



**HAKOL**  
**"THE VOICE"**  
*The Temple Newsletter*

**TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM**  
**41 STORRS AVENUE, BRAINTREE, MA**

[www.tbsbraintree.com](http://www.tbsbraintree.com)

*June, July & August 2017*  
*Sivan, Tammuz, Av & Elul 5777*

**SUMMER, 2017**

**Shabbat Services, Saturday at 9:15 AM**  
**Rabbi Van Lanckton, Mona Strick, Cantor Seth Grossman,**  
**President Dr. Peter Kurzberg,**  
**Bulletin Editor Judy Karll**

**AN INVITATION TO TEMPLE MEMBERS  
TO ATTEND SHABBATH SERVICE**

**on**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**  
**9:30 AM**

**INSTALLATION OF TBS BOARD MEMBERS**  
**RABBI VAN LANCKTON**  
**SPENDS HIS LAST SHABBAT**  
**AND**  
**MONA STRICK, OUR NEW RELIGIOUS LEADER,**  
**WILL ALSO JOIN US.**

**FOLLOWED BY A SPECIAL KIDDUSH**

*For planning purposes, please rsvp*  
**To: Marylou Fishman @ [maryloufishman@comcast.net](mailto:maryloufishman@comcast.net)**

## June, 2017 Sivan - Tammuz 5777

\*Shabbat Candle lighting

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY                              | FRIDAY             | SATURDAY  |
|--|--------|---------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
|  |        |         |   | 1<br>1 Sivan<br><br>SHAVOUT<br>YIZKOR | 2<br><br>*7:59 PM  | 3<br><br>Naso   |
| 4<br>Rabbi Lanckton<br>Retirement<br>Reception<br>9:30 - 11 AM | 5      | 6       | 7   | 8                                     | 9<br><br>*8:03 PM  | 10<br><br>Beha'alotecha   |
| 11   | 12     | 13      | 14<br><br><br>FLAG DAY | 15                                    | 16<br><br>*8:07 PM | 17<br><br>Shelach   |
| 18<br><br>FATHER'S DAY   | 19     | 20      | 21<br><br>TBS<br>BOARD<br>MEETING<br><br>FIRST DAY OF<br>SUMMER   | 22                                    | 23<br><br>*8:08 PM | 24<br><br><i>Installation of<br/>Temple Officers</i><br><br>Rabbi Lanckton<br>Mona Strick<br><br>Korach |
| 25<br>1 Tammuz<br><br>ROSH<br>CHODESH                          | 26     | 27      | 28  | 29                                    | 30<br><br>*8:08 PM |   |

## July, 2017- Tammuz, Av 5777

\*Shabbat candle lighting

| SUNDAY                            | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY             | SATURDAY   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|-----------|----------|--------------------|--|
|                                   |  |   |           |          |                    | 1<br>7 Tammuz<br><br>Chukat<br>CANADA DAY                |
| 2                                 | 3  | 4<br><br><i>4<sup>th</sup> of JULY</i> | 5         | 6        | 7<br><br>*8:06 PM  | 8<br><br>Balak   |
| 9                                 | 10   | 11  | 12        | 13       | 14<br><br>*8:03 PM | 15<br><br>Pinchas  |
| 16                                | 17   | 18  | 19        | 20       | 21<br><br>*7:57 PM | 22<br><br>Matot-Masel<br>Religious Leader<br>Mona Strick |
| 23                                | 24<br>1 AV<br><br>ROSH<br>CHODESH  | 25  | 26        | 27       | 28<br><br>*7:51 PM | 29<br><br>Devarim<br>SHABBAT<br>CHAZON                   |
| 30<br><br>TBS<br>BOARD<br>MEETING | 31<br>8 AV<br><br>EREV<br>TISHA B'AV<br>Fast of<br>Tisha B'av<br>starts<br>at 8 PM |   |           |          |                    |  |

