

# Hakol

*the voice of temple beth david*



TEMPLE BETH DAVID

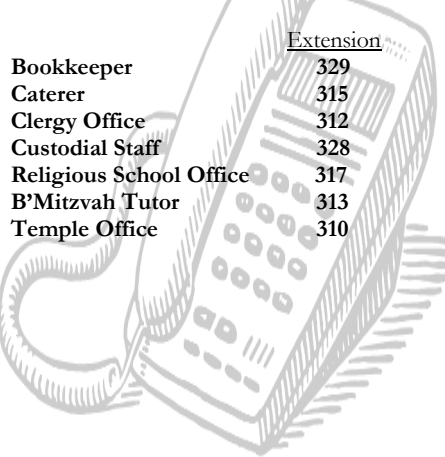
Vol. XIV No. 5

Tevet/Shevat 5785

January 2025

**Temple Beth David Phone Directory**  
**(631) 499-0915**

	<u>Extension</u>
Bookkeeper	329
Caterer	315
Clergy Office	312
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**Mark Your Calendars & Clocks:**  
**Starting in January, 2025,**  
**TBD First Friday Shabbat Services will begin one hour earlier at 6:30 pm**  
**with a "Pre-Neg" from 6:00-6:30 pm.**

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## *Rabbi's Message by Rabbi Beth Klapfer*

As the secular calendar turns to a new year, we will celebrate the last night of Chanukah, concluding the first of two Chanukah festivals falling in 2025. (Chanukah falls again on December 14-22, 2025) And with the end of Chanukah, we mark the first day of the Hebrew month, Rosh Hodesh, of Tevet.

On Rosh Hodesh Tevet in the Hebrew year 5596, December 27, 1935, a candle was lit to honor Rabbi Regina Jonas. In Germany, Jonas was the first woman in Jewish history to be ordained a rabbi. In 1942, she and her mother were deported to Terezin. There she served the needs of the Jewish community as their rabbi, offering pastoral care and teaching. She was murdered two years later in 1944. As we light the last candles of Chanukah this year, also on the first day of Tevet, we honor her memory, for the light she brought to others at this darkest of times in our people's history. For this is the message of this month.

"During the month of Tevet," writes my colleague and teacher, Rabbi Dalia Marx, PhD, in her book, From Time to Time: Journeys in the Jewish Calendar, "which begins with the shortest days and longest nights of the year, it is good to recall that 'there will not be a victory of light over darkness as long as we do not recognize the clear and simple truth that we must enhance the light rather than fight the darkness' (A. D. Gordon). Even a small candle can expel great darkness."

Tevet arrives at the very heart of winter and darkness. It also marks the beginning of longer days. Marx expresses so poignantly: "It is similar to reaching the bottom of a deep body of water and pushing off the ground to propel oneself back toward the air and light; we know light is coming, even in this darkest of months. After all, it is always darkest before the dawn."

I find particular significance that 2025 begins with all the flames of Chanukah candles filling our menorahs and our homes. Despite the darkness some may feel at this season, our Jewish tradition reminds us to embrace hope, warmth, and light.

*Rabbi Beth H. Klapfer*



## Clergy Reflections by



**D**ear Friends,

Just as on the Jewish New Year when we not only look forward but also look back on the year that has passed, so it is at this season. We anticipate a new President and a very different government, and we imagine what our future will be from a national and international perspective. Our families constantly change and for many of us, we have exciting simchas that we look forward to.

At the same time, we think about the year that has passed. This has been a difficult time for the Jewish people. Anti-semitism is more rampantly overt than any time I have ever personally witnessed. Israel, with all its imperfections, is still our beloved homeland, and we are at war on multiple fronts.

Many of us have also suffered personal loss. Sudden illness may have shaken our sense of security and awakened us to the fragility of life and its transient nature.

This past week my voice teacher and friend who many of you may remember, passed away. Teresa Arrigo and I shared duet on Yom Kippur for so many years, but more than that she was a long-time teacher, mentor and second mother to me. I share an excerpt of the words that I spoke at her funeral service only days ago.

