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# Beth Zion - Beth Israel

Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel's Weekly E-Newsletter / December 29, 2022

At the Center City Kehillah Hanukkah Candle Lighting last week, I spoke of what a tough time of year winter can be. Our Talmud teaches that at the very beginning of time, when winter was a brand-new concept in the world, the first human beings, Adam and Eve, were confused. They saw that the days were getting shorter and shorter, that the darkness was growing longer and deeper, and they wondered: will it just keep getting worse? Will the days go away entirely? Will the universe return to tohu va'vohu, chaos and disorder? Adam and Eve cried together all night long. They wondered what they had done wrong to bring such a fate upon the world. In his fear, Adam fasted and wept for 8 days.

But then a funny thing happened. One day, the sun stayed up a little bit longer than the day before. And then a little bit longer. The darkness receded. The chaos was held at bay. And Adam realized, "This is just the way of the world." And instead of fasting and weeping, he held a great celebration for 8 days.

Our eight-day celebration of Hanukkah has passed; the winter solstice has passed; and we now watch as the sun hangs high in the sky a few minutes longer each day. In a strange turn of events, the bitter chill of last weekend is gone, replaced by unseasonably warm weather. It is an auspicious time to celebrate the secular new year. As we move into 2023, let us look forward to sunny days ahead. Let us take a good look at our fears and anxieties of the past year and decide whether they will define us in the year to come. Weeping may endure for a night, or even eight, but joy can come in the morning. Happy New Year from all of us at BZBI.

–Rabbi Abi

There's still time to make a year-end donation to BZBI. **Support us here.**

## Spotlight

Important information for this week:

- Early Childhood Education **will return on Tuesday, January 3**

- **January 3** is the deadline to sign up for First Friday Shabbat Dinner. **Sign up here.**
- **January 6** is the deadline to sign up for Shabbhatki Yoga. **Sign up here.**
- Rabbi Stone's classes will **return on Monday, January 9**
- Rabbi Mort Levine's class will return on **Monday, January 9**

**BZBI will be emailing all 2022 Tax Receipts this year.** In preparation, please take a moment to **log into your Shul Cloud account** to verify that your email is correct. Individual requests for a paper mailing of your tax receipt can be submitted to Leslee at **bookkeeper@bzbi.org** after January 9, 2023.

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### First Fridays @ BZBI: January Kabbalat Shabbat and Catered Dinner (Featuring Chinese Food from Unit Su Vege)

*Friday, January 6, 5:00/6:00/7:00 PM*

Join us as we celebrate **First Fridays @ BZBI** with a spirited Kabbalat Shabbat service **at 6:00 PM**. This month our service will feature percussionist Joe Tayoun.

Families with young children are invited to an early dinner **at 5:00 PM**, and the entire community is invited for a late dinner **at 7:00 PM**.

**In order to join either dinner, you must pre-register here.** The cost is $18 per adult and $12 per child under 12. *If cost is a barrier to your participation, **please contact Liat Kovnator.*** The deadline to sign up is **January 3rd at Noon.**

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### Shabbhatki Yoga is Back at BZBI with Deb Glassman

*Starting January 7 at 9:45 AM*

Join BZBI in an alternative spiritual journey into the heart of Shabbat through yogic movement, meditation, and song with Dr. Deborah Glassman. Classes will take place on ***select*** **Saturdays from 9:45 AM to 11:00 AM in the Kahaner Auditorium**.

**Registration is required for these classes,** and non-members must pay in advance. **The cost is $18 per session for BZBI members and $25 for community members.**

Participants should wear comfortable clothes and bring a mat if possible; mats at the synagogue are limited.

**The class schedule is as follows:** January 7, February 4, March 4, April 22 & May 6.

### Israel Engagement Presents: A Night of Israeli Art with Shel and Penny Bernick and Noa Hagiladi

*Wednesday, January 11 at 7:30 PM*

Join Shel and Penny Bernick at their home for an evening full of Israeli Art. We will be joined by Israeli Glass Artist and Speaker, Noa Hagiladi, who is currently pursuing an MFA at Temple University's Tyler School of Art.

Noa is a multidisciplinary artist and mental health advocate who has given over 80 lectures about her artistic life story, including at the UN. She has previously trained at Bezalel--The Israel Art Academy. She will speak this evening on her art and life experiences.

The address will be given with RSVP as this event has a limited capacity. **Sign up here!**

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### Congregational Ski Trip

Sunday, February 26 at Elk Mountain

Travel through the wilderness and make aliyah. BZBI will be traversing the Northeast Extension and riding the chair up Elk Mountain. That's right, we're going skiing! In order to plan the day, we need an idea of how many people are coming. **Please click here to let us know your interest, skiing level and equipment status.**

**Worried about conditioning?** **Here is a video** of a doable conditioning and injury avoidance regimen. Just 15 minutes a day for the next two months and you'll be ready. You can follow along through 8 weeks of increasingly more challenging variations or just stick with week one.

You will be able to sign up for equipment rentals, lessons as well as lifts. Nine people have expressed interest so far. So join us!

