

# Ausblick

Yiddish, n. [oys'-blick] Viewpoint; outlook.

Temple Beth Shalom  
of Cambridge  
"The Tremont St. Shul"

A JEWISH PRESENCE IN  
CAMBRIDGE SINCE 1897

8 Tremont Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
www.tremontstreetshul.org  
(617) 864-6388  
fax (617) 864-0507

ברוכים  
הבאים

*Bruchim ha-ba'im:*

Welcome New Members!

Tzvia Stern—Cambridge

Hanna & Noam  
Josephy—Cambridge

Marlene Fronsvie—  
Somerville

Chasia Haberman—  
Cambridge

Ravit Reichman & Ted  
Wessner—Somerville

Nadja Rozovsky & Asaph  
Tagendorf—Somerville

Diana Roseman & Steven  
Spitz—Cambridge

מזל טוב

*Mazal tov!*

Our congratulations...

To newlyweds Aaron  
Block & Meredith  
Elbaum.

To newlyweds Renee  
Becker & Joel Herda.

To newlyweds Sarah Beila  
Chankin-Gould & Yonah  
Schmeidler.

להתראות

*L'hitraot:* A fond farewell...

To Isaac Elnecave &  
Rachel Lessem and Dalya  
as they depart Boston  
for Chicago. Rachel, a  
TBS board member, is  
a contributing editor of  
*Ausblick* and has been  
a driving force on the

children's programming  
committee. Both Rachel  
and Isaac have made  
important contributions  
toward 'greening' the shul  
and raising awareness of  
environmental issues.  
*Todah rabah* and come  
back to visit us soon!

תודה  
רבה

*Todah rabah!*

Our thanks...

To the committee of Alef-  
Bet and TBS folks who  
made sure the building  
renovations happened  
over the summer: Jerry  
Abelow, Michael Bentley,  
James Carolan, Maggie  
Cooper, Adam Klauber,  
Barbara Model, Jay  
Poswolsky, and Arnold  
Reinhold.

To Linda Kasten, who  
has taken the reins as  
head of the Programming  
Committee (see p. 3).

To James Carolan, who  
applied for and got a  
matching grant to offset  
part of the cost when  
we replace the vestry  
windows.

To Gedalia Pasternak  
for porting all the  
candlelighting and  
holiday times to the 2010  
web calendar, and for all  
of web-vaad for keeping  
our web presence up and  
running!

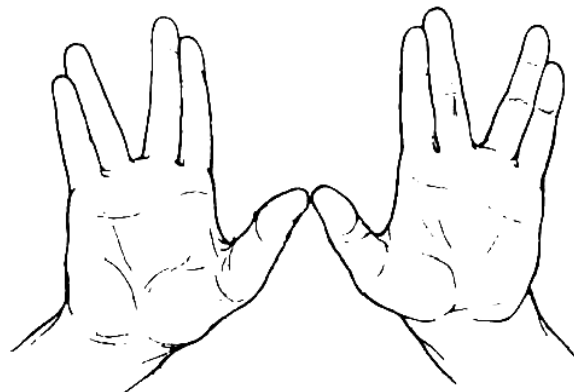
## Birkat Kohanim: The Priestly Blessing

*Birkat HaKohanim*, also known as the Priestly Benediction or "duchening", is a Jewish rite wherein the Kohanim (members of the priestly caste) recite a blessing. While the congregation closes or averts their eyes, the Kohanim stand on the bimah, cover their faces with their prayer shawls (tallitot), and recite the blessing while stretching their arms up and forming their hands into a three pronged shape like the letter "shin" [Leonard Nimoy, who grew up not far from here, borrowed that hand gesture to accompany the Vulcan greeting 'live long and prosper' on Star Trek]. Because of the stance of the Kohanim during the blessing, *Birkat HaKohanim* is also called *Nesiat Kapayim* ("raising of the hands").

In the diaspora the priestly blessing is typically recited by the Kohanim on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot. The text itself is considered so central to the service that it is recited during the repetition of the Amidah on weekdays and Shabbat. The prayer also survived intact into many Christian services.