## August, 2017 - Av, Elul 5777

*\*Shabbat candle lighting*

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY                                      | WEDNESDAY       | THURSDAY | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY                                   |
|--------|--------|--|-----------------|----------|----------|--|
|        |        | 1<br>9 Av                                    | 2               | 3        | 4        | 5<br><br>Va'etchanan<br>SHABBAT<br>NACHAMU |
|        |        | TISHA B'AV<br>Fasting Day<br>ends 8:36<br>PM |                 |          | *7:42 PM |  |
| 6      | 7      | 8  | 9               | 10       | 11       | 12<br><br>Eikev                            |
|        |        |  |                 |          | *7:33 PM |  |
| 13     | 14     | 15   | 16              | 17       | 18       | 19<br><br>Re'eh                            |
|        |        |  |                 |          | *7:23 PM |  |
| 20     | 21     | 22   | 23<br>1 Elul    | 24       | 25       | 26<br><br>Shoftim                          |
|        |        |  | ROSH<br>CHODESH |          | *7:12 PM |  |
| 27     | 28     | 29   | 30              | 31       |          |  |
|        |        |  |                 |          |          |  |

***HIGH HOLIDAY INFORMATION WILL BE  
MAILED AFTER JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>***

**DONATION FORM**

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Card to: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Inscribed Book Plates**

High Holiday Mahzor \$20.00

**Engraved Plaques**

Tree of Life \$ 72.00

Yahrzeit \$200.00

Memorial Plaque \$200.00

State wording for High Holiday Mahzor Book Plates:

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

State wording for Tree of Life Leaves:

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Yahrzeit Plaques**

Name of Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrew Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ben (son of) \_\_\_\_\_ Bat (daughter of) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_ Did the Death occur in the evening?  yes  no

**Memorial Plaques (non Jewish):**

Name of Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

**Rabbi Greenberg Scholarship:** Donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrew School:** Donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kiddush:** Donation: \$75 for a basic Kiddush

Make checks payable to: **Temple B'nai Shalom**

Mail to: 41 Storrs Avenue, Braintree MA 02184, ATTN: MARYLOU



## A Message from Rabbi Van Lanckton

### Rabbi Lanckton's Farewell

My very dear friends,

As I prepare this column, my final column for our Bulletin, I am feeling grateful and proud and sad.

**Grateful.** I thank you all, individually and collectively, for your dedication to maintaining and sustaining our congregation. In the Conservative movement, the highest compliment that can be paid to any congregation is that it is “warm and welcoming.” Every congregation wants to be such a congregation, but few succeed.

I know of no congregation that does “warm and welcoming” better than Temple B’nai Shalom. Throughout these ten years, I have seen how warmly we embrace every new member and prospective member and make them feel welcome.

**Proud.** So proud. The members of this congregation take care of each other. We visit when people need visiting. We provide a minyan when a member needs a minyan. The women who prepare our Kiddush every single week, week in and week out, do so joyfully and with a high level of camaraderie. If we were looking for a slogan for Temple B’nai Shalom, it would be “The Small Shul with The Big Heart.”

And also, **sad.** Alice and I found our congregational home here. If on a rare Shabbat Alice could not attend, so many would ask me if she was OK and instruct me to send your love to her. We will never forget your kind concern and support when our dear son Sam died two years ago.

Alice and I will miss you. Thank you for allowing us to be your Rabbi and Rebbitzin for this precious decade.

Rabbi Van Lanckton

617-694-2438

vlanckton@verizon.net



## A Message from the Temple President

Shalom,

I hope everyone is well as spring has arrived and we have almost completed another year. On Sunday, April 23 we held our congregational meeting in which Mona Strick, a rabbinical student at Hebrew College, was appointed as our new religious leader. We are excited about her appointment and in welcoming her to temple B'nai Shalom. Her first visit will be on July 22. You are invited to join us and welcome her to our shul. I would like to thank members of the search committee for all of their time and effort to help find our new rabbi: Stephen Karll, Marylou Fishman, Laney Silva, and Barry Belt and yours truly. In addition to the appointment, officers and directors were elected for the 2017-2018 year. You can find the listing of new board members in this bulletin.

I would like to express sincere thanks and gratitude, again, to Rabbi Lanckton and Cantor Grossman for providing their leadership for Shabbat services throughout the year as well as for the High Holidays. We are very fortunate to have them associated with our temple.

As this will be this will be the last bulletin while Rabbi Lanckton is still our rabbi, I wanted to express sincere appreciation on behalf of the entire congregation for his 11 years of service to us, starting as a rabbinical student in the first class at Hebrew College and continuing as an ordained rabbi with us. We wish Rabbi Lanckton and Alice good health and much happiness in the future. Our door will always be open to both of you. We will be holding a retirement reception for Rabbi Lanckton on Sunday, June 4 from 9:30-11:30 A.M. We hope you will be able to join us.