## Worship

### Friday, December 30

4:26 PM Shabbat Candlelighting

### Saturday, December 31

**Shabbat Morning Service**

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM *in the Goldberg Sanctuary*

- **Torah Readers:** Doug Barg, Johannah Lebow, & Dan Segal
- **Haftarah:** Sheldon Bernick
- **Shabbat Learning:** Shlomo Cohen

5:30 PM Shabbat Ends

**BZBI's Shabbat Learning and related videos are now available on the Shofar Blog.**

## Members

We gratefully acknowledge this week's donations:

### In Honor Of:

- **Phyllis Kramer** by Judy & Bill Brookover
- **Eileen Dwell** reading Torah on Hanukkah by Barbara Spector
- **Eileen Dwell, Beth Garstkiewicz and Alyssa Bailkin** for their work with teens at Youth Emergency Services by Robin & Doug Barg
- **Ben & Jen Silverman and Jonah & Yael** by Phillip B. Silverman
- The recovery of **Eve Adler and Jay Caplan** by Penina Gould

### In Appreciation Of:

- **Aliyah** by Joseph Freedman

### In Memory Of:

- **Sheila Rosenblum** by Judy & Bill Brookover, Arlene Fickler, Robin Lebow
- **Fruma Ludwig** on her 2nd yahrzeit by her family
- **Samuel Emmett** by Robin Lebow
- **Helen Osokow** by Susan Weiss
- **Florence Strauss** by William Eisen
- **Lenore Gordon** by Barbara Pomerantz
- **Freda & Joseph Hirsh** by Robert & Rochelle Hirsh
- **Florence & Jack Zeitenberg** by Robert & Rochelle Hirsh
- **Rita Hirsh** by Robert & Rochelle Hirsh
- **Bernard Hirsh** by Robert & Rochelle Hirsh
- **Reuven Gilevitz** by Robin Lebow
- **Nan Lacheen** by Donna Satir

Dorothy Baird | Morton Balzer | Helen Dreshin | Robert Kahn | Frances Kotzin | Diana Maletzky | Leo Marcus | Michael Mazis | Sylvia Nierman | Sharon Norry | Samuel Rosenberg | Florence Strauss | Harry Val | Florence Werlinsky | Harry Yablonovitz

# Events

## Sisterhood Meeting

*Monday, January 9 at 7:00 PM*

This is a reminder that the Sisterhood monthly planning meeting will be **Monday, January 9 at 7:00 PM on Zoom.**

**Click here to register.**

## BZBI Day at The Jewish Relief Agency

*Sunday, January 15*

JRA delivers food and essential household items to approximately 3,400 households monthly. JRA serves a diverse population of low-income individuals and families who are struggling with food insecurity. Volunteers help at the JRA warehouse by packing boxes and bags of food and delivering to JRA's recipient households.

This event will take place at the JRA Warehouse *10980 Dutton Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19154*. JRA junior packing (for young children) will take place from **9:00-10:00 AM.** All ages packing is from **10:00-11:30 AM.** Food delivery will start at either **10:00 AM or 11:30 AM.** After packing, volunteers are also able to deliver packages on a specified delivery route.

**Please sign up here for any packing and delivery shifts you would like to do!**

## Philadelphia Museum of Art Private Jewish Tour

*Sunday, January 22 at 11:30 AM*

Join the BZBI Sisterhood on a private tour of Jewish art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and an optional lunch at Stir afterwards. The cost of the private tour is $26 for seniors and $28 for others.

the tour through **January 5**; thereafter, we will open it to the BZBI community.

If you would like to join the Sisterhood, please call the Temple Office (215-735-5148).

**For the Art Museum tour sign up, please click here.**

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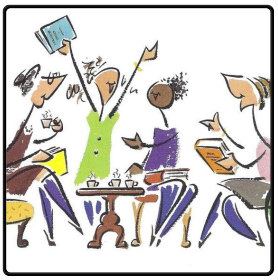

### BZBI Book Club

*Monday, January 23, at 7:00 PM in the Chapel and on Zoom*

Join the BZBI book club members as they discuss Dinners with Ruth by Nina Totenberg. The discussion will be led by BZBI member Phyllis Fisher. **Join by Zoom here.**

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### What's Next for Israel? An Evening with the Israel Policy Forum's Michael Koplow

*Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00pm at BZBI*

As Israel prepares to swear in a new government that looks radically different from the previous one, what can we expect to see in the Middle East? Join BZBI and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of Philadelphia for an evening with political analyst Michael Koplow. Following the program, young professionals are invited to have a drink with Michael at a nearby bar.

Koplow is the chief policy officer of Israel Policy Forum. He holds a Ph.D. in Government from Georgetown University, where he specialized in political development and ideology, and the politics of Middle Eastern states. He writes Israel Policy Forum's weekly Koplow Column and edits Israel Policy Exchange, which is a leading source for commentary and analysis on Israel and American Jewry, and his work regularly appears in Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, the Atlantic, and the Forward, among other publications.

## *Around the Community*

The 42nd annual Jewish Film Festival is streaming on demand from January 7 to January 9! **Purchase tickets on their website here** to watch the fabulous assortment of films that are available. Films being featured include *A Radiant Girl, America, Jewish Shorts, Karaoke,* and *Reckonings.*

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