The question of whether women—*b'not Kohen* and *b'not Levi*—may participate in *Birkat HaKohanim* in the egalitarian minyan is currently under discussion at TBS. In the coming months the ritual committee plans

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Dec. 2009–Jan. 2010  
*Kislev–Shevat 5770*

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Did we miss your lifecycle event or other community announcement? Please email [ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org](mailto:ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org) so we can acknowledge you in the next issue! —Ed.

# Donations to Temple Beth Shalom

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM of Cambridge

8 Tremont Street  
Cambridge, MA  
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fax 617-864-0507

office@tremontstreetshul.org  
www.tremontstreetshul.org

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AUSBLICK  
Winter 2009

LAURA WILLIS  
*Managing Editor*

ERICA SCHULTZ  
*Production Editor*

RACHEL LESSEM  
*Contributing Editor*

AUSBLICK is the newsletter of Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge. Comments, articles, letters, advertisements, or other submissions should be directed to the Editor at the address or fax number above, or [ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org](mailto:ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org)

*This listing includes donations received August 25 through November 17, 2009. Donations received since that date will be gratefully acknowledged in the next issue. —Ed.*

## Charitable Contributions

Anonymous—tzedakah contribution

## General Fund Donations

Michael Afergan—*chesed*

### Anonymous

Noha Applebaum—to celebrate the beauty of davening

Joshua Batson

Ruth Bauman & Ed Kahn—in honor of David Sandberg who was better than ever for the Rosh Hashanah services

Jacqueline Broekhuysen  
Alan Coen—in honor of the marriage of Meredith Elbaum and Aaron Block

Edythe Greenberg

Lillian Hanscom

Alexander Kahn—in honor of David Sandberg officiating at our wedding

Joel Kralj & Michelle Stein—for High Holidays

Dina Mardell & David Sandberg

Richard Plotz

Sarah Roszler

Roy Tishler & Abby Zanger

Oren Weisberg

## High Holiday Pledges

Michael Abraham

Jessica Abrahams

Donald Altschiller & Ellen Birnbaum

Anita L. Andelman

Ann Aschengrau

Melissa Bartick

Joshua Batson

Ruth Bauman & Ed Kahn

Andrew & Deb Becker

Marion Bloch & David Cherson

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Sue Levkoff & James Maxwell

Ari (Rick)Levy

Stuart Licht

Diana Lobel

Harvey Madoff

Dina Mardell & David Sandberg

Beth Merachnik & David Sacks

Barbara Model

Natalia Muina & Adam Neiman

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Linda & Michael Rabieh

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Jill & Daniel Singer

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Jill Stanton & Bruce Trager

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Joyce The Voice

Samson Timoner

Roy Tishler & Abby Zanger

Bobby Vilinsky

Ruth Weinrib & Paul Weiss

Justin Werfel

Mark & Felice Whittum

Samy Zekhout

## Memorial Plaque Donations

Jacqueline Broekhuysen—  
Plaque Memorial

## Memorial Donations

Anita L. Andelman—in  
memory of Louis Fox

Ruth & Paul Fraster—in  
memory of my brother  
Philip Adelman

Gail Levy—in memory of  
Francis J. Lons

Jonathan Slate—in  
memory of my mother,  
Rose Slate

Jonathan Slate— In  
memory of my  
grandfather, Hyman Slate

Jonathan Slate—in  
memory of Bessie Slate

Jill Stanton & Bruce  
Trager—in memory of  
Bill Rosenberg’s and Mark  
Drapkin’s mothers

Anne Weinstein—in  
memory of husband  
Bernard Weinstein,  
mother Minnie Koocher,  
father Morris Koocher,  
sister Sara Mendelson,  
brother David Koocher,  
sister Miriam Newman,  
mother-in-law Sophie  
Weinstein, and father-in-  
law Jacob Weinstein

## Shabbat Kiddush Contributions

Michael Abraham—in  
memory of my father

L. Lee Butler

## Donate for Free!

If you shop at the Butcherie, ask them to stamp your receipt, then bring your receipts to the shul office. The Butcherie will give TBS a small percentage of the transaction. ☆

*Want More Fun Shul Events?*

# Programming Needs You!

Past president Linda Kasten recently took on the post of Programming Committee Chair. Many of the exciting events for December and January are detailed on pp. 6–7. Talk with Linda ([programs@tremontstreetshul.org](mailto:programs@tremontstreetshul.org)) to suggest new events and to volunteer to help out!