I would also like to express sincere appreciation to those individuals who served as officers and directors of the temple this past year as well as the committee chairs who have played an integral part in so many of the activities and events held. Thanks go to the following board members: Sandie Baler-Segal, Barry Belt, Cheryl Berman, Liz Bloom, Solomon Borocov, Michael Caplan, Janice Fine, Marylou Fishman, Paula Goldman, Judy Karll, Steve Karll, Florence Koffman, Gail Lerner, Audrey Mallock, Paul Rubin, Jo Salloway, Richard Salloway, Laney Silva, and Meryl Smith. Thanks also to David Flaherty for all of the odds and ends he continues to do for us at the temple every week and for his work with the Men's Club. I would like to thank Laney Silva, who is stepping down for the coming year and thank her for her many years of service on the board. We hope to see her back at some point in the future. Finally, our Religious School continues to thrive under the leadership of Solomon Borocov and Cantor Seth Grossman. Thank you, Solomon and Seth.

A special thank you, again, to our Sisterhood volunteers who prepare the Kiddush for us every Shabbat and for our Men's Club volunteers who prepare breakfast for our special events throughout the year. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated and critical to the success of our congregation. Thank you!

This year was another active year for our temple. We continue to be fortunate to have so many of our congregants participating in various activities; whether it be Shabbat services, social functions, helping with rummage, Hebrew school or visiting our web-site. If you have not visited our web-site recently, go to [www.tbsbraintree.com](http://www.tbsbraintree.com) . I think you will be pleasantly surprised. It has updates throughout the year. Special thanks to Gail Lerner for continuing to spearhead this project and to Evelyn Schichner for hosting our web-site.

Finally, I want to thank Judy Karll for her work on our bulletin this year. Each edition becomes better and better. Thank you, Judy, for taking on this important vehicle for communication to our congregants and doing such a wonderful job with it.

In closing, I look forward to serving as your president for the upcoming year. I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to become more involved with your shul. You can do so in many ways without a great deal of effort. If you have not attended any or many functions at the temple this past year, consider participating more this coming year. Consider coming to temple a few more times during the year beyond the High Holy Days. Do you have a yahrzeit coming up or a special occasion that you would like to acknowledge? Sponsor a Kiddush and come to temple. We can always use some assistance in the kitchen on Saturday mornings for our Kiddush. Even if you can only spare an hour, we can use you. Contact Paula Goldman at [paulag@beld.net](mailto:paulag@beld.net) for more information.

As always, I want to thank Marylou Fishman for all of her assistance this year. She continues to work as hard as past president as she did as president.

Wishing you all the very best in the summer months ahead.

**Peter Kurzberg**



**THIS SUMMER -**

**We will welcome our new religious leader, Mona Strick.**

**Mona Strick is originally from Brooklyn, NY where she attended Jewish day school and The Yeshiva of Flatbush. She earned her B.A. degree in Near East Studies from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA. As part of her education she spent one year at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.**

**Mona spent over 25 years in executive management positions in the travel industry and online advertising. During those years, she remained active in Jewish life and study.**

**She is excited to be on a second career path and is beginning her fourth year in the Rabbinical program at Hebrew College. She spent part of last year at The Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. She is a candidate for ordination in 2019.**

**Mona lives in Brookline with her partner, Mark Housman. They enjoy spending time with their five children and seven grandchildren.**

**DONATIONS  
TO  
TEMPLE B'NAI SHALOM**

**IN MEMORY OF**

*Paulo Bettencourt (Putnam Investments)  
In Memory of George Smith*

*Leah & Christopher Guinta  
In Memory of George Smith*

*Enid Lubarsky  
In Memory of Erica Kahan*

**IN HONOR OF**

*Milton & Arlene Wolk  
In Honor of Micky Rosen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*

*CATS Academy, Boston  
In honor of Rabbi Lanckton's speaking engagement*

**DONATION RECEIVED FOR SELLING OF CHAMETZ**

*Peter & Karen Kurzberg  
Meryl Smth  
Richard, Jo & Matthew Salloway*

**ALIYOT DONATION**

*Richard & Jo Salloway*

**Yahrzeit Donations**

*Lynne Baron  
In Memory of her father,  
Seymour Baron*

*Stephen & Judy Karll  
In Memory of Judy's mother,  
Bertha Shefshick  
In Memory of Judy's brother,  
Bruce Shefshick*

