



# TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM BULLETIN



Number 8, 2018-2019

April 2019, Adar II - Nisan 5779

Rabbi Debbie Stiel

**Beineinu – Between Us**  
**By Rabbi Debbie Stiel**



## Looking Back on 25 years in the Rabbinate

This month in Cincinnati, I will receive my honorary Doctorate of Divinity degree from Hebrew Union College, the Reform Jewish seminary where I was ordained. Our seminary has a long tradition of conferring this honorary degree on its rabbis after 25 years of service to the Jewish people.

Although this is “just” an honorary degree, I am really feeling incredibly honored, and also to some extent both the weight and the privilege of these 25 years.

Looking back, I think of some of the funny times – like the time I went to officiate at a minyan and before it started someone asked me in all seriousness if I was the babysitter! Or another time when it was dark out and I was looking for the house for the minyan. I walked into the wrong house! There was a party going on, so the door was open. I soon realized I did not know anyone there, so I just took my bag of minyan books and walked out! And still another time, the senior rabbi and I in Omaha went to visit someone in the hospital. We chatted with the patient for a while. She seemed very surprised to have rabbis with her. So we surreptitiously looked at her name bracelet, realized we had the wrong woman, wished her well, said our good-byes, and then walked back out to find the right room!

I think too of the firsts – I was the first woman rabbi to serve a pulpit in Omaha, Nebraska and also here in Topeka. As such, I have often been the first woman rabbi that people have known. I have known dads who were so happy for their daughters to have a female spiritual leader as a role model, and of course, there have been just a few people who objected.

My *smicha* (rabbinic ordination) certificate says that I am ordained as rabbi and am “authorized and licensed to perform all rabbinical functions in the name of God and Israel.” In that role, I have been so honored to hold babies as we welcome them to the people of Israel, to work with young adults as they prepare to become bar/bat mitzvah, to celebrate with couples under the *chuppah*, to try to spiritually support people in their times of illness or surgery, to shepherd those who want to convert to Judaism, and to help families give tribute and gently bury their deceased loved ones.

The mantle of rabbi has often not felt so comfortable on my shoulders. Some people seem to take to it so naturally and joyously. I have often felt it to be a very daunting and challenging vocation to try to carry out “correctly.” The blessing of 25 years is that I don’t feel as much like an imposter anymore, and I no longer expect the Temple to collapse if I make a mistake. But I am still reminded of the ad for the perfect rabbi that says “the perfect rabbi is 28 years old and has preached for 30 years. He has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends all of his time with senior citizens. He condemns sin but never upsets anyone, etc!”

This is my bat mitzvah year at Temple Beth Sholom which means I have served here over half of my rabbinate. I am grateful for all of the studying, singing, praying, schmoozing, playing we have done together. For me, the sad times have been easier because we have gone through them as a Temple family, and the joyful moments have been so memorable and special. Our world needs more community and more people embracing good values and teachings. I am reminded all the time that Judaism gives us an incredible foundation for a healthy life and a better world. I am truly proud of the beliefs we espouse here and the work we do. I am truly honored to be your rabbi. And I am astounded, humbled, and grateful to God for the privilege of being a rabbi in Israel.

## **Contributions**

### **General Fund**

**Einstein's**

**Larry and Patty Pressman**

-In honor of Darcella Goodman being elected as president of the local NAACP chapter

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman

**Shaol and Evelyn Pozez**

**Endowment Fund**

**Mark and Roni Beshears**

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman

**Ezra and Barbara**

**Ginzburg**

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman

**Bob Harms and Liz**

**Bergmann-Harms**

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman

### **Maimonides Fund**

**Jack and Rhoda Wisman**

-In honor of Darcella Goodman being elected as president of the local NAACP chapter

-In memory of Danny Goodman

-In memory of Louis Pozez

-Happy birthday to Lauren Cohen

-In memory of Marilyn Laudenslager

-In memory of Ralph Rosenbaum

**MJ Krasny**

### **Security Fund**

**Len and Terry Richter**

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman's anniversary

-In honor of Jack and Rhoda Wisman's birthdays

### **Campership Fund**

**Shaol and Evelyn Pozez**

**Endowment Fund**

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

**Russ and Jane Greene**

-In memory of Marilyn Laudenslager

**Danelle Harsin**

**Stephanie Schuttera**

### **Music Fund**

**Bob Harms and Liz**

**Bergmann-Harms**

-In memory of Leo Bergmann

### **Upcoming Committee Meeting:**

Adult Education Meeting on Sunday, April 14 at 1:30 pm in Temple library.