## TBS Children’s Programming

TBS children’s fall programming had a successful kickoff, including an energetic and joyous Simchat Torah program led by Fran Sharpe. We continue with holiday-themed events for Hanukah ( Sunday December 13 at 3 p.m.) and Tu B’Shvat (Sunday January 31 at 10:30 a.m.) as well as our twice-monthly Shabbat morning kids programs. Mini Minyan, geared toward kids aged 4-8 without parents, and Tot Shabbat, geared toward kids 0-4 with parents, meet on the 1st and 3rd Shabbats of the secular month at 10:15 and 11 am, respectively. There is an ongoing discussion about Mini Minyan; please contact Ezra Robison <[ezra.robison@gmail.com](mailto:ezra.robison@gmail.com)> for more information. To get learn more about kids’ programming at TBS, or to volunteer to help organize an event, contact Laura Willis <[ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org](mailto:ausblick@tremontstreetshul.org)>.

## Support Faith Kitchen

Volunteers from TBS and Islamic Society of Boston come together with folks at Faith Lutheran Church (311 Broadway, near Tremont Street) to prepare and serve free hot meals on the second and last Tuesdays of the month. Cook at 5:30 pm, serve at 6:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to help others while getting to know members of the wider community. To get involved, contact Betsy Kaptchuk <[mkaptchuk@comcast.net](mailto:mkaptchuk@comcast.net)> or just show up! Upcoming dates: December 8, December 29, January 12, January 26.

NEW! East Coast Grill Raffle: Faith Kitchen is raffling off a \$100 gift certificate for a meal at East Coast Grill, plus a signed book from the Grill’s famed chef/restaurateur Chris Schlesinger. Raffle proceeds will be used to offset the costs of heat, light, and supplies for Faith Kitchen. Tickets are \$3 for one, \$10 for four, and \$20 for 10. The drawing will be on Sunday, December 6. Checks should be made to Faith Lutheran (please put Faith Kitchen in the memo line) and may be sent to Faith Lutheran, 311 Broadway, Cambridge MA 02139. You can also order through Betsy Kaptchuk and she’ll arrange payment at

# 20 Years Ago in Ausblick

OYSBLIK

The Newsletter of Temple  
Beth Shalom of Cambridge

vol. XCIII winter 1989 no.1

## Bottle Drive

Like many conservation-minded institutions, Temple Beth Shalom has a continuous bottle drive. Our bottle drive is special in that we prefer to accept bottles which are full. Especially encouraged are Bottles of your favorite alcoholic beverages, kosher wines, or sodas (esp. orange). To arrange a drop off time contact the Synagogue office.

Regularly Scheduled  
Services at Temple  
Beth Shalom



## SHABBAT

### Egalitarian Service

Friday evening  
6:30 PM

Saturday morning  
9:30 AM

### Traditional Service with Mechitza

2nd & 4th Fridays  
(see website for times)

Saturday morning  
9:30 AM

### Children’s Services (October through June)

1st & 3rd Saturday  
mornings of the month  
10:15 AM

“Mini Minyan”  
(ages 4-8 yrs)

11:00 AM  
“Tot Shabbat”  
(ages 0-4 yrs with parents)

### WEEKDAYS

#### Egalitarian Service

Monday morning  
7:00 AM (8:30 AM on

National Holidays)

