

Welcome to

Temple Beth El of Augusta, Maine

embracing a spirit of community, lifelong Jewish learning, commitment to inclusiveness, and active participation in Jewish life in Central Maine

artwork by Lenora Leibowitz

September Calendar

Friday, Sept. 5 (hybrid)Shabbat services @ 6pm

Saturday, Sept. 6 (hybrid)

Bat Mitzvah of Penny Frus @ 10am

Sunday, Sept. 7 (in person)

New Member Brunch @ 10am

Saturday, Sept. 13 (hybrid)

Daf Yomi @ 10am Torah Study @ 10:30am

Sunday, Sept. 14 (in person)

Mikvah Immersions @ 1-3pm

Wednesday, Sept. 17 (in person)

Round Challah @ 5:30pm

See page 7 for our full holiday schedule

Friday, Oct. 24

Shabbat on the Block

Saturday, Oct. 25 (hybrid)

Daf yomi @ 10am Torah Study @ 10:30am

From the desk of Rabbi Asch...

As this newsletter will attest, it is a busy season at TBE. Even at the start of September we are pulling out our sweatshirts and begin to see the first signs of fall appear. The cycle of our seasons reminds us that change is inevitable and sacred.

During this change of seasons, the High Holidays invite us into our own process of change. What would we like to keep hold of in the coming year? What might we want to give up? During this month of Elul and in the holidays to come we are invited to consider how we can live more justly, more compassionately, and more in line with our values.

This year, I've heard from many of you that are feeling particularly unmoored, concerned and worried. So during the High Holidays, I'll be focusing on how to find our footing in a world that seems uncertain, and how to follow our own moral compass no matter what may come our way. Look for my sermon topics to be posted in the weekly email.

Although busy, this time of year is one of my favorites because we can see so many people. The holidays are a time to connect with old friends and meet new people. Despite our differences, we are one community. The mishna has a discussion about why only a single person, adam, was



created on the sixth day. On reason given is that each of us is "obligated to say: the world was created for me," since one person can be the source of all of humanity. But that does not mean we are

Continued on page 2

Kids Programs

Hebrew School

9:30-noon September 7, 14, 21, 28 October 5, 12, 19, 20

0-5 Group

9:45-11am September 14 October 12

Teen Programs

Sept. 7: Lunch & Lounge + program with the Center for Small Town Jewish Life

Zoom 7-8pm: Sept. 28 Oct. 12, 26

Rabbi's Message, continued from page 1

all the same. The rabbis teach that we see the greatness of God in the diversity of people (Sanhedrin 4:5). It is wonderful to see our diverse community gather together for the holidays.

I hope you will also join us for Shabbat on the Block happening October 24th. The Membership Committee is creating this opportunity to eat a Shabbat meal with other TBE members in our neighborhood. See page 9 for more information, and be sure to RSVP in a future email.

Wishing you a sweet, meaningful start to the new year –and looking forward to sharing it together. Shana Tova.



Join Us for These Special Events

We have a number of special events this month. All are welcome to join us for these occasions!

Friday, September 5th: We'll celebrate the recent conversion of **Dawn Fecteau** with a special blessing as part of Shabbat services. Stay afterwards for a festive oneg celebrating this milestone.

Saturday, September 13th: At the end of Torah study we'll mark two milestones. We'll celebrate the recent conversion of *Annie Thompson*. She will be offered some special blessings during this ceremony.

We'll say goodbye to *Richard Forcier and Karen Brooks*. Richard and Karen are moving out of state next month. This is a chance to send them on their way with our love and blessings.

Sunday, September 21st: Baby naming for the son of *Kim and Rick Pierce* at 12:30pm. All are invited to join us for this special simcha and to celebrate with the Pierce family.

We hope you'll join us for at least one of these special events in the next month.

TBE in Action!



We Need Your Photos!

Last fall we hung a beautiful exhibit of TBE congregates' photos from Spring/Summer outdoor experiences. I would like to do another exhibit on the TBE Art Space during the month of October as there will be many attending High Holy Days. Images should NOT include people- just nature scenes such as sunrises, sunsets, skies, storms, flowers, etc. Please email me (circhlan@gmail.com) your jpeg image(s) no later than September 15th. If you would like to share a writing about your nature experiences, please include that with your photo.