All are encouraged to attend.

**Men's Dinner Club** will meet Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 pm at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Brewery, 3512 Clinton Pkwy in Lawrence. Please contact Alan Parker with any questions.

**Women's Night Out** will NOT meet in April due to Passover. Please contact Liz Bergmann-Harms with any questions.

### **The Temple Beth Sholom family extends condolences:**

-To friends and family of

**Diane Davis** on her death.

-To Warren Sickel and his family on the death of his aunt **Marcia Friedman.**

**Zichronam livaracha – May their memories be a blessing.**

## **Yahrzeits**

**April 5** – David Feldman, Al Gartner, Anna Heitzman, Edna Leitz, William Leitz, Paul Schuttera, Esther Spector, Rebecca Kemp Tigerman, Susan Alyn Cohn

**April 12** – Margaret Gruenthaler, Eli Ulamperl, Rose Israel, Sue Dick, Louis Haas, Elaine Zlotky

**April 19** – Benjamin Litwin, Chuck Gordon, Raisih Wisman, Barney Allis, Alma Katz, Harriette Goodman

**April 26** – Rabbi Samuel Fredman, Toby Anne Levinson, Larry Rosen, Marvin Facher, Louis Endlich, Isidor Dauer, Fred Hunter, David August, Blanche Feldman, Avishai Gore, Charlie Kessler, Irv Kolman, Raphael Levy Family, Ben Whitebook, Henry Rosenholtz, Mollye Goldstein, Martin Wisman

### **What is “Barukh Dayan Ha’Emet?”**

Traditionally in Judaism, we say *barukh dayan ha’emet* when we first learn of any person's death. These three words remind us that we are not in control. When someone we know or love dies, we have no choice but to accept this difficult reality. The sages wisely remind us not to offer words of comfort to a mourner until after burial. Our Rabbis understand that psychologically and/or emotionally a mourner is not able to be comforted until after burial.

### **TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM MISSION STATEMENT**

The purpose of this Congregation shall be to worship God in accordance with the faith of Judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the Jewish heritage through study; to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community and the community at large; to strengthen the bond of loyalty with the Jewish people everywhere; and to promote the principles of righteousness in the world. To further those purposes the Congregation will be a member of the Union for Reform Judaism.

### **Friday, May 3 – Confirmation and Yom HaShoah Service**

#### **Yom HaShoah (Holocaust) Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Stiel and ToMaTY**

Our teens will help lead this service. We will rejoice as Chris Montgomery celebrates her Confirmation. Leah Lange will also participate in the service. This class studied the Holocaust this year, so they will share some of their thoughts about the information they learned.

Special memorial prayers, poems and readings will be part of this service. We will read from our Holocaust Memorial Torah Scroll. This Torah scroll was originally from Louny, Czechoslovakia. Today, the synagogue it came from houses the community archives instead of serving as a Jewish house of worship.



### **Friday, May 10 – Celebrating Yom HaAtzmaut**

**7:00 pm - Yom Ha'Atzma-ut Shabbat Service**

**We will celebrate Israel's birthday with special liturgy and songs.**

*You are invited to Temple Beth Sholom's Confirmation and Yom  
HaShoah Shabbat Service on  
Friday, May 3, 2019 at 7:30 pm.*

*Please join us as  
**Christine Montgomery**  
is Confirmed.*

*An Oneg Shabbat sponsored by the Confirmation class parents will follow the  
service.*



Our gift shop has lots of Passover items: seder plates, matzah plates, matzah covers, Elijah cups, games, toys and gift items. The gift shop is open during Temple office hours.

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## Join with your Temple Family for our PASSOVER 2<sup>nd</sup> SEDER

The Passover seder is a treasured tradition. Together we remember our history and commit to bringing more freedom to the world.



This year the story telling will allow everyone to participate. We are adding to the fun with Plah-Doh Passover illustrations! Each table will get to creatively interpret part of the Passover story.



Dinner will include matza ball soup, brisket, chicken, a vegetable, dessert and of course all the traditional foods such as charoset, gefilte fish, and lots of matzah!

**Saturday, April 20--6:00 pm--Temple Social Hall**

**Cost for Seder/Dinner:**

<b>Adults</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Children 12 and under</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>

**Children under 4 no charge. Please bring your own booster seat or high chair if needed.**

**If so desired, please bring your own wine.**

**RSVP by April 12. Reservations are required and limited to seating capacity.**

**Your check is your reservation.**

Mail your check with the form below to: Temple Beth Sholom, 4200 SW Munson, Topeka, Kansas 66604-1879. No money will be taken at the door.