#### Traditional Service with Mechitza

Sunday morning  
8:30 AM

# December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	30 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:15 - 8:15 pm Executive committee meeting (Miriam's Office) 7:30 - 9:00 pm Ritual Committee Meeting	1 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	2 7:45 - 10:30 pm TBS Theatregoing: Shulamis, a Yiddish Operetta	3 8:00 - 9:30 pm 20s&30s Bowling Excursion	4 3:54 - 4:12 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	5 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 4:54 pm Havdalah (42 min)
6 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	7 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:30 - 9:30 pm TBS Board Meeting "note date change"	8 5:00 - 8:00 pm Faith Kitchen: Come Help Prepare and Serve Meals 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	9	10	11 Chanukah: 1 Candle 3:54 - 4:12 pm Candle lighting 5:30 - 6:30 pm Carlebach-style Trad Friday night service 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4:54 pm Havdalah (42 min) 5:00 - 8:00 pm 20s&30s Chanukah Havdalah & Games Night	12 Bat Mitzvah of Raquel Neiman Chanukah: 2 Candles 8:30 - 10:30 am Early trad minyan 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal) and Kiddush 4:54 pm Havdalah (42 min) 5:00 - 8:00 pm 20s&30s Chanukah Havdalah & Games Night
13 Chanukah: 3 Candles 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast 3:00 - 4:45 pm Family Chanukah Program 5:00 - 6:00 pm Honorable Menschen IN CONCERT 6:00 - 7:00 pm TBS Community Latke Reception	14 Chanukah: 4 Candles 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan	15 Chanukah: 5 Candles 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	16 Chanukah: 6 Candles	17 Chanukah: 7 Candles Rosh Chodesh Tevet	18 Chanukah: 8 Candles Rosh Chodesh Tevet 3:55 - 4:13 pm Candle lighting 4:30 - 5:00 pm Minyan Tehillah Family Program 5:00 - 6:00 pm Minyan Tehillah 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 - 10:00 pm TBS Community Shabbat Dinner 4:56 pm Havdalah (42 min)	19 Chanukah: 8th Day 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 1:00 - 1:30 pm Lunch and Learn: Who's Hannah? The other story of Chanukah 4:56 pm Havdalah (42 min)
20 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	21 Winter Solstice 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan	22 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	23	24	25 3:59 - 4:17 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4:59 pm Havdalah (42 min)	26 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 4:59 pm Havdalah (42 min)
27 Asara B'Tevet 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan	28 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:15 - 8:15 pm Executive committee meeting (Miriam's Office)	29 5:00 - 8:00 pm Faith Kitchen: Come Help Prepare and Serve Meals 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	30	31	1 4:04 - 4:22 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	2 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 5:05 pm Havdalah (42 min)

# January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Asara B'Tevet 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan	28 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:15 - 8:15 pm Executive committee meeting (Miriam's Office)	29 5:00 - 8:00 pm Faith Kitchen: Come Help Prepare and Serve Meals 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	30	31	1 4:04 - 4:22 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	2 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 5:05 pm Havdalah (42 min)
3 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	4 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan	5 7:00 - 10:00 pm 20s&30s Movie Night 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	6	7	8 4:11 - 4:29 pm Candle lighting 5:30 - 6:30 pm Carlebach-style Trad Friday night service 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 5:12 pm Havdalah (42 min)
10 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	11 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:30 - 9:30 pm TBS Board Meeting	12 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	13	14	15 4:18 - 4:36 pm Candle lighting 5:30 - 6:30 pm Minyan Tehillah 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	16 Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 5:20 pm Havdalah (42 min)
17 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	18 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan	19 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	20	21	22 4:27 - 4:45 pm Candle lighting 5:30 - 6:30 pm Carlebach-style Trad Friday night service 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30 - 11:00 pm 20s&30s Shabbat Dinner	23 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 5:28 pm Havdalah (42 min)
24 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast	25 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan 7:15 - 8:15 pm Executive committee meeting (Miriam's Office)	26 5:00 - 8:00 pm Faith Kitchen: Come Help Prepare and Serve Meals 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	27	28	29 4:36 - 4:54 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	30 Tu B'Shvat 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 4:15 - 5:45 pm 20s&30s Tu B'Shvat Seder 5:37 pm Havdalah (42 min)
31 8:30 - 9:30 am Trad Morning Minyan and Breakfast 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Tu B'Shvat: Songs, Snacks, and Seeds 6:30 - 10:30 pm Tu B'Shvat Singles Mixer	1 7:00 - 8:00 am Egal Morning Minyan	2 8:00 - 9:00 pm Talmud Class	3	4	5 4:45 - 5:03 pm Candle lighting 6:30 - 8:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	6 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Shabbat Services (Egal and Trad) and Kiddush 10:15 - 10:45 am Mini Minyan Children's Service 11:00 - 11:30 am Tot Shabbat 5:46 pm Havdalah (42 min)