*Florence Koffman  
In Memory of her husband,  
Mike Koffman  
In Memory of her mother,  
Dorothy Pollack  
In Memory of her father-in-law,  
Simeon Koffman*

*Barry Rabinovitz & Angela Ponte  
In Memory of Barry's mother,  
Sylvia Rabinovitz Roffo*

*Selma Swartz  
In Memory of her parents,  
Ethel & William Fieldman*

**KIDDUSH SPONSORS**

*Christopher & Leah Giunta  
In Honor of Leah's mother,  
Dorothy Klingenstein*

*David Flaherty & Paula Goldman  
In Honor of Paula's father,  
David Goldman*

*Arline Goodman  
In Honor of her husband,  
Carl Goodman*

*Enid Lubarsky  
In Honor of her mother,  
Vitey Lubarsky*

*Anita Young  
In Honor of Alan's birthday*

**MENDING BY MERYL**

*Peter & Karen Kurzberg*

**PEACE GARDEN**

*Michael & Alba Caplan*

**PRAYER BOOK**

*Nancy Resnick  
In Memory of Margie Asnes*

**TEMPLE LEAVES**

*Michael & Alba Caplan  
In Honor of Rabbi Van Lanckton*

Nancy Resnick

*In Honor of birth of Great Granddaughter,  
Amelia Jane Lear, January 25, 2012*

*In Honor of the marriage of her granddaughter  
Rachel Elizabeth Lear to Jonathon William Wallace, October 4, 2014  
In Honor of birth of Great Granddaughter,  
Eliza Rae Wallace, June 30, 2016*

*In Honor of graduation of Grandson,  
Jacob Nicholas Resnick, May 18, 2014*

*In Honor of graduation of Grandson,  
Lucas James Resnick, May 21, 2016*

### TEMPLE CONDOLENCES

*To Arline Goodman  
on the loss of her sister-in-law, Erica Kahan*

### TEMPLE CONGRATULATIONS

*Robert "Bob" Bloom  
As he was honored by the Prosecutors on his  
Pending June 30<sup>th</sup> retirement from the Quincy Court House*

*Michael & Alba Caplan on their son, Andrew's  
Graduation from Middle School*

*Christopher & Leah Giunta on their son, Peter's  
Graduation from Northeastern University*

*David Flaherty & Paula Goldman's on their son,  
Eddie's graduation from University of Delaware*

*Adam & Nancy Littman on Nathan's graduation  
Fitchburg State College*

*Paul & Sandra Rubin on the birth of their first grandchild, Eli Lanyon*

*Stevan & Selaine Silva on the marriage of their  
Daughter, Jane to Geoffrey Parr*

*David & Sunny Shaw on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

*David & Nancy Wluka on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **SPONSOR KIDDUSH**



Remember with TBS: A graduation, wedding, anniversary, birthday, Mitzvah, anniversary, Yahrzeit or something special to you.

\$75 for a basic Kiddush or embellished for an additional fee. To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush contact either: Janice @ 508-230-5074 [jan@janfine.com](mailto:jan@janfine.com) OR Marylou @ 617-921-0368 [maryloufishman@comcast.net](mailto:maryloufishman@comcast.net)

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## **MEMBERSHIP NOTICES**

As a Member of the Temple, you can be notified of a family member's yahrzeit & the remembrance will also be mentioned at the Shabbat Service prior to the Hebrew anniversary. Please send the following information: Name of Deceased, date of passing as well as the time if known to: Meryl Smith [meryljoys@aol.com](mailto:meryljoys@aol.com)

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## **DO YOU OR ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY SHOP ON AMAZON.COM?**

Thanks to congregants who shop on [AMAZON.COM](https://www.amazon.com), Temple B'nai Shalom receives a check for a percentage of their sales each month from Amazon.

Next time you have something to order:

Go to The Temple's Website: [www.tbsbraintree.com](http://www.tbsbraintree.com)

Click on: GIVING

Click on: SHOPPING OPPORTUNITIES

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## SHOP FALL RUMMAGE

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

Time to clear your closets. Arrange to bring your gently used clothing, household items to the Temple now...

Volunteer to set up, work the sale, clean up....

