richard Dimentstein)  
Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum  
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum  
Communications: Andy Friedman  
Finance Chair: Michele Gershman Bennett  
Sunshine Committee Chair: Tish Richter  
Building & Grounds Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Craig Lieberman)  
Newsletter Editors: Richard Dimentstein, Joy Birnbaum  
Library Chair: Richard Dimentstein (Tish Richter)  
*Oneg Shabbats*: Ariane Lieberman  
Web Page: Joy Birnbaum  
Website ([www.templebethelohim.net](http://www.templebethelohim.net)): Joy Birnbaum  
Photography: Randy Cavaliere; Louis Greenzweig