For the most up-to-date calendar information, check [www.tremontstreetshul.org](http://www.tremontstreetshul.org)

# December Doings

## TBS Theatregoing: *Shulamis*, Yiddish Operetta at Harvard

Wednesday Dec. 2, 7:45–10:30 pm. Come see TBS members Richard Samuels & Vardit Haimi-Cohen in Harvard's first-ever bilingual Yiddish operetta production, *Shulamis!* For more information on the show, see: <http://www.shulamis.org/> We're assembling a Tremont St. group for the opening performance on Wednesday night, Dec. 2, 2009 at 8:00pm (meet at the theater at 7:45pm). Venue is Harvard's historic Agassiz Theater in picturesque Radcliffe Yard, just a few blocks from the Harvard Square T Station at 5 James Street, Cambridge. General ticket price is \$15. Sign up here: <http://tinyurl.com/yzt3okt>

## 20s&30s Bowling Excursion

Thursday Dec. 3, 8:00–9:30 pm. Save the date to join us at our usual haunt—Sacco's Bowl Haven in Davis Square, Somerville—for candlepin bowling. Space is limited to 24! Sign up online at [20s30s.tremontstreetshul.org](http://20s30s.tremontstreetshul.org).

### BIRKAT HAKOHANIM

>> CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to organize one or more structured learning/discussion sessions to explore the issue as a community. Our goal is to develop a transparent and coherent process and policy, while respecting the sensibilities of all in our community, and to have a permanent policy in place before next Passover. ✨

(compiled by Laura Willis, incorporating some text from the ritual committee)

### ברכת הכהנים THE PRIESTLY BENEDICTION

יברכך ה' וישמרך  
May G-d bless you and guard you  
יאר ה' פניו אליך ויהנך  
May G-d make His face shine on you  
and show favor to you

ישא ה' פניו אליך וישם לך שלום  
May G-d lift up His face on you  
and give you peace

NUMBERS 6:24–26



# Hanukah Happenings

Come celebrate the Feast of Lights at TBS! Read on for the great programs we have lined up this year.

### Hanukah games night

Latkes and pizza? Dreidels and Fluxx? It's Shabbat Chanukah! It's board games! It's both! Join us for the "early shift" in your Saturday-night Chanukah festivities, starting with Havdalah and menorah lighting at 5 pm on December 12th [Reb Moshe's birthday, by the way. -ed]. A range of beverage options and some dinner-type food will be available. Cost: \$10 (\$8 if your RSVP is received by 5pm on Thursday, 12/10). \$3 additional discount for dues-paid TBS members!

### Sunday Hanukah parties and concert

Party with the TBS community on Sunday December 13th! We begin at 3 p.m. with a children's program, followed by a FREE! live concert by a capella group Honorable Menschen at 5 pm, and wrap up with a community latke reception at 6 p.m. (suggested donation \$5 to defray expenses). Bring your hanukiah and candles and an appetite!

### Eighth night Community Dinner

Long ago, the followers of Shammai and the followers of Hillel disagreed as to whether one should light eight candles on the first night of Hanukah and reduce by one each night, or begin with one and increase by one candle each night. We follow Hillel's practice because light (and joy) increase! What better way to celebrate the eighth and final night of Hanukah than a festive Shabbat dinner catered by our own Barbara Model?

Please join us for a community dinner on Shabbat, Friday December 18th at approximately 7:30 p.m. Minyan Tehillah will be holding a children's program at 4:30 p.m. followed by davening at 5:00 p.m., and TBS egal services will begin at 6:30 p.m. Advance sign up is required for dinner (see form on facing page for costs). ✨

Clip and mail either or both forms with your check!

