



**Temple
Beth
Abraham** the

Omer

Volume 45, Number 2

Dec. 2024/Jan. 2025, Heshvan/Shevat 5785



Photo by [Kavod](#)

KAVOD (RESPECT)

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Omer	see page 3
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Monday & Thursday Morning Minyan

Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

Friday Afternoon

Gan Shabbat, 12:40 p.m.

Friday Evening (Kabbalat Shabbat)

Sanctuary and YouTube, 6:15 p.m.

Friday, December Candle Lighting

Dec. 6	4:32pm
Dec. 13	4:33pm
Dec. 20	4:36pm
Dec. 27	4:40pm

Chanukkah 3 candles

Shabbat Morning

Sanctuary and YouTube, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Havdalah & Torah Portions

Dec. 7	5:33pm
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Parashat Vayetzei

Bat Mitzvah of Maytal Jordan Berla

Dec. 14	5:34pm
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Parashat Vayishlach

Dec. 21	5:37pm
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Parashat Vayeshev

Dec. 28	5:41pm
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Parashat Miketz

Mevarchim Chodesh Tevet

Chanukkah 4 candles

CHANUKKAH – OTHER DAYS

Wednesday 25	5:19pm 1 Candle
Thursday 26	5:19pm 2 candles
Sunday 29	5:22pm 5 candles
Monday 30	5:22pm 6 candles
Tuesday 31	5:23pm 7 candles

JANUARY 2025**Friday, January Candle Lighting**

Jan. 3	4:45pm
Jan. 10	4:52pm
Jan. 17	4:59pm
Jan. 24	5:06pm
Jan. 31	5:14pm

Saturday Havdalah & Torah Portions

Jan. 4	5:47pm
Parashat Vayigash	
Jan. 11	5:53pm
Parashat Vayechi	
Jan. 18	6:00pm
Parashat Shemot	
Jan. 25	6:08pm
Parashat Vaera	
Mevarchim Chodesh Shevat	

Editors in Chief	Lisa Fernandez & Rachel Dornhelm
Layout & Design	Alden F. Cohen
Calendar	Virginia Tiger
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Help From	People like you!
Cover	Kavod

The Omer

We are always looking for help and contributions, whether it be first-person articles, poems, art, photos and anything that aligns with our theme of positive, Jewish community.

We are also always in need of copy editors.

The Omer is run by volunteer editors, TBA members Lisa Fernandez and Rachel Dornhelm, and assembled visually by graphic designer [Alden F. Cohen](#).

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE MORE COMMUNITY MEMBERS JOIN OUR TINY STAFF.

Please email Omer@tbaoakland.org if you'd like to help out and contribute.

We accept member submissions. Deadline for articles and letters is generally the 12th of the month preceding publication.



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The Kavod Associations

Since Kavod is usually translated as honor, the title sounds like an “Honors Society,” like the kind you get inducted into if you receive a certain grade point average. But the reason I am titling this article the “Kavod Associations” is because I have many different associations with this word.

Kavod literally means heavy. That may seem strange, since we associate it with honor, but I like to think of it as those who do the heavy lifting, especially volunteers, are most worthy of being honored.

Kavod is strongly related to kaved, which means liver. The liver is the heaviest of the human internal organs, weighing about 3 pounds on average, which is why they come from the same root word.

Kol Hakavod is an important Hebrew expression. It literally means “all the glory,” as in you deserve lots of glory for what you just did. You still hear this regularly on the streets of Israel, used as a great compliment if someone does something well.

Kavod was the theme of the Gan one year. Back when Jill Rosenthal was the Director of our preschool, Gan Avraham, I remember them making “kavod,” honoring people, the “theme” of the school that year. The kids really got the concept that treating others with kavod was something we should strive for. They understood it so well that at least one kid learned to use it in an argument. When the child wouldn’t do what the teacher asked, they said to Jill “you’re not treating me with kavod.”

Kavod was said out loud in services in Australia. When someone was given an honor, such as an Aliyah or a reading, certain individuals would almost shout “kavod.” It added to the honor and feeling in the room, and I can still hear my Australian friends David Tobin (of blessed memory) and Sarah Gornall saying it.

Kavod is something we should say and do more often for others. Whether in a service, in a preschool, on the streets of Israel or here, the lesson here is that we must learn to treat others with honor and respect and to continually pay honor to those who do all that heavy lifting.

Kol hakavod to the members of Temple Beth Abraham,
Rabbi Mark Bloom

Bat Mitzvah



Maytal Jordan Berla – December 7, 2024

I’m Jordan and I’m in the 7th grade at Edna Brewer Middle School. My Torah portion is about love, freedom, escape and family. I’m interested in Indie Rock, Jazz and R&B music. I also like collecting things.

MORNING MINYAN

Monday and Thursdays at 8am in the TBA Chapel.
No RSVP - just join the group

Showing Kavod at Gan

By Rachel Fenvyes

Kavod is one of our four core values at Gan Avraham. We believe that in order for children to be academically ready, they also need to know how to be kind, tolerant, and capable of solving their own problems. We believe that children can learn to engage with peers and the environment in a kind and respectful way. Our shared language in the classrooms includes the word kavod and we use it in various scenarios.

- During conflict resolution we discuss with the children ways in which we show Kavod to each other. Using our words and bodies in a way that is safe for our friends.
- Speaking with kavod to each other, our family, and friends.

- Taking care of the materials in our classroom so that they last, and we can all continue to enjoy them.
- Resetting a space when we are done to show kavod for the next person who wants to use it.
- Showing kavod for the earth by recycling & composting in the classroom, using reusable water bottles, and not wasting food.
- Showing kavod for our own bodies by learning how to listen to our body's cues for hunger, toileting, and rest.
- Our oldest Gan children, the Kitah Gimmel class, have the honor of carrying the Torah around for the rest of the children during our Friday morning chapel Shabbats with Rabbi Bloom.