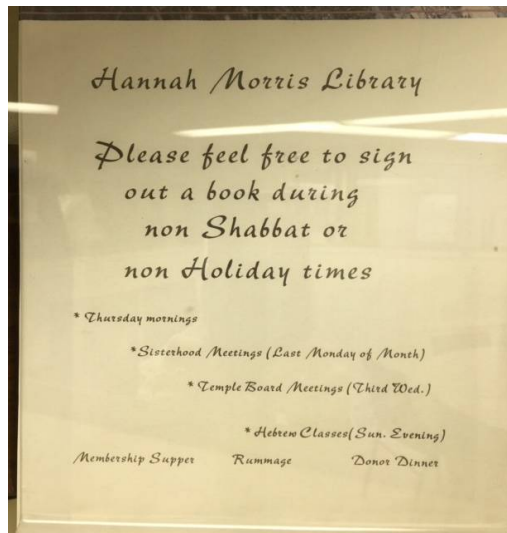
Call Mrs. Rummage aka Florence at 781-986-5484

Just call Mrs. Rummage aka Florence at 781-986-5484

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## TEMPLE HANNAH MORRIS LIBRARY

On the first floor of the Temple



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## HOLOCAUST STAMP COLLECTION UPDATE

**Meryl Smith, Chair**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! With your help, we have collected over **26,660 stamps** for the Holocaust Stamp Project at the Foxborough Charter School. The children are trying to collect 11 million stamps to represent the number of victims murdered by the Nazis during World War II. They are creating beautiful artwork (as seen above) with the stamps so people will never forget Hitler's horrific massacre of innocent men, women and children. For those of you who would like to help, please save used postage stamps, you know the ones we so quickly throw away without giving it a thought. Simply cut or rip them off the corner of the envelope and drop them off in the collection box in the Temple foyer or in the mail slot at 154 Granger Street, Quincy. Once again thank you to those who are helping to educate the next generation, so this will never happen again

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## JNF TREES

If you are interested in purchasing Trees in Israel through Hadassah  
Contact: Carol Savas 781-344-4267 [carolsavas@yahoo.com](mailto:carolsavas@yahoo.com)

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# TBS CHAIR YOGA CLASS



Join the Chair Yoga Class at the Temple  
On the first and third Thursdays of the Month  
at 10 AM for one hour.

The instructor is Joyce Jordan. Joyce is a certified yoga teacher as well as a certified nutritional & wellness consultant.

Classes are for men and women. The cost is \$10 per week, paid monthly at the beginning of each month. Although the class has been ongoing, there is no problem joining at any time. Come and observe a lesson to see if it's for you.

If you have any questions contact: Marylou at [maryloufishman@comcast.net](mailto:maryloufishman@comcast.net) or call 617-921-0368

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## SUPPORT THE TEMPLE BUY SCRIP

As an ongoing fund raiser, The Temple sells Stop & Shop and Roche Bros. gift cards in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations.

Sellers include: Nancy Resnick, Florence Koffman and Janice Fine. Arrangements can be made for home delivery by contacting one of the sellers or Marylou @ 617-921-0368.

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IF YOU KNOW OF A MEMBER CELEBRATING A LIFE CYCLE EVENT, GRADUATION, PROMOTION, RETIREMENT, THAT THE TEMPLE MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A CONDOLENCE OR MAZEL TOV ....

PLEASE CONTACT ARLINE GOODMAN at 617-471-3589 or at [acgood@aol.com](mailto:acgood@aol.com)



# ***Temple B'nai Shalom Board 2017-2018***

|                                       |                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>President:</b>                     | Dr. Peter Kurzberg |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</b> | Stephen Karll      |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:</b> | Michael Caplan     |
| <b>Financial Secretary:</b>           | Janice Fine        |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                     | Paula Goldman      |
| <b>Recording Secretary:</b>           | Meryl Smith        |
| <b>Corresponding Secretary:</b>       | Elizabeth Bloom    |
| <b>Past President:</b>                | Marylou Fishman    |

## **Two Year Directors**

Cheryl Berman  
Gail Lerner  
Judy Karll  
Richard Salloway  
One Year Directors  
Sandie Baler-Segal  
Audrey Mallock  
Josephine Salloway  
Arline Goodman

## **Representatives**

|                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Sisterhood:</b>          | Florence Koffman |
| <b>Men's Club:</b>          | Paul Rubin       |
| <b>Hebrew School:</b>       | Solomon Borocov  |
| <b>Religious Committee:</b> | Barry Belt       |

# What Is Shavuot?

## ***The Holiday When We Re-Accept the Torah.***

The holiday of Shavuot is a two-day holiday, beginning at sundown of the 5th of Sivan and lasting until nightfall of the 7th of Sivan (May 30–June 1, 2017). In Israel, it is a one-day holiday, ending at nightfall of the 6th of Sivan.