### PASSOVER SEDER RESERVATION FORM

**Saturday, April 20 - 6:00 pm**

**NAME(S):** \_\_\_\_\_



	<u>Totals</u>
_____ Adults @ \$15.00	\$ _____
_____ Children @ \$8.00	\$ _____
	\$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed

Number of children under 4 attending (for seating space) \_\_\_\_\_

A check payable to **Temple Beth Sholom** must accompany this form.

**THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE TEMPLE OFFICE WITH PAYMENT BY**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 12.** We cannot guarantee a seat at the Seder if your payment or reservation is late.



## A Guide to Eating on Passover from

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



You know how the food you eat can sometimes trigger memories? Jewish tradition knows this too, and a kosher for Passover diet is a yearly reminder of the Jewish people's distant past as slaves in Egypt. During Passover we eat matzah, or unleavened bread, and avoid eating *chametz*, to remember our past and celebrate our freedom. Many of us also avoid eating *kitniyot*.

### What is chametz?

*Chametz* refers to food containing any amount of wheat, barley, rye, oats, and spelt, that has leavened, or “puffed up.”

### Isn't matzah often made from wheat?

That's true, matzah is made from wheat. But, when matzah is made, the wheat flour is kept absolutely dry until it's mixed with water and immediately baked. Technically, it takes 18 minutes for flour to ferment and rise, so matzah must be baked for fewer than 18 minutes.

### Ok. Now, what's kitniyot?

*Kitniyot* includes legumes, beans, peas, rice, millet, corn, and seeds. Many Ashkenazi Jews choose not to eat *kitniyot* on Passover.

### Why don't people eat kitniyot on Passover?

There have been many reasons that Ashkenazic communities have refrained from eating *kitniyot* on Passover. For example, there was a concern that because *kitniyot* can be ground to make flour and then baked, one could mistakenly assume that their neighbor was eating *chametz*. There was also concern that *chametz* grain might get mixed up with *kitniyot* if they were stored in close proximity. This *kitniyot* prohibition was not accepted by most Sephardic Jews.

### Didn't I read somewhere that Reform Jews can eat kitniyot on Passover?

You likely did read that somewhere! Actually, three groups of Rabbis in the recent past have met and, independent of each other, ruled that both Ashkenazim and Sephardim should be permitted to eat rice, corn, and *kitniyot* during Passover. These groups were the Responsa Committee of the Reform Jewish Movement (a responsa is a rabbinic decision), the Responsa Committee of the Israeli Conservative Movement, and the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

These rabbinical committees determined that the prohibition of eating rice, beans, and *kitniyot* is in direct contradiction to the opinion of all the sages of the Mishnah and Talmud (except one), and also contradicts the theory as well as the practice of more than fifty post-Talmudic Sages. Opposition to the ban on eating *kitniyot* dates back to 13th century France, where one rabbi called it “a mistaken company,” and another calling it a “foolish custom.”

Still, it's a personal decision, and many Reform Jews choose to abstain from eating *kitniyot* on Passover.

Visit the ReformJudaism.org [Passover Recipes](#) page for some kosher for Passover meal inspiration. **Chag sameach!**

*This guide was compiled from existing content written by Rabbi Eric Berk, Rabbi Paul Kipnes, Marcia Louchheim, and Rabbi Thomas Louchheim*

### Good to Know: Sharsheret – A Jewish Breast Cancer Organization

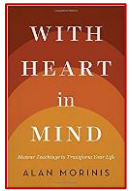
Sharsheret is a national not-for-profit organization supporting young Jewish women and their families facing breast cancer. Their mission is to offer a community of support to women, of all Jewish backgrounds, diagnosed with breast cancer or at increased genetic risk, by fostering culturally-relevant individualized connections with networks of peers, health professionals, and related resources.

While their expertise is in young women and Jewish families as related to breast cancer and ovarian cancer, Sharsheret programs serve all women and men. For more information, go to [sharsheret.org](http://sharsheret.org).

## **Middot Va'ad: Gaining Jewish Wisdom and Understanding, April 24, Noon – 1:00 pm**

Bring a bag lunch and join us in the Temple Pusitz Library. We will review

We are reading Alan Morinis' *With Heart in Mind ~ Mussar Teachings to Transform Your Life*. We study the character traits (middot) and work on bringing them into our lives in the right amount. Please bring the book to the Va'ad meetings. Newcomers are always welcome. We will review Chapter 15 and reading Chapter 16.