News from WTBA and a look ahead to December

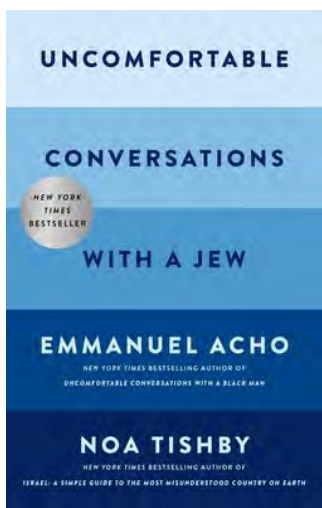
By Valerie Milner

Kavod -- honor or respect. These are such foundational values. I'm guessing they're not only Jewish values, but core values to most people. We can look at big expressions of Kavod like awards, that happen infrequently. But I think it's equally compelling to explore the things we do every day that show our respect and honor for others. Perhaps it's a kiss good morning, a kind word, or checking in on a friend; that eye contact with the checker at the grocery store, or apologizing for something we did that hurt someone. The opportunities for Kavod are truly infinite.

Does Kavod apply to ourselves? I think so. Sometimes we get so caught up in life that we neglect to honor ourselves by attending to our own needs. Like the flight attendants always say, we have to put on our own masks before assisting someone else. Things as basic as eating right, making sure we get the sleep we need, or giving ourselves a rest when we need one. Again, we have infinite opportunities to show ourselves Kavod.

WTBA, anyone? WTBA held its annual Membership Appreciation Event on 11/3, and it was a big success. We took a Tai Chi class and learned some basic moves, then watched a more advanced demonstration by Patricia Eliahu. We had fun craft stations, good food, and lots of laughter and socializing. November also featured our Jewelry & Accessory Exchange on 11/14 and the launch of L'dor Vador on 11/17. We look forward to December with our Hanukkah cookie exchange with a twist on 12/12. We hope you will join us!





We will meet on Thursday, December 19, at 7:30 via Zoom, to discuss the nonfiction book, *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Jew* by [Emmanuel Acho](#) and [Noa Tishby](#). The book is 292 pages and was published in April 2024. The book is available through Link+:

<https://csul.iii.com/search/?XUncomfortable+Conversations+with+a+Jew+&SORT=D/XUncomfortable+Conversations+with+a+Jew+&SORT=D&SUBKEY=Uncomfortable+Conversations+with+a+Jew+/1%2C3%2C3%2CB/frameset&FF=XUncomfortable+Conversations+with+a+Jew+&SORT=D&1%2C1%2C>

From two New York Times bestselling authors, a timely, disarmingly honest, and thought-provoking investigation into antisemitism that connects the dots between the tropes and hatred of the past to our current complicated moment.

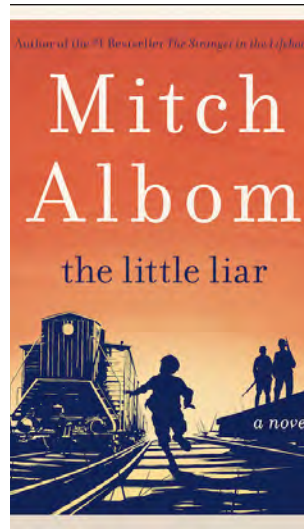
For Emmanuel Acho and Noa Tishby no question about Jews is off-limits. They go there. They cover Jews and money. Jews and power. Jews and privilege. Jews and white privilege. The Black and Jewish struggle. Emmanuel asks, Did Jews kill Jesus? To which Noa responds, “Why are Jewish people history’s favorite scapegoat?” They unpack Judaism itself: Is it a religion, culture, a peoplehood, or a race? And: Are you antisemitic if you’re anti-Zionist?

The questions—and answers—might make you squirm, but together, they explain the tropes, stereotypes, and catalysts of antisemitism in America today.

The topics are complicated and Acho and Tishby bring vastly different perspectives. Tishby is an outspoken Israeli American. Acho is a mild-mannered son of a Nigerian American pastor. But they share a superpower: an uncanny ability to make complicated ideas easy to understand so anyone can follow the straight line from the past to our immediate moment—and then see around corners. Acho and Tishby are united by the core belief that hatred toward one group is never isolated: if you see the smoke of bigotry in one place, expect that we will all be in the fire.

Informative and accessible, *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Jew* has a unique structure: Acho asks questions and Tishby answers them with deeply personal, historical, and political responses. This book will enable anyone to

explain—and identify—what Jewish hatred looks like. It is a much-needed lexicon for this fraught moment in Jewish history. As Acho says, “Proximity breeds care and distance breeds fear.”



We will meet again on Tuesday, January 21, at 7:30 via Zoom, to discuss the fiction book, *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom. The book is 333 pages and was published in November, 2023. It is available in book, large print, ebook, and audiobook formats. It is at the Oakland and Berkeley libraries, as well as available through Link+:

<https://csul.iii.com/search/?searchtype=X&searcharg=the+little+liar&sortdropdown=-&SORT=DZ&extended=0&SUBMIT=Search&searchlimits=&searchorigarg=Xthe+little+liar%26SORT%3DDZ>

An Instant New York Times Bestseller Beloved bestselling author Mitch Albom returns with his most important novel to date, an unforgettable story of truth and lies set during the Holocaust.

Eleven-year-old Nico Krispis has never told a lie. When the Nazis invade his home in Salonika, Greece, the trustworthy boy is discovered by a German officer, who offers him a chance to save his family. All Nico has to do is persuade his fellow Jewish residents to board trains heading “north,” where new jobs and safety await. Unaware that this is all a cruel ruse, the innocent boy reassures passengers on the station platform every day. But when the final train is loaded, Nico sees his family being herded into a boxcar. Only then does he discover that he has helped send them—and everyone he knows and loves—to their doom at Auschwitz. Nico escapes—but he never tells the truth again.

In *The Little Liar*, Mitch Albom examines the human repercussions of deception by interweaving the stories of Nico, who yearns for forgiveness; his older brother, Sebastian, who vows revenge against him; Fannie, the girl who must choose between them; and Udo Graf, the Nazi officer who forever changed their lives with his lies. Through the war years, the concentration camps, and the decades that follow, Albom reveals the consequences of each person’s honesty and dishonesty, bringing them back to where it all started in a staggering climax worthy of the best of Albom’s internationally embraced stories.