## ***What Shavuot Commemorates***

The word Shavuot means “weeks.” It marks the completion of the seven-week counting period between Passover and Shavuot.

The Torah was given by Gd to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai on Shavuot more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of Gd’s gift, and Gd “re-gives” the Torah.

The giving of the Torah was a far-reaching spiritual event—one that touched the essence of the Jewish soul for all times. Our sages have compared it to a wedding between Gd and the Jewish people. Shavuot also means “oaths,” for on this day Gd swore eternal devotion to us, and we in turn pledged everlasting loyalty to Him. Learn more about the Giving of the Torah and what it means to us today.

In ancient times, two wheat loaves would be offered in Holy Temple on Shavuot. It was also at this time that people would begin to bring bikkurim, their first and choicest fruits, to thank Gd for Israel’s bounty

## ***Tisha B’Av,***

the ninth of the month of Av, is a day of mourning for Jews. It is the day Jews remember the destruction of both Temples that once stood in Jerusalem as well as a number of other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people over the course of history.

A three-week mourning period preceding Tisha B’Av begins on the 17th day of the month of Tammuz. According to the Mishnah, this was the day the Romans succeeded in breaching the walls of Jerusalem in 70 C.E.; the Mishnah also mentions other tragic events that occurred on this day in Tammuz . This three-week period leading up to the major fast of Tisha B’Av is called “Bayn Ha-Metsarim”—“in the Straits.” Traditional Jews do not get married or celebrate other joyous festivities in these three weeks.

### ***Before the Holiday***

Nine days prior to Tisha B’Av, a new period of more intense mourning begins. Traditional Jews do not eat meat, cut their hair, or wash their clothes unless they are to be worn again during the nine days. All these actions are considered signs of joy or luxury inappropriate for this time of mourning. Reform, Reconstructionist, and Conservative Jews adopt a varied range of these practices.

The Shabbat immediately preceding the festival is Shabbat Hazon (vision). The name derives from the haftarah (prophetic reading) for the day. Taken from Isaiah 1, the reading describes Isaiah’s vision of national disaster befalling the Israelites because of their sins.

Tisha B’Av cannot be observed on Shabbat, so if the date falls on Shabbat , the festival is postponed until Sunday. On such occasions, there are some small changes to Maariv (the evening service) on

Shabbat. Also, during havdalah (the concluding ceremony of Sabbath), the blessing over the wine is postponed until after the fast on Sunday night, though the blessing over the twisted candle is still said at the close of Shabbat.

#### The Fast Begins

Tisha B'Av is a full fast day, so the last meal must be eaten before sunset prior to the ninth of Av. This meal marking the boundary between periods of eating and fasting is called the "seudah ha-mafseket." The meal often is comprised of round foods like eggs or lentils, which symbolize mourning in Jewish tradition because they evoke the cycle of life. Some people eat an egg or bread sprinkled with ashes, and some Jews may sit on the ground during the meal. The birkat hamazon (grace after meals) is said individually and in silence.

In addition to abstaining from food or drink during Tisha B'Av, Jewish tradition also mandates refraining from wearing leather, engaging in sexual relations, washing one's body, and using perfume or other such ointments. Visiting cemeteries on this day is encouraged, as if to heighten the sadness. Uniquely on Tisha B'Av, Torah study, meant to be joyful, is not permitted. Some parts of the Bible or Talmud are allowed, like Job or Jeremiah, or sections of the Talmud or Midrash that discuss the destruction of Jerusalem. In the synagogue, the lights are dimmed and the ornamental parokhet (covering) is removed from the ark as a sign of mourning before the evening service. Congregants remove their leather shoes and do not greet each other.

#### Prayers & Customs

Megillat Eicha (the Scroll of Lamentations)—which is a lament for the destruction of the First Temple — is chanted during the Maariv service, along with several kinot, elegies or dirges written at different periods of Jewish history. The kinot speak of the suffering and pain of Jewish tragedy through the ages. An extended set of kinot are traditionally recited during the morning service, and some communities repeat the chanting of Eicha in the morning as well. The traditional Torah reading is Deuteronomy 4:25-40 and the Haftarah is Jeremiah 8:13-9:23, which is chanted to the same tune as Lamentations the night before.