Thank you,

Cindy Rehagen Langewisch

Penelope Frus Becomes a Bat Mitzvah on Sept. 6



Hi, my name is Penelope Frus. I go to Cornerspring Montessori in Belfast, Maine. I love animals and nature. I also do horseback riding, and during the winter I do curling. I like camping, swimming, hiking, hanging out with my dog, cat, and my friends. My favorite foods are sushi and Thai food.

My Bat Mitzvah project is all about helping people. I have been collecting food and hygiene products, and so far I have donated around 300lbs to the Belfast Soup Kitchen.

* If you would like to participate in my product drive, please bring shelf stable food or hygiene products to the Temple and I will collect them at my Bat Mitzvah on September 6th! I can also do your shopping for you if you prefer to donate a grocery card.

Preparing for the High Holidays

Special Torah Study: Saturday, September 13th (10:30am)

In this special we'll explore some themes of the holidays. We will study texts about teshuvah (repentance) and explore why we sound the shofar.



Mikvah Immersion: Sunday, September 14th in Waterville (1:00-3:00pm)

We'll join with Beth Israel Congregation for this special event preparing for the holidays. Participants will have a chance to immerse in the mikvah with special prayers for the new year. We'll also have a chance to study, sing and talk with one another as we prepare for 5786. If you have a reading that is meaningful to you, please bring it share. Bring a towel if you plan to .immerse in the mikvah. You are welcome to attend this event even if you do not want to immerse

Round Challah Baking with Rabbi Asch, Wednesday, September 17th (5:30pm)

Join us as we make round challah to celebrate the new year. Each participant will make a challah to take home and we'll make challot for the holidays at TBE. You'll also get a recipe so you can make your own challah at home! We'll also have some time for text study. This activity is appropriate for all ages! You must RSVP by Monday, September 15th so we have enough dough. See your weekly email for more information.

Your One-Stop Shop for High Holidays Logistics

In-Person Services

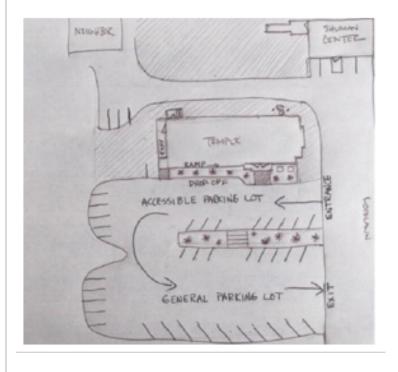
For those of you joining us in person, please look for the greeter outside of TBE. They will hand you your nametag and remind you to take a prayer book (machzor) and additional handouts. Please note that the doors will be locked 10 minutes after the start of services. If you arrive later, a greeter will open the door for you. Please be patient as you wait for them to arrive. You will be asked to enter through the back of the sanctuary. Guests are welcome! Please let us know if you are brining a guest to services.

Security

In keeping with High Holiday services in recent years, we've arranged for a uniformed, off-duty Augusta Police Department officer to be present outside the Temple during services and events. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Arwen Agee: arwen.agee@gmail.com

Food for High Holidays

As in previous years, we welcome contributions of desserts, kugels, and coffee cakes for the Lipman kiddush. For the break fast we welcome contributions of desserts, kugels, and fruit. Please bring your dish with you to services. We look forward to noshing with you!



Where Should I Park?

Please look at the diagram for parking instructions for large events at TBE. Drive into the lot closest to TBE. Parking in that lot is reserved for those who need accessible parking. You may also drop off in front of the building. Parking in the second lot is for anyone. If you are ushering, you may park in front of the Shuman Center or behind TBE. After the second lot is full we ask that you park on the river side of Sewall Street (the east side).

When parking on Woodlawn, please take care not to block our neighbors' cars or driveways.

One-Stop Shop, continued

Prayer Books for the High Holiday Services

If you're unable to attend services in person and need a prayer book, please see below for the pick up dates and times:

Wednesday, September 17th
 Friday, September 19th
 Sunday, September 21st
 9:30am - 2:00pm (see Dawn at the Shuman Center)
 9:30am - 2:00pm (see Rabbi Asch in the Sanctuary)

If you cannot pick up your book on these days, please email the office to make other arrangements.