Jo Budman: TBA President, 1990-1992

By Jody London

This is the third profile in our series on the Presidents of Temple Beth Abraham.

Jo Budman was a trailblazer for women at TBA from her youngest years. She remembers being the first woman at Temple Beth Abraham to read from the Torah at her Bat Mitzvah in 1957, and she was the first woman to be President of the Board of Directors in 1990.

Jo grew up in Oakland, the oldest of four sisters, during the years often referred to as the Schulweis Era. Her father, Dr. Arthur Roth, was Vice President of the TBA Board. As the time for Jo's Bat Mitzvah approached, Dr. Roth and Rabbi Schulweis asked the elders of the congregation that Jo be able to read from the Torah in the sanctuary. At the time, it was unheard of for women to do either. There was a congregational meeting to discuss this, and the request was denied.

Undeterred, Jo's Bat Mitzvah was held in the social hall. In addition to Rabbi Schulweis, Rabbi Morris Schussheim, Jo's maternal grandfather, came from his congregation in Rhode Island and brought a Torah. (Coincidentally, this is the same congregation where Rabbi Bloom served before he joined TBA!) Jo remembers, "Mine was the one that was done differently. Done with the Torah, with two rabbis while Rabbi Schulweis let the rest of the people go upstairs. Rabbi Schulweis was with us."

In 1965, Jo and her husband Norm were married at Temple Beth Abraham by Rabbi Schulweis and Rabbi Schussheim. After living on the east coast for several years, the Budmans moved back to Oakland in the mid-1970s. Norm was President of TBA 1983 – 1985 (see the September 2024 Omer for a profile of Norm). Norm and Jo served on the Board together during the 1980s after Norm's term as President had concluded.

A crisis precipitated Jo's ascendancy to President of the Board. In 1990, the Board determined that it would be in the best interest of TBA to terminate a year early the contract of Rabbi Schonwald. This was controversial with the members. The congregation held a meeting and by three votes, the membership overrode the decision of the Board and elected to keep Rabbi Schonwald. Many of the Board members, upset by this, quit not only the Board but TBA altogether.

Ray Bolton, a past President, stepped in to keep things going while a new Board was recruited. Jo was asked to be the President. She says she was aware at the time that having a woman as a president would be supportive for the women of the congregation. "Part of why you accept

that kind of responsibility is hoping that the temple will heal. And that's what we worked on."

It was challenging to step in as the primary contact with the rabbi after such an upheaval. Jo relied on her skills as a trainer, team leader and manager with the California Employment Development Department to recruit new Board members and help the congregation come together once again.

"I gathered a committee that Alan Silver became the chair of. He was respected by all the families," she recalls. The 18-member Committee's purpose was to evaluate the situation and make a decision on the future of the congregation's relationship with Rabbi Schonwald. At the end of a long process, there was a unanimous decision to let the Rabbi go.

The Rabbi evaluation committee morphed into a Rabbi search committee that met at Sandy Margolin's law office. In the second year of Jo's presidency, the committee recommended Rabbi Mark Diamond.

Another challenge during Jo's years as President was the November 26, 1990 firebombing of Temple Beth Abraham. According to the *Jewish Bulletin*, "a Molotov cocktail was thrown through the window in a room next to Beth Abraham's sanctuary between 2 and 3 a.m.... Another firebomb was tossed into a rear auditorium at Beth Sholom [in San Leandro] at approximately 3 a.m." The week prior, a firebomb had been hurled into the San Francisco Jewish Community Center and a fire was set at Congregation Beth Israel Judea in San Francisco.

TBA sustained about \$2,000 in damage (just under \$5,000 today). The attacks were condemned by community leaders and politicians around the Bay Area. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the East Bay bombings. Jo recalls clergy from several Oakland churches visited the Temple, offering comfort and support.

One of the years' strongest programs that Jo is most proud of was the Thursday night English conversations with new Americans. She says, "At our peak, we had twenty to thirty congregants volunteering to chat with an equal number of new English speakers." This was TBA's warm welcome for Russian Jewish immigrants who had finally been allowed to leave Russia and participate with American Jewry. She remembers many new immigrants joined the Temple and ended up holding important roles.

In addition to the emotional upheaval of the controversy over the rabbi and the firebombing, the budget was a challenge, with a \$30,000 deficit (nearly \$75,000 today). Jo focused on rebuilding the community, and the money

followed. “We found a way to do it, with the help of many people who are leaders in this congregation to this day.” She recalls, “Finances definitely were challenging until everybody felt good about being there. It took a while. It had been an unhappy situation. And when everybody decided to make the best of it by sharing the responsibility and getting involved, all the “spirit” that was there in the temple during the Schulweis days came back.” In particular, she says the congregation honored Man and Woman of the Year Leslie and Alice Kessler who stepped in with a vital cash infusion.

There was pressure on Jo to prove herself as the first woman President of the congregation. She called on her personal network to find mentors to support her. She reflects: “I think what made it work is that I wasn’t just being just for women... as you know, many women now in our temple are very much leaders. I could rattle off names who helped me by being supportive women. And also the supportive men.” Of great meaning to Jo during the rebuilding, was that she was able to invite and welcome back most of the past Board and other members who left during the controversial upheaval.

When Jo gave her first address to the full, reunited congregation, she reflected on how things had changed. “I basically said, this is ... exciting and new and feels good because here I am, I couldn’t have my Bat Mitzvah up here. But I can talk to you now.”

In many ways the themes of Jo’s Yom Kippur drashes ring true today. Her first one was titled “Shalom Bayit” (or, Peace at Home) focusing on efforts to unite the congregation, while recognizing international events including welcoming newly freed Russian Jewish immigrants. Jo’s second Yom Kippur speech, welcomed the new Rabbi with a message of “*Chazak Chazak v’Nitzchazek*”

(Be Strong, Be Strong, and Go From Strength to Strength).

