

Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for 120 years

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Iyar/Sivan/Tammuz 5786

The Rising Star

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Happy Shavuot

5-7 Sivan 5786 21-23 May 2026



President
Richard

From the President

Several things are happening at Temple Beth Elohim this spring. The most visible are the new security doors that are being installed as I pen these words. They are made of steel and adhere to the guidelines of the Fire Department and the Secure Community Network.

The terms of office for the members of the Executive Board will end in June. There will be a call for nominations for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. There will also be a call for nominations of three of our five Trustees. The new officers will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting mid-June.

The last of the three festivals, *Shavuot*, begins Thursday evening, 21 May 2026. However, before we get to that, there is a minor holiday, *Lag B'omer* (4/5 May 2026). It occurs on the 33rd day of the *Omer*, the 49-day period between Passover and *Shavuot*. A break from the semi-

mourning of the *Omer*, key aspects of *Lag B'omer* include holding Jewish weddings (it's the one day during the *Omer* when Jewish law permits them), lighting bonfires and getting haircuts.

The *Omer* is a time of semi-mourning, when weddings and other celebrations are forbidden, and as a sign of grief, observant Jews do not cut their hair. Anthropologists say that many peoples have similar periods of restraint in the early spring to symbolize their concerns about the growth of their crops. But the most

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Wisdom From Afar....



The next major festival, *Shavuot*, occurs from sunset on Thursday, 21 May and ends at sunset on Saturday, 23 May. The word “*Shavuot*” means “weeks”, as it occurs at the end of the counting of the *Omer* that commences at Passover. It also marked the wheat harvest in ancient Israel when the people would take offerings from the harvest to the Temple, hence it is also one of the three pilgrimage festivals.

On the middle day of the festival – which this year occurs on Friday, 22 May – it is customary to assemble and recite the Ten Commandments. To better appreciate the importance and meaning of the Ten Commandments, it can be helpful to look at the religious and historical context of the moment. Most people in the ancient Middle East believed in a multitude of gods, not just gods for natural forces like storms and earthquakes and ensuring good weather for raising food, but also each kingdom had a chief god whose power was embodied in the king. And a powerful and successful king meant that the chief god was powerful, too. These gods were visualized for the people with statues and idols and other works of art.

Somehow within this milieu – and the Book of Genesis isn't too clear on this detail – Abraham came to recognize that there was only one God, and he carried that belief with him as he wandered about Canaan and other places. His son Isaac and grandson Jacob, and all the kinsmen who were associated with them inherited this belief, too – all the while surrounded by people who held their beliefs in many gods.

So just imagine what a leap of faith all this was. Contrary to what most people of the time believed, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob could not be seen, was not limited to any one location, and yet had the power to protect and bless the people who followed Him. The manifestation of this power was never so evident than when God used the Ten Plagues to battle against the Egyptian's gods – on those gods' home turf – on behalf of the enslaved Hebrews and won.

Then God led the Israelites through a hostile desert to Mount Sinai where He made a Covenant with all the people, in writing, with the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-14) as its terms. And those terms are truly extraordinary. Only the first four list what the people owe to God:

- You shall have no other gods besides me.
- You shall not make any sculpted images (no idols or statues).
- You shall not swear falsely by the name of the Lord.
- Honor the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Continued on p. 4 – Wisdom from Afar

Let us fervently pray for the comfort and recovery of our dear temple members and friends and for the continued strength of their caregivers.



Susan & Brian Berry
Richard Horowitz

Michael Davidson
Tom Llewellyn



Temple Beth Elohim
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Birnbaum (joyandseymour@gmail.com); **Ted Weiss**

(tedweiss51@gmail.com)



10 May 2026



21 June 2026

Happy
Father's Day

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



Rabbi Scott Weiner

Rabbi Scott is scheduled to return to Temple Beth Elohim on **5 June 2026**.

The rabbi will lead a class on Saturday morning, **6 June 2026**.

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

T B E 1772 LEGACY GROUP

Brenda & Benedict Rosen

Richard Dimentstein

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Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

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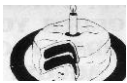
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A check for \$ _____ (**\$36 per leaf**) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.

Thanks for your support.

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



BIRTHDAYS

MAY

JUNE

- 1 Stan Earnhart
- 4 Debbi Jones
- 7 Noreen Davis
- 13 Joy Birnbaum
- 13 Ariane Lieberman
- 16 Brenda Rosen
- 21 Richard Horowitz

- 3 Shirley Giegerich
- 3 Eric Heiden
- 26 Jana Hletko
- 29 Donna Llewellyn
- 30 Kathryn Kossove



ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

JUNE

- 16 Patti & Gary Friedman
- 18 Roberta & Steve Schwartz

- 18 Susan & Brian Berry



Let us pray for the restoration of health of
SHANE FINKEL
grandson of Carrol Sallas