**As we try to discern whether or not to join JUMP, it would be very helpful if we all go to this major JUMP event. - Rabbi**

Topeka JUMP invites everyone to put their faith into action, joining with the most vulnerable in Shawnee County.

### **NEHEMIAH ACTION ASSEMBLY**

**APRIL 29, 2019, 6:30 pm Registration, 7:00-8:30 pm Assembly**

Location: Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 3601 SW 17th St, Topeka, KS 66604

## **Monthly Shabbat Morning Opportunities**

### **Talmud Study – 9:00 am Saturday, April 6 and 20 Come Study and Discuss *Pirkei Avot***

Rabbi Stiel recently spoke at Shabbat Services about two new, recently published Commentaries on the *Pirkei Avot* (The Sayings of the Fathers). Coincidentally, the Talmud Study Group is preparing to study this tractate of the Mishnah....and invites you to come read and discuss it and the commentaries upon it with us.

While the other tractates of the Talmud are noted for their *pilpul* (hair-splitting) and deal with the 'nuts-and-bolts' details of Jewish living and halakhah, *Pirkei Avot* consists of the wisdom of our sages concerning the values and ethics of Judaism as reflected in the Oral Law. While I am paraphrasing here, perhaps one of the most famous is Rabbi Tarphon's dictum: "It is not for you to finish.....but neither are you free to desist from it". We shall read *Pirkei Avot* in small segments, simultaneously looking at and discussing different commentaries that have been written about each portion of it.

We invite and deeply welcome you to join us in what we anticipate will be a very rewarding study. It is not necessary to commit to attending every session. Come as you are interested and able to.

If indeed you are interested in joining us in this endeavor, please call to notify the Office of your intent so that we might have adequate material available and can notify you beforehand of our specific starting date.

- Lorne Ruby

### **Kabbalah Study - 9:00 - 10:30 am, Saturday, April 13 and 27**

***Introduction to the Zohar*, by Arthur Green.**

Our group is reading Art Green's excellent and thorough introduction to the Pritzker edition of the Zohar. If you want to get an inside look at the Zohar, please join us for this fascinating read! We will hand out copies in class.



### **TaNaKh Study – 10:30 am – 12:00 pm, Saturday, April 13 and 27**

In this group, we are reading the Bible all the way through. We are currently reading the book of Psalms. Each time we meet we read a few verses or a chapter out loud and then stop to discuss it before going on. We enjoy a free-ranging discussion of what was read and its implications.



**Temple Beth Sholom  
54th Annual Jewish Food and Cultural Fair  
Sunday, April 28, 2019**

**Needed: Great Silent Auction Prizes**

The Blintze Brunch has historically been one of our most successful fundraisers. We would like to see it grow. We are going to try and do this by getting higher value items for the Silent Auction (Over \$50 or higher). We do 65% of our business with food item sales and 35% of the day's sales on Nonfood items- i.e., the silent auction and the raffle. Our goal is to make the figures a more 50/50 proposition so that we can help increase our gains. The Blintze Brunch Committee has been acquiring these items since last fall and made solid progress so far. If you know any business or personally would like to assist in getting donations or have a donation for the Silent Auction, please let us know.

We will be advertising these items with pictures in our emails, on Facebooks, and various advertising options. We are very excited about this and will keep everyone "in the loop" as we go forward. We also may be changing the bidding process for the Silent Auction. We have been looking at various online options to take the bidding electronically so that once you leave you can continue to bid on items. If you have any question or have something to donate, give Jack Wisman or Todd Gordon a call.

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**State of Kansas  
Holocaust Commemoration Service**

**Monday, April 29, 2019 1:00 pm**

**\*Downtown Ramada Inn\***

**\*420 SE 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Topeka\***



**Keynote Address: Gitla Doppelt, Holocaust Survivor**

Holocaust proclamation presented by Governor Laura Kelly

Participation by Kansas clergy, political leaders, Kansas choirs, and students.

We will recognize Holocaust survivors, WWII veterans and children of survivors

**FREE & OPEN to the PUBLIC, Donations appreciated (care of Temple)**

Reception sponsored by the Kansas State Holocaust Commission to follow.