Jo’s wish for Temple Beth Abraham going forward is two-fold. “I think it’s just living healthy and well and being supportive of each other. [I also hope we continue to] take support from the other religious communities, and they do the same for us.”



Newlyweds Jo and Norm Budman



Jo Budman



Jo Budman at her Bat Mitzvah with Cantor Si Cohen

Honor

By Mindy Berla

Elevate to animate
Into the realm of honor
Discuss, digest, inquire
Ask questions
Consider differences
Hold space for
Other

To honor is to increase
One's own participation
In taking responsibility for one's actions.

Honor is selfless
It shows a dedication to higher ground

Honor is a leveling of values
Seeking higher spaces of spiritual reckonings

Having honor is being able to acknowledge that being better is more important than being right

Honor is holding one's values deeper than the desire for popularity

To be better than yesterday and to be acclaimed for that pursuit

An acknowledgment that the pursuit to improve forever exists

Kavod: Honor and respect for our elders and ancestors

Part of Kavod is showing respect to our elders and their stories. Decades long TBA member and Holocaust survivor Misia Nudler (ז"ל) painted this image of the town that she came from as part of an art class she participated in at the Reutlinger Community where she lived. She wrote the following words about it:

I grew up a happy child with wonderful parents and family; I still miss them dearly. Although I lived through the Holocaust, these memories are still with me and bring out the best in me.

When I started school, I dreamed of being a teacher, which I greatly admired. My dear Mom always had faith in me and said, "Mishale, when you will grow up, I am sure you will be a good teacher."

But my destiny was different. After the war, I married a wonderful man in a DP camp; we came to the USA- to Oakland and had our family. We were so lucky to have family present; and we joined the TBA Synagogue and made many dear friends.

As a free person, I devoted myself to doing outstanding volunteer work, showing that the best quality in a person is to be giving of yourself to others. My dream came true....I became a teacher...I was "teaching" about humanity.



News from Generation to Generation

We kicked off the L'Dor V'Dor (LVDV) club with lots of *ruach*! We *shmoozed*, played speed dating mixers and *noshed*! We made new connections and created a closer community!

Please join us for the next event!

It will be Lots of Latkes on December 22 from 4:30-6 in the social hall.

We would love to have new people joining as we combine our younger and older generations at Temple Beth Abraham.

-- Rebecca Feigelson



Thank you to the Sam and Shirley Silver Playground Fund!



Have you noticed the newly built Gazebo on the playground adjacent to the preschool and Hebrew School Building? This permanent addition to the outdoor play area was paid for by the Sam and Shirley Silver Playground Fund! And it helps protect our younger temple members and the adults that supervise them, from the sun.

What a great addition to the TBA campus and use of one of our Restricted Funds! Next time you want to honor or remember someone, think of this fund or any of the other Restricted Funds. And if you have a special project or program, maybe the Restricted Funds can provide the money to make it happen.

Reference the TBA Website for a complete list and description of the funds available.

-- Jan Kessler and Alan Silver

Laktes For The New Year

By Faith Kramer

With Hanukkah spanning 2024-2025 this year, I thought it would be fun to have a latke board or latke bar to celebrate at a New Year's Eve party or New Year's Day brunch. I like to make the latkes a bit smaller and provide a variety of toppings. Or make several kinds of latkes. Most of the work can be done in advance, so you can enjoy the party, too.

If you are serving the latke board as an appetizer or snack with drinks or offering multiple varieties of latkes, consider making your latkes smaller (maybe 1 ½ inches in diameter). If you are using purchased potato pancakes, consider cutting them in half or quarters for latke nibbles. For more on latkes, see my recipe and suggestions below.

For toppings, I like to offer everything from the expected to the unexpected. I usually offer up several (something creamy, something sweet, and something spicy), but for larger gatherings consider having more. For some topping recipes and suggestions, see the toppings section below.



KRAMER FAMILY POTATO LATKES

Recipe adapted from *52 Shabbats: Friday Night Dinners Inspired by a Global Jewish Kitchen* (The Collective Book Studio) by Faith Kramer

Makes about 24; serves 6 to 8

Here's a shortcut – use refrigerated shredded potatoes (sometimes labeled hash brown potatoes) instead of shredding or grating the whole spuds. Use chilled and be sure to pat very dry. (If only frozen pre-shredded potatoes are available, defrost, drain, and chill. Pat very dry before using.) Mix with shredded onions before proceeding with recipe.

- 2 1/2 pounds Idaho, russet, or Yukon gold potatoes
- 1 large onion, cut into large chunks
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon salt

- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons flour or 1/4 cup matzo meal
- Vegetable oil for frying

Set a wire rack over a large baking tray or line two plates with paper towels.

Scrub the potatoes well or peel them. Using a food processor fitted with the grating attachment, grate the potatoes, alternating with chunks of onions, emptying the work bowl as necessary into a large bowl. (The onions will help keep the potatoes from browning.) If grating with a hand grater, combine the batches in a large bowl.

Working over a sink or second bowl, take handfuls of the potatoes and onions and squeeze out as much liquid as you can. Place the wrung-out potatoes and onions in a large dry bowl. Repeat with the remaining shreds.

Change to the food processor's steel blade. Put 1/3 of the potato back in the work bowl and pulse until finely chopped. (If making by hand, chop with a knife.)

Add the chopped potato and onions to the bowl with the shreds. Add the garlic, eggs, salt, and pepper. Sprinkle the flour on top and mix well. Let rest for 10 minutes. Sprinkle in more flour if the batter seems wet and doesn't stick together when compressed. Stir well.

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add 1/4-inch oil. Take 3 to 4 tablespoons of batter and, working over a bowl (not the latke batter bowl) to catch drips, squeeze the batter with your hands to form a compact patty 2 1/2 to 3 inches in diameter. Place patties on greased platter.

When the oil is hot but not smoking (a shred of potato tossed into the hot oil should sizzle on contact, about 350°F on a deep fry thermometer), use a spatula to gently slide the first 3 to 5 latkes into the pan. Do not crowd them. Adjust the heat as necessary. Press down to flatten with a spatula.