Yom Kippur Food Drive

Every year on Yom Kippur, TBE does a food drive. While many of us fast by choice on Yom Kippur, some of our neighbors don't know where their next meal is coming from. We all know how prevalent hunger is in our community. This Yom Kippur, please consider donating something to the food drive. Please put your non-perishable food donations in the large bin located inside the temple lobby. If instead you would prefer to give a cash donation, please make your check out to the "Augusta Food Bank" and place it inside the white donation box at TBE or mail it to TBE.

We are collecting the following items for the food drive:

- ♦ Juice Boxes for KidsPaks.
- ◆ Canned Corn, Canned Soups, and Baked Beans
- ◆ Cereal Bars
- ◆ Canned Pasta SpaghettiOs, Beefaroni, Ravioli
- ♦ Mayo 18 oz. jars, Vegetable Oil 16 or 18 oz.
- ♦ Vegetable Oil 16 or 18 oz.
- ♦ 12 Pack Egg Cartons





Preparing for the Holidays

- Special Torah Study: Saturday, September 13th (10:30am)
- Mikvah Immersion: Sunday, September 14th in Waterville (1:00-3:00pm)
- Round Challah Baking: Wednesday, September 17th (5:30pm)

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Monday, September 22nd	Erev Rosh Hashanah	7:00pm	Evening Service
Tuesday, September 23rd	Rosh Hashanah Day 1	9:30am	Morning Service
		~12:30pm	Lipman Kiddush
		~1:30pm	Tashlich (Hallowell)
		4:30pm	Children's Service
Maria de Carta de Carta		10:00am	Morning Service
Wednesday, September 24th	Rosh Hashanah Day 2	11:30am	Study
		12:15pm	Kiddush Lunch
Wednesday, October 1st	Kol Nidre	7:00pm	Evening Service
Thursday October 2nd	Vone Viener	9:30am	Morning Service with Yizkor
Thursday, October 2nd	Yom Kippur	1:30pm	Lay Led Study
		3:15pm	Service of Renewal and Reprieve
		~4:45pm	Afternoon Service
		~6:00pm	Neilah
		~7:00pm	Havdalah and Break Fast
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Sunday, October 5th	Sukkah Decorating	10:30am	Decorate the Sukkah
Sunday, October 5th Monday, October 6th	Sukkah Decorating First Night of Sukkot	10:30am 6:00pm	Decorate the Sukkah Soup and Study in the Sukkah
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services	6:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah
Monday, October 6th	First Night of Sukkot	6:00pm 9:00am	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville)
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration Shabbat of Sukkot	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm 10:00am 10:30m 12:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi Torah Study Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th Saturday, October 11th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration Shabbat of Sukkot Erev Shemini Atzeret /	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm 10:00am 10:30m 12:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi Torah Study Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah Potluck Dinner
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration Shabbat of Sukkot	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm 10:00am 10:30m 12:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi Torah Study Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th Saturday, October 11th Monday, October 13th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration Shabbat of Sukkot Erev Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm 10:00am 10:30m 12:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi Torah Study Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah Potluck Dinner Simchat Torah Service
Monday, October 6th Tuesday, October 7th Friday, October 10th Saturday, October 11th	First Night of Sukkot Sukkot Morning Services Shabbat & Sukkot Celebration Shabbat of Sukkot Erev Shemini Atzeret /	6:00pm 9:00am 5:15pm 6:00pm 10:00am 10:30m 12:00pm 5:15pm 6:00pm	Soup and Study in the Sukkah At Beth Israel (Waterville) Potluck Dinner Shabbat Service and Celebration Daf Yomi Torah Study Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah Potluck Dinner

Don't forget about Sukkot and Simchat Torah!

The High Holidays don't end with Yom Kippur. Join us for our fabulous Sukkot programing!

Are you an artist? Join us for sukkah decorating on Sunday, October 5th at 10:30am **Interested in a meal in the Sukkah?** Join us for Soup and Study in the sukkah at 6pm on Monday, October 6th or bring a picnic to the Sukkah all week long.

Is study your thing? We'll have a special Torah Study on Saturday, October 11th at 10am (Daf Yomi) or 10:30am (Torah study) followed by a chance to eat outside.

Do you love a good party? Join us for Simchat Torah Monday, October 13th at 5:15 (dinner) and 6:00 (dancing and celebration). **Are you remembering a loved one?** We'll have a special Simchat Torah festival service on Tuesday, October 14th at 9am which will include a yizkor service.

See page 7 for more details!