### March 6, 2019, Board Meeting Highlights

- Social Action Committee Chairman Dennis Dobson invited Temple Board members to serve dinner at the June 10, 2019, Thrive dinner. Thrive, formerly known as Circles, is a group seeking to end poverty in our society.
- President Alan Parker announced that individuals will soon be able to designate Temple to receive a portion of proceeds from Amazon Smile. Details on how and when to sign up are forthcoming.
- The KSU Summer Reading program will once again be using the Social Hall on Sundays and Mondays. Please check with the Office if you are planning a summer gathering.

### Historical Corner by Jack Wisman

Sam Cohen was a member of a large family. I believe there were five brothers and a sister. Sam was a World War II veteran who came back to Topeka and became a hotel operator, a real estate investor and a shopping center developer.

The Ramada Inn-Downtown and the Gage Shopping Center were built by Sam. Sam was able to salvage several architectural elements from the old governors' mansion at 801 SW Buchanan and add them to the Ramada Inn, where they are on display today. He also owned property in the Wanamaker shopping area. The family's original business was Kaw Valley Products which closed in the 1980's.

Sam and his family were active members of Temple Beth Sholom. The Cohen family were also my cousins on my mother's side. Apparently, my mother's family grew up near the Cohens in Topeka.

As you can see, Sam and his family were classic entrepreneurs that helped build the Topeka we know today. **Until next time, Jack**



### KIDS 4 PEACE

#### Peace Camp 2019

Topeka Center for Peace and Justice

First Congregational Church

17<sup>th</sup> and SW Collins

Topeka, KS 66604

July 22-26, 2019

8:00 am to 1:00 pm - \$50

Call 785-232-4388 or visit [Topekacpj.org](http://Topekacpj.org) for more information.

### Welcome New Members:

David Goldwhite and Shoshana Bitton

Address and phone numbers are in paper bulletin.

David is originally from England. He is the new chef at Prairie Band Casino. Shoshana is from Israel, and she is also a cook. *Bruchim Haba'im!*

### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual SPRING Session - Celebrating Original Jewish Songs by Local Composers with our own Warren Sickel.

Sunday, April 7, 2019, 3:00 pm

Congregation Beth Torah

6100 W 127<sup>th</sup> St, Overland Park, KS



**Mazal Tov to Stephanie Schuttera who has been cast as Mrs. van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Topeka Civic Theater.** The play will run on the Mainstage from April 19 to May 4. *The Diary of Anne Frank* captures the claustrophobic realities of eight people hiding from the Nazis in a concealed storage attic in war-torn Amsterdam. Anne's daily existence – her fears, her hopes, her laughter, her grief, and her family's desperate attempt to preserve humanity in an inhumane world – drives this transcendently powerful tale.



## Wholly Jewish: New Podcast Showcases the Beauty of Jewish Diversity

Judaism is far from monolithic. Ever since our inception as a people, we as Jews have encompassed so many different ethnicities, cultures, perspectives, and gender and sexual identities. Through all of our beautiful differences, however, we remain united as one people. Our multifaceted identities do not negate our Jewishness; rather they strengthen, exemplify and enrich it.

Commitment to embracing our differences inspired the URJ to create **Wholly Jewish**, the newest podcast offering from Reform Judaism. In this podcast series, they explore what we all have in common even as we seek to live and balance complex and nuanced identities. It's these varied identities that, when braided together, make us wholly ourselves – and **Wholly Jewish**. **Listen and subscribe to Wholly Jewish on [ReformJudaism.org](https://ReformJudaism.org), [iTunes](#), [Android](#), or wherever you get your podcast fix. If you like what you hear, don't forget to leave them a positive review!**

### April and May Tzedakah Recipient

**Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Kansas** provides a non-profit communal living home for families with children under age 21 receiving medical care in area hospitals. Providing temporary housing in the eight-bedroom, historic, Ronald McDonald House near the Topeka's medical community, multiple families can enjoy a home-away-from-home for the duration of their loved one's care at an affordable alternative to corporate housing.



### Monthly Meditation Practice

Wednesday, April 17  
7:00 – 8:00 pm

In the Temple's Pusitz Library  
Led by David Chall

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Next Meditation Practice  
May 15

### **Shop for Judaica, support Temple Beth Sholom!**

Temple's Gift Shop will be open on many Friday nights. The store will be open 15 minutes before Shabbat services a few times a month for your needs. Cards, candles, books, small gifts, jewelry, holiday items and more. All proceeds support our Temple.