Fry for about 4 minutes until the center of the latke has become firmer, the edges have browned, a spatula can easily be inserted underneath without tearing the latkes, and the bottom is golden brown. Flip it over and cooked until the other side is browned, 3 to 4 minutes. (If a latke falls apart during the flip, use the spatula to pat it back in shape.)

Drain on the prepared rack. Bring the oil back to sizzling and repeat until all the latkes are cooked. If you need to add oil between batches, make sure the oil is sizzling again before cooking. If desired, place

latkes on ungreased baking trays and keep warm in 225-degree F oven until ready to serve.

Note: If making the smaller “appetizer-size” latkes, make each patty about 1 ½ inches in diameter. Frying time may vary.

VARIATION: Make It Vegan—Omit the eggs and increase the flour or matzo meal by 1 tablespoon or use an egg replacer.

VARIATION: Make It Gluten-Free—Replace the flour with potato starch (not potato flour) or one-for-one all-purpose gluten-free flour baking mix.

MAKE IT IN ADVANCE: The latkes can be cooled, wrapped, and refrigerated overnight or wrapped individually and frozen for up to 3 months. Do not defrost. Reheat on ungreased baking tray in 400-degree F oven for 10-15 until crisp and warmed through.

THE TOPPINGS

First step is to decide if your latke board or bar will be parve, dairy or meat. (I love serving latkes with topped with a bit of a savory vegetable or meat stew or a spoonful of saucy, shredded brisket). I serve a variety of toppings to drizzle, dollop or dip. Some of my favorites are sour cream, labneh, or yogurt (consider nondairy for a parve board), caramelized onions, tahini sauce, amba (a fermented mango Iraqi-Israeli condiment available at kosher, Middle Eastern and online markets), pomegranate molasses or silan (date syrup), which give a nice sweet-sour, taste, prepared grated horseradish (with or without beets), salsa, chili crisp, and chopped olives or an olive tapenade. The list does go on. Put out some of your favorites and try some new tastes.

Here are three recipes for latke topping combinations I’ve offered up.

APPLE AND RED ONION COMPOTE

Makes about 2 cups

- 1 medium red onion
- 2 Tbs. vegetable oil
- 2 medium apples, peeled, cored and cut into ½-inch cubes
- 1 cup apple juice
- 1 Tbs. brown sugar
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ⅛ tsp. ground cloves
- ⅛ tsp. ground coriander

Slice onions very thinly and then cut slices in half. Heat oil in large pan. Sauté onions over low heat until

very soft, add apples and apple juice, and raise heat to medium-high. Bring to a simmer, stirring occasionally.

Add brown sugar, salt, cloves and coriander. Cover and continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until the apples are very soft but not mushy, about 30 minutes. Remove lid, raise heat to high and cook, stirring, until all the pan juices have thickened, and the mixture is no longer liquid. Serve warm or at room temperature.

APPLE, BEET, AND HORSE-RADISH TOPPING

Makes about 2 ½ cups

- 1 medium apple, peeled and cored
- 2 Tbs. lemon juice
- 15 oz. can sliced beets, drained
- 1-2 Tbs. or to taste plain, prepared bottled white horseradish
- ½ cup dairy or non-dairy sour cream

Chop apple into ¼-inch pieces, mix with lemon juice and drain. Chop beets into ¼-inch pieces and mix with drained apples. Stir in horseradish to taste. Refrigerate.

Just before serving, pour off any liquid and mix with sour cream. Serve immediately.

Note: White horseradish is stronger than the red, which is mixed with beets. If substituting red, adjust amount to taste.

APPLE PEAR SAUCE

Makes about 3 cups

- 3 medium apples, peeling optional
- 2 Bartlett pears, ripe but firm, peeling optional
- 2 Tbs. lemon juice
- ¾ cup apple juice

Core and cut apples and pears into 1-inch cubes. Toss with lemon juice. Put in medium pot with apple juice over low heat. Cover and cook at a simmer. Using a heavy spoon, stir, mash and break up pieces of the fruit occasionally as the sauce cooks.

Once the fruit is very tender, about 30 minutes (peeled fruit may require less time), remove lid, raise heat and simmer for 10 minutes to thicken juices. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Faith Kramer writes a food column for the j., the Jewish News of Northern California (<https://www.jweekly.com/author/faith-kramer/>). She is the author of *52 Shabbats: Friday Night Dinners Inspired by a Global Jewish Kitchen* (<https://thecollectivebookstudio/52-shabbats>). More at www.faithkramer.com.

המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

30 HESHVAN - 5 KISLEV

December 1 - 6

Patricia Nightingale
Stanley Herschman
Freda Rubenstein
Augusta Saretsky
Weinberger
Ruth Bresow Young
Max Gershenson
Anne Bosniak Goldberg
Kurt Kruchinski
Helen Moskowitz
Michael Stevens
Janice Thompson
Benjamin Davis
Esther DeKoven
Charlene Eberhart
Mary Feltman
Sonia Greenberg
Gil Hersh
Pearl Kasdan Jonas
Samuel Kaplan
Joseph Landowitz
Marietta Wulff
Esther Dubrow
Adeline Frances Freeman
Lola Kahane
Rebecca Kerns
Joseph Okh
Edes Olszak
Gitman Olszak
Ben Shane
Robert Zuckerberg
Paul Hertz

6 - 12 KISLEV

December 7 - 13

Max Gevertz
Suanne Claire Kasdan
Arthur Kellman
Sidney M. Levee
Abraham Shaffer
Gussie Goldstein
Isaac Marcus
Max Marovitz
Leah Stamer
Cyril Weiss
Phyllis Marjorie Cowan
June Reingold Fleck

Harry Grossfield
Herman Roth
Irma Eis
Jeanette Jeger
Sarah Lichtenstein
Eve Rothman
Stanley Rudee
Anne H. Tanner
Stuart Handwerker
Jacob Karwat
Marie Lorenz
Mona Scharff
Ronald Abraham
Abraham
Edward Bercovich
Herbert Goodman
Leon Kraft
Rebecca Millman
Esther Naggar
Sarah Leah Schneider
Alexander Kleinlerer
Mildred Pullman
Dr. Morris Resnick
Joseph Rosenfeld
Joseph Samson
Joseph Schein
Jacob Wachsmann
Eva Weissman