3

DONATIONS

Delores Anschel to the General Fund
Susan & Brian Berry to the Cemetery Wall Fund
Joy & Seymour Birnbaum to the Cemetery Wall Fund
Randy Cavaliere to the General Fund in memory of Christopher Cavaliere
Charleston Jewish Tours (Ronnie Ludwin, Founder) to the General Fund
Daughters of the American Revolution to the cemetery for benches and plaques
Noreen Davis & Alan Gramet to the General Fund in memory of John Davis and Bernard Snyderman
Richard Dimentstein to the General Fund in memory of Anthony Gennarelli
Edwina & Andy Friedman to the General Fund in memory of Sonya A. Friedman
Shirley & AJ Giegerich to the General Fund in memory of Peter Giegerich
Roz & Louis Greenzweig to the General Fund and the Security Fund
Marilyn & Richard Horowitz to the General Fund in memory of Shirley Horowitz
Kathryn & David Kossove to the General Fund in memory of Irene and Harold Kossove
Ariane & Craig Lieberman to the General Fund in memory of Sheldon Ulrich
Mischelle & Gerald Napoleone to the General Fund in memory of Sheldon Gershman
Tish Richter to the General Fund in memory of Pearl & Charles Richter
Carrol Sallas to the General Fund in memory of Allan Sallas



Wisdom From Afar

Continued from p. 2

The final six commandments list what the people owe to other people:

- Honor your father and mother.
- You shall not murder.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- You shall not covet your neighbor's possessions.

God didn't just want the people to honor and worship Him, He wanted His people to be good and kind to one another and to lead ethical lives. So when you recite the Ten Commandments this year, don't just say them with reverence, but also take some pride in just how revolutionary a document it is.

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From the President

Continued from p. 1

often cited explanation for the Jewish practice comes from the *Talmud*, which tells us that during this season a plague killed thousands of Rabbi Akiva's students because they did not treat one another respectfully. The mourning behavior is presumably in memory of those students and their severe punishment.

The *Mishnah* describes the *Omer* sacrifice made at the beginning of the 49-day count. After the sun set, three sheaves of barley were identified and harvested with great fanfare as crowds watched.

These were placed in a basket and carried to the Temple where the barley was processed. The kernels were removed from the stalks and singed with a flame, then milled into a coarse flour and sifted 13 times before being mixed with oil and frankincense to make a dough. This dough was held aloft and waved, then a portion of it burned up on the altar and the rest was eaten by the priests. According to *Talmud*, this waving ritual was meant to prevent harmful winds from damaging the season's grain crops.

RAD

Yahrzeits



Yahrzeits



MAY

JUNE

3 Anne T. Drucker mother of Louis Drucker
 3 Rebecca Logan Baker grandmother of Debbi Jones
 3 Thelma Engel Goldstein mother of Roslyn Goldstein
 5 Arlene Sturm Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 10 Rosie Goldstein Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 11 Deborah Baruch Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
 11 Beatrice Solomon mother-in-law of Janet Solomon
 12 Harry Rosen father of Marilyn Horowitz
 12 Rick Richter husband of Tish Richter
 13 Leon Blum father of Debbie Hart
 13 Ruth Feinberg member Temple Beth Elohim
 14 Jacob M. Ringel member Temple Beth Elohim
 16 Alfred Lefkow grandfather of Ariane Lieberman
 17 Laura Chapin Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
 19 Morris Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
 19 Samuel Kolsky grandfather of Craig Lieberman
 20 Alfred Dube father of Jana Hletko
 20 Pauline Koppel mother of Gary Koppel
 21 John Cavaliere father-in-law of Randy Cavaliere
 22 Patricia Giegerich sister of AJ Giegerich
 26 Audrey Rowe Smith Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 28 Hyman Kaufman member Temple Beth Elohim
 29 Clara Fogel Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 29 Morris Ader father of Shirley Giegerich
 30 Naomi Specht Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 30 Constance Karesh Franzblau
 mother of Adele Franzblau
 30 Bernard Meyer member Temple Beth Elohim

2 Carole Gottlieb member Temple Beth Elohim
 3 Kathleen Gramet first wife of Alan Gramet
 5 Charlotte Goldman mother of Eileen Kramer
 6 Henry "Mel" Brown friend of Richard Dimentstein
 14 Philip Schneider father of Susan Berry
 15 Frank Danzig member of Temple Beth Elohim
 17 Morris Salles father-in-law of Carrol Sallas
 17 Alan Baslaw Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 18 Ken Workman cousin of Roberta Schwartz
 20 Helmar Abrams member Temple Beth Elohim
 21 Esther Zelesnick great grandmother of Craig Lieberman
 22 Edith Pockell Temple Beth Elohim memorial
 22 Richard James "Ricky" Fenner
 friend of Adele Franzablau
 23 Henry L. Levkoff uncle of Susan Berry
 24 Rae Zelesnick grandmother of Craig Lieberman
 26 Louis Bodian member Temple Beth Elohim
 27 Arnold Lieberman father of Craig Lieberman
 29 Maurice Emanuel Temple Beth Elohim memorial



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

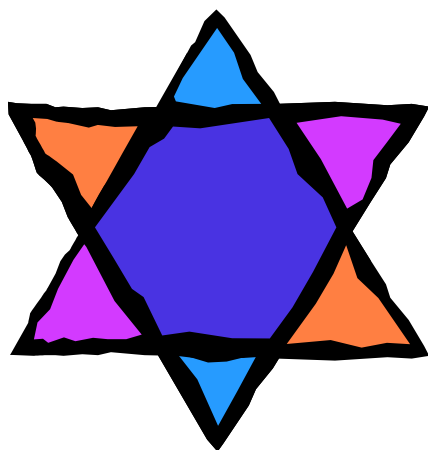
BETH ELOHIM CEMETERY

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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