### **Mazal tov to:**

**Rob Briman**, for being selected as a Junior Achievement of Kansas 2019 Business Hall of Fame honoree.

### **Thank You from ToMaTY**

Thank you to all who came out to ToMaTY's "Night in Italy" Camp Rainbow Fundraiser Dinner. Your donations to pay for the dinner and amazingly generous auction bidding were greatly appreciated. Thank you also to those who couldn't attend, but so generously donated to this cause. Because of you, we were able to raise \$1,411.00, which is the most we have ever raised! Thank you to all who helped out in any way to make this evening a success. - ToMaTY and Advisors



## Darcella Goodman New Head of Topeka's NAACP

This story ran in the *KC Jewish Chronicle*. It was written by Marcia Montgomery, Contributing Writer

Darcella Goodman, who was installed in February as president of the Topeka NAACP chapter, may be the first black Jew to be named to a position like this. It's a two-year, voluntary term.

She has been a member of Topeka's Temple Beth Sholom for more than 30 years. She said while she wasn't born Jewish, her father, Ishmael Massey, was called "the young rabbi" by his friends because his father, who was a minister, taught Bible school on the Jewish Sabbath.

"It was a Hebrew custom in their family going way back," Goodman said. "So (my father) knew it was in his family background and when he got to be an older man he decided Judaism was what was right for him." Like his father, Massey was a minister, but later became a Hebrew scholar at Gratz College, a private Jewish college in Melrose Park, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, where he earned a doctoral degree. He then went on to practice as a rabbi, officiating over small shuls in various cities. "I don't remember all his research, but his family had some Native American ancestry, and they practiced some Jewish customs," she said.

Goodman grew up in both Topeka and California. When her parents divorced, she moved back to California to live with her father and his new wife. She was 17 at the time and since they practiced Judaism, she did too. She said she remembers having a Jewish meal that seemed very familiar to her yet she had never experienced it before. "That was the feeling I had — 'I know this somehow,' " she said. "It just came naturally to me. I thought it was right because in the Bible they have customs — the seventh day being the Sabbath, that sort of thing, so I just believed it."

In San Bernardino, California, Goodman and her family belonged to the Conservative Temple Emanu El where she took evening classes in Judaism. She said it was there that she learned to speak conversational Hebrew with a woman from Israel.

This humble 65-year-old woman said she sees nothing unusual about being a Jewish president of the local NAACP chapter. "I hadn't really given it a whole lot of thought," she said. "I'm not even sure most of these folks here in Topeka know that I'm of the Jewish faith. They probably think I'm Baptist, even though I've told them."

There are around 100 members of the Topeka NAACP chapter, Goodman said. As president, she wants to help young black boys and girls seize the opportunities available to them. "I'd like to see us do positive things with the youth, helping them with jobs and helping to inspire them, let them know they're not alone; they have support, we care about their welfare and want to see them have opportunities," she said. "We do a lot of that, helping with the youth. "Also, collaborating with other like-minded groups that want to be a positive force in the community; it would be a blessing to everybody." Goodman said she sees a lot of positive relations between the races in Topeka, people who are civic minded and care about the whole community. "You've got your bad apples every place," she said. "But I see a lot of people helping people, people caring about other people no matter what color we are."

Years ago Temple Beth Sholom was vandalized and she said it wasn't just the Jewish congregation helping erase the graffiti off the building, but others joined too because they cared about the synagogue.

Rabbi Debbie Stiel said Goodman is very active at Beth Sholom. "She has been on the Temple board and is a member of our choir and participates regularly in our synagogue activities," Rabbi Stiel said. Rabbi Stiel believes Goodman is someone who can bring people together and find common ground. She added that since she grew up in Topeka, she knows a lot of people who are involved in various leadership positions and believes she will be a bridge builder. "Topeka unfortunately, like a lot of cities, remains more segregated than it should. The NAACP has an important role to play in raising awareness about the need for things like affordable housing, good job opportunities for African Americans and good mentors for African American youth. I hope there will be ways for our Jewish community to show support for the work of the NAACP locally. This work fits well with our desire to help better our city," Rabbi Stiel said.



Goodman attended Monroe Elementary School, which is now the Brown v. Board of Education National

Historic Site. The Topeka NAACP holds its meetings there. Monroe was one of the “separate but equal” schools that triggered the 1954 Supreme Court case *Brown v. Board of Education*, which ended segregation in public schools. Goodman was at Monroe in the early 1960s. She said she’s proud to be part of that history.

“It’s still kind of awesome to me. Back then all the teachers were black and all the students were black except maybe about six white kids,” she said. “Of course it was open to all comers. I never saw any of the white kids getting persecuted because of race; the black kids just accepted them.”