13 - 19 KISLEV

December 14 - 20

Sandy Rosenfeld Emert
Sam Katzburg
Erwin Wallen
Eric Zielenziger
Harry Barnett
Irwin Bryan
Rita Heeger
Esther Nankin
Ganesane Rosenberg
Ben Silver
David ssel
Wayne Stanfield
Max Davis
Richard M. Goldstone
Molva Goodman
Edythe Goodwin
Mary Hale
Leland Kugelgen
Mervin Tessler

Nina Balint
Edith Budman
Max Charlup
George Davis III
Jennie Gevertz
Adolph A. Kay
Erna Bender
Rose Davis
Al Mendelsohn
Sylvia Reback
Kathy Roman
Helen Ida Tessler
Thelma Diane Tobin
Pierson Jacobs
Sidney M. Levee, Jr.
Lawrence Rothe
Bea Tuckman
Toni W. Berke
Louis Berman
Marlene Berger Caspar
Ida Hyman
Michael Roman
Martin Rosenthal
Lilyan Schreiber
Anna Shalinsky

20 - 26 KISLEV

December 21 - 27

Abraham Davis
Sam Feltman
Michael Robert Gelfand
Benjamin Holeman
Martin W. Hepps
Victorine Misan
Miriam Nudler
Samuel Rubin
Masao Kishi
Stacy Lebowitz
Mordecai Parker
Herman "Pinky" Pencovic
Stanley Schechtman
Richard Gutmann
Leon Klein
Phillip Mendelsohn
Arthur Nightingale
Michael Rapaport
Mack Epperson
Goldie Turetz
Martha Zilverberg
Nathan Dickson

Rebecca Epstein
Rabbi Joel Goor
Booker Holton, Sr.
Sophie Kranz
Samuel Morow
Louis Robinson
Esther Asher
Herbert Allen Goodfellow
Rabbi Harold Schulweis

27 KISLEV - 3 TEVET

December 28, 2024 -

January 3, 2025

Betty Gordon Grinberg
Kalman Klein
Rita Melamerson
Israel Stamer
Samuel David Strongin
Robert S. Wallerstein
Ruben Curtin
Samuel Gevertz
Rabbi Phillip Lango
Sidney Winchell
Joseph Dorfman
Jack Gray
Paul Trof
Daniel Thomas Frankel
David Freedman
Morris Gelfand
Jacob Kronrod
Raymond Naggar
Harold Reid
Jerrold Schoenblum
Elliot Weinstein
Samuel Bernstein
Sidney Gordon
Marina Gottschalk
Melody Kepler
Leslie Kessler
Morris Leavitt
Mark S. Bloom
Bessie Kvint
Robert Lopez
David Mehr
Ethel Mehr
Fannie Shapiro
Yitzhak Antebi
William Heeger
Davie Ormsby
Israel Rogers

Shirley Weiner
 Frieda Zilverberg
4 - 10 TEVET
January 4 - 10
 Abraham Bercovich
 Mendel H. Friedman
 Blanche Jacobs
 Jacob Kerbel
 Norman Kleinman
 Shirley Silverman
 Margolin
 Benjamin Millman
 Betty Ann Polse
 Sam Silver
 Josef Spiegel
 Shirley Frierman
 Jacob Frydman
 Sadelle Kilmen
 William Malakoff
 Alfred Month
 Alice Rosenstein
 David Rosenstein
 Robert Sirull
 Helene Holeman
 Yetta Lazerwitz-Miller
 Richard Mailman
 Goldie Steinberg
 Michael Wallerstein
 Doris Held
 Minette Mogill
 Norman Stone
 Sheldon Bereskin
 Alan I Cupples
 Rabbi Hayim Goren
 Perelmuter
 Sarah Libby Reich
 Jacob Bernstein
 Blemah Frankel-Jurman
 Harold Charles
 Goldberg
 Irving Grutman
 George Hochman
 David Lazar
 Ben Nathan
 Ramek Family
 Ronald Schonfeld

11 - 17 TEVET
January 11 - 17
 Rose Dancer
 Irene Kahn
 Judith Prado
 Ruth Eisenman
 Lena Fass
 Alfred Feldhammer
 Leroy Muzzey
 Abbey Rockmaker
 Rose Rosenberg
 Herman Zubkoff
 Nathan Denenberg
 Max Gross
 Meyer Kranz
 Mark Leon
 Phillip Nathanson
 Sally Simon
 Arthur Braverman
 Mary Brisky
 Marge London
 Carolyn Sue
 Nightingale
 Erna Pikarski
 Paula Rotman
 Tom Rotzscher
 Gitta Schneider Elul
 Betty Holloman
 Irving Kingston
 Louis Rosenberg
 Irwin Thaler
 Anna D. Weinstein
 Eugene Weiss
 Sam Barnett
 Murray R. Davis
 Esther Isaacson
 Becky Singer
 Ethel Cohen
 Howard Cohen
 David Holeman
 Les Leibovitch
 Jay Michaelson
18 - 24 TEVET
January 18 - 24
 Abraham S. Couzin

Moises Itzkowich
 Roy C. Kepler
 Bernard David Laytner
 Edwin H. Leuin
 Rochelle Mason
 Al Neiman
 Sydney Goldstein
 Adele Mendelsohn-
 Keinon
 Bessie Ranzer
 Charlotte Resnick
 Myra Sencer
 David Bluer
 Fred Brasch
 Donald Brauer
 Louis E Engleberg
 Elias Herfield
 Bela J. Klarman
 Lew Menkes
 Joseph Singerman
 Shlomo Contract
 Ida Cowan
 Albert Eis
 Minna Epstein
 Edward Flick
 Gussie Gross
 Evelyn Harris
 Louis Jacobs
 Abraham Kreimerman
 Dennis Polse
 Moshe Shweky
 Joel Irving Stein
 Samuel Toas
 Esther Wallis
 Edith Worgold
 Lawrence Kauffman
 Isadore Lazar
 Jack Berger
 Simon Cohen
 Joseph Gold
 Frances King
 Arthur J. Levine
 Leonard Quittman
 Beth Belzer
 Sheldon Berrol
 Ignatz Jacobs