Fall Shabbaton

NOV. 7-8, 2025 COLBY COLLEGE

Explore Arab Jewish Song+Culture with

Yoni Battat



The Fall Shabbaton is an annual event that brings together the Maine Jewish community and friends from farther afield for a weekend of Torah study, soulful music, Shabbat meals, and

invigorating connection. What started out as a Friday gathering has evolved into a full Shabbat of learning and singing, with intergenerational programs for college students, children and teens, and community from across the state. Past guests have included Nefesh Mountain, Cantor Shayna De Lowe, Deborah Sacks Mintz, Neshama Carlebach and the Glory to God gospel singers, and Joey Weisenberg, as well as Talmud scholar Ruth Calderon. The Shabbaton is a partner program to the Maine Conference for Jewish Life, sustaining our community with Jewish learning and music as we enter the winter months. For more information, please visit the website for the Center of Small Town Jewish Life.

For those who cannot make it in person, the Friday- night service will be live streamed. Pre-Registration is required to get the link. For a full schedule and to register **CLICK HERE**. Questions? Contact jewishlife@colby.edu.

First Shabbat on the Block Friday, Oct. 24

We're starting something new and would love for you to be part of it: **Shabbat on the Block!**

Here's the idea: members of our community will gather for simple, cozy potluck-style Shabbat dinners with others who live nearby. You can **sign up to host** (don't worry: no Shabbat expertise required; we'll provide the guest list, challah, grape juice, candles, and short how-to videos) or **sign up to attend (and bring a dish to share.)**

It's all about good food, new connections, and sharing Shabbat together in a welcoming, low-key way. Look in your weekly email to find the form to fill out if you're interested. The deadline will be **October 13** so we can match you with a group in your area.

October 7th Memorial Service

Sunday, October 5th at the Holocaust and Human Rights Center (Augusta)

Rabbi Asch and Rabbi Isaacs will lead a service at the Holocaust and Human Rights Center (at UMA) commemorating October 7th. Look in your weekly email for more information about this afternoon gathering.

New Member Brunch Sept. 7th @ 10am!

Everyone is invited to join with us for the new member brunch on September 7th at 10am. Come grab a bagel, enjoy our outdoor space and meet with our new members! RSVP to Rabbi Asch.

Taking Time to Appreciate Fall

By Brian Harding

Each year, when September arrives, I look forward to cooler weather and the changing scenery in Maine. I know that summer is a crowd pleaser and a popular recreation time, but something about fall makes it my favorite season. Once Judaism became an important part of my life, fall took on new significance for me. It's time for High Holidays. Listing and reflecting upon where I may have fallen short during the past year, or maybe a wrong I committed, allows me to grow as well as ask for genuine forgiveness. We know G-d forgives us, but what about our fellow humankind?

The cooler weather and bright colors of fall will soon lead to the cold snowy days and the festivities of Hanukkah. But first we will watch the leaves drifting away like the cares of the past year. We should perhaps take time to appreciate both, knowing we have made it, and perhaps we are a little bit wiser this year.

Hebrew School Starts Sept. 7!

We are so excited to start Hebrew School once again. We'll be meeting from 9:30-noon each Sunday and this year in addition to our regular programing we'll be exploring the theme of sacred space with walks in the woods and a few field trips. Parents should have gotten a welcome packet in the mail.



Temple Teens are ready for a great new year!

We thought the rest of the community should know how our teens stay connected to TBE after their b'mitzvah ceremonies.

- **1. MADRACHIM:** Madrachim are our teen helpers at Hebrew School. They teach Hebrew, Judaic lessons, music and more!
- **2. TEEN LEARNING AND LUNCH AND LOUNGE:** Teens meet Sunday evenings at 7pm twice a month for some learning with Rabbi Asch and some time to catch up with one another. We also meet once a month for lunch and
- **CENTER FOR SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE:** The CSTJL runs six programs a year for teens from across Maine. These are Sunday afternoons usually 2-4pm Teens who attend three programs are eligible to attend a Shabbat trip (Thursday-Sunday) this year to Boston.

lounge in our teen lounge at TBE.

3. TEEN PROGRAMS WITH THE

Know any interested teens? We are always happy to welcome more kids!





Supporting TBE



A huge thank you to all those listed below who made donations to TBE since our July-August newsletter was published. Your support is greatly appreciated!!