For the last 30 years, Goodman has been owner and a managing member of G-Pro Janitorial and Training LLC in Topeka. She and her late husband started the company in 1989. The focus of the company is to teach entrepreneurial skills in the janitorial field — an online school, which is open to anyone. “My husband and I worked on putting a school together for eight years, deciding what we wanted to do, how we wanted to do it. It’s just taken time,” she said. Goodman’s company also offers training for people who want to be a professional concierge. “I’m kind of having fun with that, getting this altogether,” she said.

***A letter we received for donating 30 Gates of Prayer to a small, new congregation.***

Dear Rabbi Stiel and Staff,

We here at Sinagoga Ner Tamid del Sud in Calabria, Italy, thank all of you for your kind donation of *The Gates of Prayer* siddurim that you sent to us through the Kulanu organization. We are the first active synagogue in Calabria (the "toe" of the Italian "boot") in 500 years since Inquisition times and our members are made up of "*b'nei anusim*," Italians who have discovered their lost Jewish roots that were taken from them by the forced conversions of the Inquisition.

*The Gates of Prayer* siddurim that you so kindly donated are just perfect for us; we call them "Gates of Gray," because the small, slim volume allows me to carry them to our two *chavurot* - on the island of Sardinia and in the region of Puglia - and also allows me to send them to our more isolated members as well.

Again thank you for your generosity.

Rabbi Barbara Aiello

**Sound the Alarm – Save a Life  
American Red Cross  
Keep Neighbors Safe  
from Home Fires  
Help us install fire alarms.**

Installation Event: Saturday, April 27  
Please contact Doug Meyers if you are interested in helping with this important project.

For additional information about the program, visit [SoundTheAlarm.org](http://SoundTheAlarm.org).



Religious School Hamentashen baking on Sunday, March 10

## **Big Sonia Screening**

**Thursday, May 2, 2019, 6:30 - 8:45 pm**

**Showing at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library Marvin Auditorium 101BC.**

**Presented in partnership with Temple Beth Sholom.**

Standing tall at 4'8", Sonia is one of the last remaining Holocaust survivors in Kansas City and one of the only survivors in the area who speaks publicly about her wartime experience. Sonia's enormous personality and fragile frame mask the horrors she endured. At 15, she watched her mother disappear behind gas chamber doors. Sonia's teenage years were a blur of concentration camps and death marches. On liberation day, she was accidentally shot through the chest, yet again miraculously survived. Sonia is the ultimate survivor, a bridge between cultures and generations. Her story must never be forgotten.



The film interweaves Sonia's past and present using first-person narrative with stories from family and friends. Along the way we learn valuable life lessons – “Soniaisms” – from a woman who can barely see over the steering wheel, yet insists on driving herself to work every day to run her late husband's tailor shop, John's Tailoring. Running the shop is Sonia's entire being – it is her reason for living and the center of her life.

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## **Temple Beth Sholom 2019 Annual Meeting**

**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME:**  
**Saturday, June 22, at 5:30 pm**



- Election of Officers and Board members**
- Slide show of past year's happenings**
- Approval of the budget, discussion of other Temple matters**

In accordance with ARTICLE XI, COMMITTEES of the Bylaws of Temple Beth Sholom, “It shall be the duty of this committee to submit names of nominees for the seats on the Board of Directors and all officers to the congregation for election.” The Nominating Committee submits the following slate for election at the annual meeting on Saturday, June 22, at 5:30 pm.”

### **Officers**

President – Alan Parker  
Vice President – Lorne Ruby  
Financial Secretary – Margot Brown  
Secretary – Tara Gordon  
Treasurer – Alan Wisman

### **Nominated for a first term on the Board of Directors for 3 years:**

Peggy Black  
Stephanie Schuttera  
Deborah Edelman-Dolan

The Bylaws also state, “The names of the nominees shall be announced in the Temple Bulletin six weeks prior to the annual meeting. This committee shall accept nominations by the congregation at large submitted in writing up to three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations after this deadline are not allowed.”



# APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Want to keep up with Temple EVENTS?! Access Temple's Calendar with the following link: <a href="http://templebethsholomtopeka.view-events.com">http://templebethsholomtopeka.view-events.com</a>	1  Chair Yoga 7:00 pm	2 Danial Matt's Zohar Live Webinar 7:00 pm	3  Religious School Hebrew 5:30 pm	4 World Myths Class 7:00 pm	5 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm Susan Zuber- Chall/ Warren Sickel/ Paul Evans	6 Talmud Study 9:00 am
7 RS Hebrew classes 9:30 am Adult Beg Hebrew class 9:30 am Adult Int Hebrew class 10:30 am RS classes 10:30 am Adult Adv Hebrew class 11:30 am Religious Assembly 12:00 pm	8  Chair Yoga 7:00 pm	9  Danial Matt's Zohar Live Webinar 7:00 pm	10 Religious School Hebrew 5:30 pm Board Meeting 7:00 pm	11	12 Simchat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Rabbi Stiel/ Stephanie Schuttera/	13 Kabbalah Study Group 9:00 am TaNaKh Study 10:30 am
14 RS Hebrew classes 9:30 am Adult Beg Hebrew class 9:30 am Adult Int Hebrew class 10:30 am RS classes 10:30 am Adult Adv Hebrew class 11:30 am Adult Education Committee meeting 1:00 pm	15  Chair Yoga 7:00 pm	16 Danial Matt's Zohar Live Webinar 7:00 pm	17 Religious School Hebrew 5:30 pm Meditation led by David Chall 7:00 pm	18 Men's Dinner Group at 6:30 pm	19 NO Shabbat Service First Night Seder	20 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 am  Passover
21 RS Hebrew classes 9:30 am Adult Beg Hebrew class 9:30 am Adult Int Hebrew class 10:30 am RS classes 10:30 am Adult Adv Hebrew class 11:30 am Passover	22  Chair Yoga 7:00 pm  Passover	23  Passover	24 Middot Va'ad 12:00 pm Religious School Hebrew 5:30 pm  Passover	25  No Women's Night out  Passover	26 Shabbat Torah Service 7:30 pm Rabbi Stiel/ Rhoda Wisman  Passover	27 Blintze Brunch Set up 9:00 am Kabbalah Study Group 9:00 am TaNaKh Study 10:30 am
28 Blintze Brunch 9:00 am  NO RS and Adult Hebrew classes NO RS classes 10:30 am	29 Kansas Holocaust Commem- oration 1:00 pm Chair Yoga 7:00 pm	30				

# Temple Beth Sholom

4200 SW Munson Ave, Topeka, KS 66604-1879

The Temple Beth Sholom *Bulletin* is published by Temple Beth Sholom at 4200 SW Munson Ave., Topeka, KS monthly. Material for inclusion should be received at Temple office NO LATER THAN the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication

Website – templebethsholomtopeka.org

Rabbi – Debbie Stiel

President – Alan Parker

Vice-President – Lorne Ruby

Secretary – Tara Gordon

Financial Secretary – Margot Brown

Treasurer – Alan Wisman

Past President: Laurie McKinnon

Board members:

Dennis Dobson, Leora Forstein, Ezra Ginzburg, Jane Greene, Henri Gaedert, Doug Meyers, Julie Petruccelli-Treen, Richard Shapiro, Howard Schwartz, Christine Montgomery -ToMaTY President

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## Worship Services

**Friday, April 5**

**Shabbat Service - 7:30 pm**

Service led by Susan Zuber-Chall and Warren Sickel. Paul Evans will accompany. Frayna Scrinopskie will read Torah. Oneg sponsor needed..

**Friday, April 12**

**Simchat Shabbat Service -7:00 pm**

Service led by Rabbi Stiel and Stephanie Schuttera. April Birthday and anniversary blessings will be offered. Oneg sponsored by Jared and Danelle Harsin.

**Friday, April 19**

**No Shabbat Service**

**Saturday, April 20**

**Shabbat Morning Service – 10:30 am**

Service led by Rabbi Stiel and Stephanie Schuttera.

**Second Night Seder – 6:00 pm**

Service led by Rabbi Stiel and Rhoda Wisman.

**Friday, April 26**

**Shabbat Torah Service - 7:30 pm**

Service led by Rabbi Stiel and Rhoda Wisman. Rebekah Mastel will read Torah. Pesadic Oneg sponsored by Dan Katz and Margot Brown.



**Office Hours – Monday to Friday**

**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 or by appointment**

**COMMUNICATION RESOURCES:**

**[www.templebethsholomtopeka.org](http://www.templebethsholomtopeka.org)**

**Facebook: Templebethsholom-topeka**

**[Office@tbstopeka.org](mailto:Office@tbstopeka.org)**

**[Rabbi@tbstopeka.org](mailto:Rabbi@tbstopeka.org)**