Jewel Koletsky
 Sarah Rosenthal
 Isadore Rubin
 Marion Stolusky
 Maurice C. Stone
25 TEVET - 2
SHEVAT
Janaury 25 - 31
 Carl Hirsch
 Morris Silver
 Bertha Frankel
 Edith Kurtz
 Debbie A. Nesbit
 Michael R. Nesbit
 Charlotte Oppenheimer
 Susan Stein Schreiber
 Shirley Spillman
 Anna Weintraub
 Frank Glasser
 Mae Golding
 Louis Judson
 Caroline Kaufmann
 Ethel Louik
 Tom Rose
 Leslie Turchin
 Gertrude Zatzkin
 Sofica Becker Herscu
 Mantel
 William L. Stern
 Herman Samuel
 Handloff
 Dorothy Lavin
 Juel Ephraim Fass
 Benjamin Goor
 Thomas Lee Hastings
 Harry Karsh
 Samuel Kay
 Eliezer Nahary
 Elwood Davidson
 Morris Kessler
 William Mandler
 Marian Migdal
 Harry Morofsky
 Helen Siegel
 Morris Silberman

Recent Deaths in Our Community

Linda Steuer, mother of **Alexandra Steuer (Ari Rubin)**
Dr. Myron Blumberg, father of **Kim Blumberg**
Janice Silverman, congregant
Josephine Carrillo, mother of **Ernestina Carrillo (Larry Polon)**

Jack Adler, step father **Laura (Hugo) Wildmann**
Alfred Gross, father of **Sandy Gross (Paula Reinman)**
George King, husband of **Janet King**

May their memory be for a blessing

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER DONATIONS

Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.

Safety & Security fund

Randall & Jan Kessler,
in memory of Fannie Kessler

Bet Sefer Discretionary Fund

Darleen Bercovich, in memory of
Edward Bercovich

Gan Avraham Discretionary

Darleen Bercovich,
in memory of Ellen Bercovich
Edward & Anne Oklan,
in memory of Lillian Oklan

General Fund

Richard Charlesworth & Amy
Moscov, in memory of Hyman
Korin, Joan Korin's father
Richard Charlesworth &
Amy Moscov, in memory of
Lori Jaffe's mother,
Miriam Pollack Sarasohn
Alden & Sabrina Berdux Cohen,
in memory of Martin B. Cohen
Barry & Cheri Feiner
Leonard Katz, in memory of
Boris Katz
Marshall & Lynn Langfeld, in
memory of Lori Jaffe's mother,
Miriam Pollack
Jerrold & Anne Levine,
in memory of Jerrold Levine
Eli Messinger, in memory of
Mildred Messinger
Barbara Oseroff,
in memory of Edith Denenberg
Carol Saidian, in memory of
Carol Bonar and Gohar Saidian
Lori-Jill Seltzer,
in memory of Saul Seltzer

Burton Polse Kiddush Fund

Marc Backer &
Susan Standel Backer, in
memory of Janice Leah Standel
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in memory of Morris Rothblatt

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in memory of Arthur Roth
Norman & Jo Budman,
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Dawn Kepler & Mark Snyder,
in memory of Henry A Snyder
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in memory of Richard Saiewitz

Stevens Landscape & Maintenance Fund

Steven Rosenthal &
Ailsa Steckel,
in memory of Sidney Steckel

Sam & Shirley Silver Playground Fund

David Jaffe, in memory of
Harry & Mary Jaffe Meyer &
Sophie Kranz

Rabbi Bloom Discretionary

Michael & Kathy Burge,
in memory of Vera Jennings,
Murray Gordon, Violet Burge &
Rachel Gor

Barry & Cheri Feiner
Max & Tory Roman
Edward Stein & Sandra Zeidel,
in memory of Clare Stein

Endowment Fund

Barry & Cheri Feiner
Angelina Levy

Herman Hertz Israel Scholarship Fund

Maurice Engel,
in memory of Max Engel
Evelyn Hertz,
in memory of Martin Hertz
Gerald & Ruby Hertz,
in memory of Harry Hertz

Mollie Hertz Interfaith Outreach Fund

Gerald & Ruby Hertz,
in memory of Mollie Hertz

Wasserman Adult Education Cultural Fund

Barbara Oseroff,
in memory of Joel Oseroff

Jack & Mary Berger Education Fund

Eli Messinger, in memory of
Mildred Messinger

Polsa Silver Teenm Holocaust Education Trip

Ulli Rotzscher, in memory of
Hans-Georg Venus



Mazel Tov to:

Alex & Maya Shimberg on the birth
of their son **Noah Hersh Shimberg**
Ariel Cohen & Louis Orren on the
birth of their son **Oberon Cohen-Orren**

*Welcome New Members*

Meghan Tedesco

Charles Miller & Hannah Shr.

Daughters **Gloria & Evelyn**

Susan Hirshfield

Mother of **Shana Hirshfield-Gold**

Jimmy & Emily Castex

Lucas Pollinger

Jay Steuer, father of member **Alexandra Steuer**

Roni Silverberg

A LEGACY GIFT LASTS FOREVER

Include TBA in your Estate Planning so that your
message to your family is loud and clear:

“The existence of Temple Beth Abraham is important
to me and for the future of Jews in Oakland.”

Contact TBA's Executive Director

Rayna Arnold for further details

(510) 832-0936 or rayna@tbaokland.org.

You are never too young to plan for the future!

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Anyone wishing to purchase a memorial plaque,
please contact the synagogue office at (510) 832-0936.
If you do not know the location of a Memorial Plaque
for your loved one, simply find the Memorial Plaque
binder located on the back table in the Sanctuary. This
book lists all Plaques in alphabetical order by the last
name of the deceased and will be updated as new
Plaques are hung. Please do not remove the binder
from the Sanctuary.