Tallit (prayer shawl) and tefillin (phylacteries), usually worn during morning services, are instead worn during Minchah (the afternoon service). During Mincha, prayers that were omitted in the morning are recited. The Torah and Haftarah are the same as on other public fasts.

The meal ending the fast traditionally omits meat and wine, in acknowledgment of the fact that the burning of the Temple continued until the next day. Finally, the sorrow that began on the 17th of Tammuz comes to a halt and the Shabbat immediately following Tishah B'Av is called Shabbat Nahamu (Shabbat of comfort) because the Haftarah begins with the words "nahamu nahamu ami" ("comfort, comfort my people"). This begins a period of consolation and comfort leading up to Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.

# ELIE WIESEL'S

**Article from Monday, June 12, 1967**

## **THE SIX DAY WAR AT 50**

Future generations will probably never believe it. Teachers will have a hard time convincing their students that what sounds legendary actually occurred. The children will, naturally, swallow each word, but later on, as adults, they'll nod their heads and smiles, remarking that these were fantasies of history.

They won't believe that this small state, surrounded by hatred, fire and murder, had so quickly managed a miracle. It will be hard to describe how, amid a sea of hatred, a tiny army drove off and humiliated several well-equipped military hordes of who knows how many Arab countries.

How does acclaimed scholar and Talmudic genius Shaul Lieberman put it? In another 2,000 years, people will consider these events the way we think of descriptions of the Maccabees and their victories.

Did I say another 2,000 years? No make that in another year, or even tomorrow.

Last Sunday, the Arabs and their allies were boastfully threatening Israel that if she dared to make another move, she'd pay with her existence. And several hours later our Jewish heroes advanced, and the entire world, holding its breath, followed their every movement.

You'll recall the radio broadcasts at the beginning of the week that sounded practically Job-like. Every hour, another Arab government declared war against Israel. Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia. And then: Morocco, Tunisia, Algiers. In Tunisia, an incited mob led a pogrom in the Jewish Quarter. Other Muslim – or part Muslim- countries rushed to sign up in (Egyptian present Gamal Abdul) Nasser's "holy war." Malaysia, Sudan, Mali, Guinea and more.

We bit our lips, cracked our knuckles and could find no comfortable spot for ourselves. Quietly, we asked if the test was too hard this time. Was too much being demanded from the Jewish people and from their land? How could we expect to be redeemed, knowing that the enemy numbered tens of millions, even hundreds of millions of people, against a mere 2 million Jews in Israel?

And then, between Passover and Shavuot, the Hanukkah miracle occurred. It didn't take long before the supposedly mighty enemy was rendered speechless and lost its nerve. Even the Soviet Ambassador to the UN, Nikolai Fedorenko, suddenly changed his tone. Instead of worrying about whether Nasser would finally curb his appetite for power, world leaders began looking for ways to make amends to Israeli Premier Levi Eshkol.

It was as though a theater director, unfamiliar with his cast, suddenly switched the parts of his actors: those who had stubbornly opposed us now asked for mercy, as their former protectors now distanced themselves from them. Overnight, the mood at the UN Security Council seemed unrecognizable.

We all need to recite the Hallel thanksgiving prayer for being granted the privilege of witnessing these events. The battle has not yet ended, but the enemy has already retreated and won't easily recover.

It may well be that future generations won't comprehend how Israel vanquished her enemies. Yes, there are sacrifices, but in the long run nothing gets lost.

And yet the blood that was shed by our young lions, the sacrifices endured, everything will be inscribed. Each widow's tear, every death rattle of the fallen soldiers – they won't pass unnoticed by our descendants.

For Jews around the world, these last events are a deep source of pride. Every Jew witnessed and survived this trial together. Rarely, as a people do we feel such a deep connection to each other, of loyalty to the purest principles driven by our shared history.

Do you remember how thousands of Jewish youth besieged the Israeli Consulates, pleading to be sent as volunteers to Israel? Do you recall the mass demonstrations in the streets? And the countless Jews, including the poorest of the poor, donating their meager savings to pushkes (charity boxes) of the United Jewish Appeal?

This new Jewish awakening is part of that miracle, a part of the Jewish victory. Those who thought Jews were frightened by huge armies were mistaken, and those who thought you could separate the Jewish state from the Jewish people around the world clearly underestimated us.