## Community Shabbat Dinner Registration: Dec. 18, 2009

For these events, payment must be submitted in advance, as no money can be accepted on Shabbat. Early registration must be received by Tuesday, December 15. You can also sign up online via PayPal at [www.tremontstreetshul.org](http://www.tremontstreetshul.org) or by calling the synagogue office (617-864-6388).

\_\_\_ Members .....@ \$17 = \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Non-members .....@ \$20 = \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Full-time students .....@ \$13 = \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Children ages 4–13 .....@ \$9 = \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ After Dec. 15, add \$3 per person ..... = \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ First-year members using a voucher FREE!  
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
For donations: In Memory / Honor Of.. \_\_\_\_\_  
Make check(s) payable to Temple Beth Shalom and mail to:  
Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge  
8 Tremont St.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Thank you for your support!

## Keep the Shul Fires Burning

The steam boiler that heats the TBS sanctuary has sprung a leak. Please consider making a donation toward the replacement!

### DONATION LEVELS:

- Balmy (\$10)
- Burning (\$25)
- Blazing (\$50)
- Boiling (\$100)
- Baking (\$300)
- Broiling (\$500)
- Blistering! (\$1000)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Tu B'Shvat Things

The holiday of Tu B'Shvat (the 15th day of the month of Shvat) marks the New Year of the trees on the Hebrew calendar. The Kabbalists took this minor agricultural holiday and gave it new significance by inventing for it a ritual celebration, modeled on the Passover Seder and invoking such powerful imagery as the seasons of the year.

### 20s&30s Tu B'Shvat Seder

Our Tu B'Shvat seder has become one of the year's favorite TBS events. Join us on Saturday January 30th at 5 pm to eat fruit, drink wine, and experience the renewing of life in the year! All those who can help set up are encouraged to come at 4pm. The Seder is a 20s&30s-sponsored event, but all are welcome to attend. Cost is \$12 per person (\$9 with advance RSVP by 1/27), payable in cash at the door. Dues-paid TBS members receive an additional \$3 discount! RSVP by Wednesday, January 27, 2010.

### Tu B'Shvat Family Event

Sunday January 31, 2010, 10:30 am. Join us for a morning of songs, snacks, and seeds. We'll plant seeds that you can take home and grow on the windowsill (they may get big enough to use as the parsley on your seder plate). All are welcome. For more information, contact Maura Gould ([mauragould@gmail.com](mailto:mauragould@gmail.com)) or Laura Willis.

### Tu B'Shvat Singles Mixer

Sunday, January 31, 2010, 6:30-10:30 pm. Save the date to find your date! Although the TBS 20s&30s group is not a "singles group", we do have two mixers a year, at Tu B'Shvat and Tu B'Av. As in previous mixers, we will have two sessions, one for ages 21-42 and one for ages 35+. If you are 35–42 you are welcome to stay for both sessions. See [20s30s.tremontstreetshul.org](http://20s30s.tremontstreetshul.org) for full event details and signup info!

## Purim Preparations

This year, Purim comes in on a Saturday night (February 27th). We're planning a full evening and morning of events, including davening, megillah reading, costumes, hamantaschen, Purimspiel, "Club Shushan" dance, a children's event, and a raffle. There's lots to enjoy, and many opportunities for getting involved. Please e-mail [programs@tremontstreetshul.org](mailto:programs@tremontstreetshul.org) to get involved.