It is a Jewish tradition to give contributions to
commemorate life cycle events and other occasions.
These tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated
and are a vital financial supplement to support the
variety of programs and activities that we offer.

Thanks again for your support! We could not do it
without you!

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This contribution of \$ _____ is
(check one) ____ in Memory of ____ in Honor of:

(Name) _____

Acknowledge _____

From: _____

To: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

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- ☐ Rabbi Bloom Discretionary Fund
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- ☐ Gan Avraham Discretionary Fund
- ☐ Burton Polse Kiddush Fund
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- ☐ Danielle and Deren Rehr-Davis Teen Fund
- ☐ Harold Rubel Memorial Music Fund
- ☐ Rosebud and Ben Silver Library Fund
- ☐ Sam and Shirley Silver Playground Fund
- ☐ Pola Silver Teen Holocaust Education Trip Fund
- ☐ Leo and Helen Wasserman Education/Cultural Fund
- ☐ Safety and Security

DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024			30 HESVHAN– 30 KISLEV 5785			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 (30 Heshvan) Rosh Chodesh Kislev 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	2 (1 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan	3 (2 Kislev) 4:00pm Bet Sefer	4 (3 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO 7:30pm The First Jew In Canada: A Trans Tale	5 (4 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer 7:00pm Warriors Jewish Heritage Night with Men's Club	6 (5 Kislev) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 4:32p Candle lighting	7 (6 Kislev) Parashat Vayetzei 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Bat Mitzvah of Jordan (Maytal) Berla 10:00am T'fillat Y'ladim 10:30am Shabbat Mishpacha 12:45pm Mah Jongg 5:33p Havdalah
8 (7 Kislev) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	9 (8 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan	10 (9 Kislev) 4:00pm Bet Sefer	11 (10 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	12 (11 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer 6:45pm GleeBA sings in Montclair Village 7:00pm WTBA Girls Night Out	13 (12 Kislev) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 4:33p Candle lighting	14 (13 Kislev) Parashat Vayishlach 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:00am Jr Congregation 5:34p Havdalah
15 (14 Kislev) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan 10:00am GleeBA sings in Piedmont	16 (15 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan	17 (16 Kislev) 4:00pm Bet Sefer 7:30pm TBA Board Mtg via zoom	18 (17 Kislev) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	19 (18 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	20 (19 Kislev) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4:36p Candle lighting	21 (20 Kislev) Parashat Vayeshev 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 12:45pm Mah Jongg 5:37p Havdalah
22 (21 Kislev) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	23 (22 Kislev) 8:00am Morning Minyan	24 (23 Kislev) 4:00pm Bet Sefer	25 (24 Kislev) Chanukkah 1 Office closed for Christmas 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO 5:19 1 Candle	26 (25 Kislev) Chanukkah 2 8:00am Morning Minyan 5:19p 2 candles	27 (26 Kislev) Chanukkah 3 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4:40p 3 candles Candle lighting	28 (27 Kislev) Parashat Miketz Mevarchim Chodesh Tevet Chanukkah 4 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 5:41p 4 candles; Havdalah
29 (28 Kislev) Chanukkah 5 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan 5:22p 5 candles	30 (29 Kislev) Chanukkah 6 Gan & Bet Sefer Closed for Winter Break 8:00am Morning Minyan 5:22p 6 candles	31 (30 Kislev) Chag HaBanut Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukkah 7 5:23p 7 candles				

JANUARY 2025			1 TEVET – 2 SHEVAT 5785			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 (1 Tevet) Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukkah 8 Gan and Bet Sefer closed for Winter Break Office closed for New Year's Day 5:24p 8 candles	2 (2 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	3 (3 Tevet) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 4:45p Candle lighting	4 (4 Tevet) Parashat Vayigash 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:30am Shabbat Mishpacha 12:45pm Mah Jongg 5:47p Havdalah
5 (5 Tevet) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	6 (6 Tevet) Gan closed 8:00am Morning Minyan	7 (7 Tevet) 4:00pm Bet Sefer	8 (8 Tevet) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	9 (9 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	10 (10 Tevet) Asara B'Tevet 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 4:52p Candle lighting	11 (11 Tevet) Parashat Vayechi 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:00am T'fillat Y'ladim 5:53p Havdalah
12 (12 Tevet) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	13 (13 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan	14 (14 Tevet) 4:00pm Bet Sefer	15 (15 Tevet) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	16 (16 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	17 (17 Tevet) 6:15pm Rock n Roll Shabbat 4:59p Candle lighting	18 (18 Tevet) Parashat Shemot 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 10:00am Jr Congregation 12:45pm Mah Jongg 6:00p Havdalah
19 (19 Tevet) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	20 (20 Tevet) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Gan and Office closed 8:00am Morning Minyan	21 (21 Tevet) 4:00pm Bet Sefer 7:30pm TBA Book Club via zoom	22 (22 Tevet) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	23 (23 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	24 (24 Tevet) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat 5:06p Candle lighting	25 (25 Tevet) Parashat Vaera Mevarchim Chodesh Shevat 9:00am A Taste of Text Study via zoom 9:30am Shabbat Services 6:08p Havdalah
26 (26 Tevet) 10:00am Beginning Alef Bet with Susan	27 (27 Tevet) 8:00am Morning Minyan	28 (29 Tevet) 4:00pm Bet Sefer 7:30pm TBA Board Mtg	29 (29 Tevet) 9:00am Weekly Text Study 7:00pm BBYO	30 (1 Shevat) Rosh Chodesh Shevat 8:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Bet Sefer	31 (2 Shevat) 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat 5:14p Candle lighting	

Temple Beth Abraham
327 MacArthur Boulevard
Oakland, CA 94610

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TU B'SHEVAT

WETLANDS RESTORATION DAY

Always a rewarding time for all ages.

Sunday, February 9, 2025

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Registration coming in the new year. For more information,
contact Jody London, oaklandjody@gmail.com, or Jacob Klein jacobaaronklein@gmail.com.