From previous communications you know that we have moved to a new computer system. We are working diligently to make sure that all of the reports coming out of the new system are accurate; however, there are a few areas that are still being developed. If you made a donation to TBE since June 20th, and your name is not listed below, our apologies! Please reach out to Dawn and she will be sure to include your information in the next newsletter.

Building Fund

Julia Underwood

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

- Cindy Landwisch & Nick Rehagen
- Rich Dana

Yahrzeits/Memorials

- Barda Leavitt, in memory of Dick Faucher & Janice Leavitt
- Bertine & Kenneth Slosberg, in memory of Lynn Slosberg
- Cheryl and Adam Goldstein, in memory of William Goldstein
- Chuck Cohen & Mary Beth Paquette, in memory of Sage Maquette-Cohen
- Cindy Langewisch & Nick Rehagen, in memory of Grace Penny
- Cindy Langewisch & Nick Rehagen, in memory of Paul Langewisch

- Deborah & Jeffrey Gussoff, in memory of Pauline Kosak
- Elizabeth Koopman, in memory of Bernard Osgood Koopman
- Ellen Freed & Carol Barlow, in memory of Rose Barlow
- Joseph O'Donnell, in memory of Thelma Alpert Price
- Marty Weiss, in memory of Linda Weiss Manson
- Mary Bayer & Leon Bresloff, in memory of Edith Bresloff
- Nancy & Charles Shuman, in memory of Esther Shuman
- Nancy & Charles Shuman, in memory of Gertrude German
- Richard & Jane Golden, in memory of Gerald Golden
- Sam Young & Jill West, in memory of David Young
- Sue & David Offer, in memory of Edith Gershon
- Thea and Chris Zinck, in memory of Charles Zinck

Other Donations

- Janie & Gene Meyers
- Linda Kallin, in honor of Elliott Gilg and Aaron Asch
- Kate McLinn, in honor of Nancy Kelly receiving the Rabbi Susan Award



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Rabbi

Rabbi Erica Asch 207-242-9792 rabbiasch@gmail.com

Rabbi Emerita

Rabbi Susan Bulba Carvutto

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Temple Beth El sends our condolences to Sylvia
Greene on the recent loss of her husband, Steven Greene, on August 23, 2025. May his memory be a blessing.

September Yahrtzeits

September 1 Leonard Brittain September 3 Harry Graham

September 4 Winifred Koopman

September 4 Alan Nemlich

September 5 Fred Orenstein

September 6 Emma Levy

September 6 Jerome Weintraub

September 10 Gertrude Goldberg

September 10 Beulah Shipley

September 12 Joe Hausner

September 14. Elma Rosenberg

September 15 Julia Ray

September 15 Sam Slosberg

September 17 Fredrick Orenstein

September 19 Harry Shuman

September 20 Lucille Rutberg

September 22 Arnold Green

September 22 Alfred Margolis

September 22 Marlene Roach

September 23 Joan Morse

September 25 Paul Barnhart

September 25 Julius Goos

September 27 Samuel Gass

September 27 Joseph Greenberg

September 27 Kevin LaPoint

September 27 Thelma Lipman

September 29 Edwin Moser

September 27 Lawin Moser

September 30 Shirle Offer



October Yahrtzeits

October 2 Gene Linn

October 3 Maurice Ross

October 6 Samuel Gass

October 6 Irene Rubinstein

October 7 Lois Evenchik

October7 Minnie Gussoff

October 9 Evelyn Berman

October 9 Mary Feldman

October 10 Leon Parkin

October 10 Carolyn Segal

October 13 Carol Eckert

October 13 Joan Goldberg

October 14 Robert Arsenault

October 14 Albert Kleiman

October 17 Jeffrey Gross

October 19 Nancy Diamond

October 19 Hilda Grunblatt

October 19 Deborah Sclar

October 20 Stella Evans

October 20 Richard Sax

October 22 Nancy Bien

October 23 Richard Kelly

October 23 Celia Norken

October 26 Elizabeth Dana

October 27 Howard Rosenbaum

October 28 Sally Gilbert

October 28 Albert Nolin

October 29 Theresa Caprim

October 29 Margery Myers

October 30 Robert Johnston, Sr.

October 30 Miriam Shankman

Portland Chevra Kadisha Jewish Funeral Home

471 Deering Ave. Portland, ME 04103 207.774.3733

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