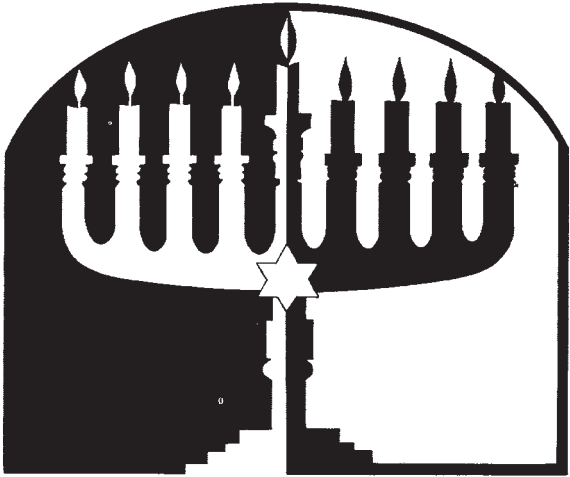
### Yad Chesed Purim Appeal

On Purim, we give gifts to those in need. The economic downturn has increased the number of people in need while exhausting the coffers of many charities. Each year TBS participates in a Purim fundraising appeal from Yad Chesed by collecting money from those who attend evening services at the shul. This year Yad Chesed has asked us to extend the appeal to reach out earlier and to more members of our community, including those who can't attend services on Purim itself. To that end, we will be soliciting donations to Yad Chesed from now until Purim. Watch your e-mail, or click through to the web site [www.tremontstreetshul.org/purim5770/](http://www.tremontstreetshul.org/purim5770/) to help with this great mitzvah. ✨



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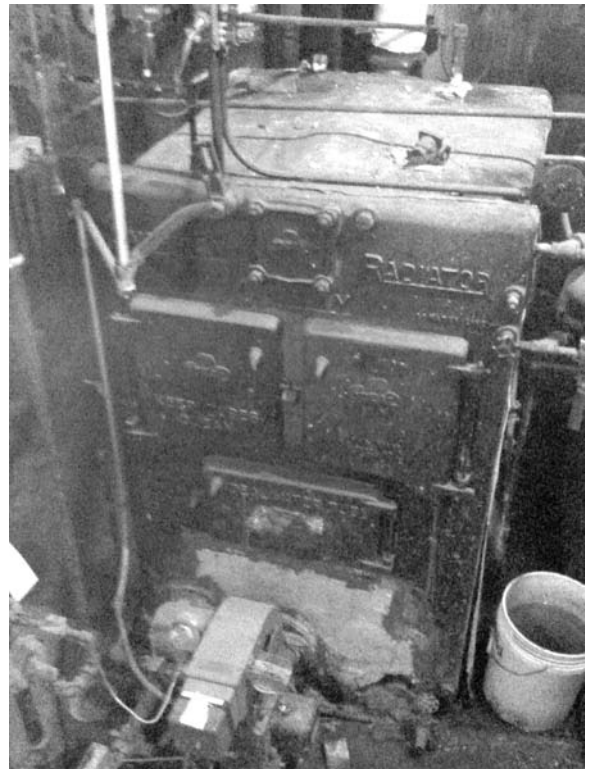
*Chanukah starts December 11. See p. 6 for December events!*

## Keep the Shul Fires Burning

Gentle readers, as this issue reaches your mailbox sunset is nearing the trough in its sinusoidal yearly journey (Shabbat candlelighting is 3:54 pm on December 4th) and will begin its slow climb back up. The shortest day of the year, marking the beginning of winter, is approaching, and cold weather is setting in in earnest. Our festival of lights, commemorating the victory of the Maccabees over Antiochus, the rededication of the temple, and the miracle of the oil lamp is on the horizon.

As you reflect on the fire of the sun far away, the fire of the menorah long ago, and the fire of the Hanukah candles near at hand, please take a moment in the here and now to donate to keep the (boiler) fires burning at the shul. The steam boiler that heats the sanctuary has sprung a leak, and although we've lovingly maintained this equipment long past its predicted life we must now replace it or face a winter of cold Shabbat davening. The systems that heat the vestry, shul office and Gimmel room are still functioning.

Arnold Reinhold and the building committee are currently evaluating quotes to replace the defunct boiler. Options under consideration include replacing the boiler with another steam boiler; replacing it (and the radiators in the sanctuary) with a hot water system, or installing a heating and cooling system on the roof. Whichever option is selected, it will (a) be more energy efficient than our old system... and (b) require a significant capital outlay. The heating plus air conditioning option would cost more to install, so if you want the sanctuary to have air conditioning please consider donating for that purpose. *See p. 7 for a donation form!* As the end of the tax year approaches, please contribute what you can. Thank you, and Hanukah Sameach. ✨



*The old boiler. (Photo courtesy of Arnold Reinhold.)*