*We pay tribute to a bright light and a great talent – a gifted teacher who was a kind and genuine and a truly welcoming soul. Growing up in Rochester, Teresa's vocal talent soon became apparent. Lessons and auditions followed, and Terry graduated from the Julliard School and won the Met auditions as a young woman. But she soon realized that the life of a performer was not for her. After marrying Ben, they put down roots in Plainview and began teaching piano and voice. Theirs was the place to be if one wanted to pursue serious private study – especially classical vocal music. Her repertoire was wide and her knowledge of both technique and performance skills was extensive. Mary and Claudine would be upstairs with Betty who was like another daughter, along with some of the other big kids who watched over the girls. The house was always abuzz with activity until very late at night. Their kitchen was never closed and as I grew into my teens, I became one of the club. Debbie, Fran, Meryl, Betty and the rest of us gathered around the table. The cabinets were searched and Mrs. Arrigo made sure we had plenty to snack on. We kept an eye on the girls and pranced around like we lived there.*

*In truth, 61 Beaumont Drive was my second home - a safe haven of love, fun and friends with beautiful music as the backdrop. I hung out there several nights a week. Mrs. Arrigo would coach me on whatever audition pieces I was preparing, and she did the same for us all. When the teaching was done for the night, we would sit with her and talk. Advice about boys, cooking, clothes or relationships with our parents – nothing was off limits. It was a place where we could be open and feel unconditionally loved and accepted.*

*Mrs. Arrigo shared stories about her own personal pain and disappointment about not being able to conceive but also about how much she loved her daughters. Her Catholic faith was central to her being and she became a constant presence at this very church.*

*In life, Terry inspired love of music, laughter and trust. She enabled us to be open with our feelings and she advised all the girls to be safe and not to trust the boys too much! She was known to speak her mind, but she was also a most loyal confidante who listened with an open heart. Many people are described as giving, but Terry was the quintessential generous spirit. When my father lost everything and we could no longer afford lessons, she called me into her studio. "I have been waiting to tell you, this," she said. "You have won a scholarship for free voice lessons!" I never paid for another lesson with Mrs. Arrigo. Similar stories have been shared with me by others. Betty recalls Mrs. Arrigo buying her every single audition dress that she wore. She thought nothing of travelling with us to accompany us on piano at auditions – always without any fee. When my brother went to study at Eastman, she made sure that Peter and Marie, her Aunt and Uncle, invited him regularly for dinner at their home in Rochester as though he was part of the family.*

*For so many of us, she was a second mother, and yet, she also became close to both of my parents and welcomed them into her home. She cooked alongside me for their surprise anniversary party and invited us to dinner before I left for college. Mrs. Arrigo sang at every concert I asked her to perform in and she became the soprano in my High Holiday quartet at Temple Beth David for decades. Our duet on Yom Kippur was known as a highlight of the service until she was almost ninety years old. Each year, after we sang that duet at my lectern, we would hug and kiss one another in front of the congregation, and she would tell me she loved me. I said it back, but today, I wish I had said it so many more days for I will miss her for the rest of my life. Terry will always be remembered when we hear "Un Bel Di" or "Vissi D'arte", when we eat a lasagna, or care for a puppy or a kitten and when we give freely with abandon. When we teach or when we sing and **always** when we love, we will think of her.*

*Our sages teach that the timing of events is never accidental. Rather, within the cycle of time and days, there is meaning. Mrs. Arrigo passed away just after Thanksgiving. It was a time when our nation paused in gratitude for the many gifts with which we have been blessed. And so, it was with her life.*

To all of you who remember someone you loved, may their memory etch a place inside you that it may bring light in dark times and may the memory of the righteous always be for a blessing at the beginning of the year and when it ends and for all. May this year bring a new message of hope and love for us all.

B'shalom,  
Rabbi Audrey Halpern



## Message from President Ken Marenus

### A Burbank Hanukkah

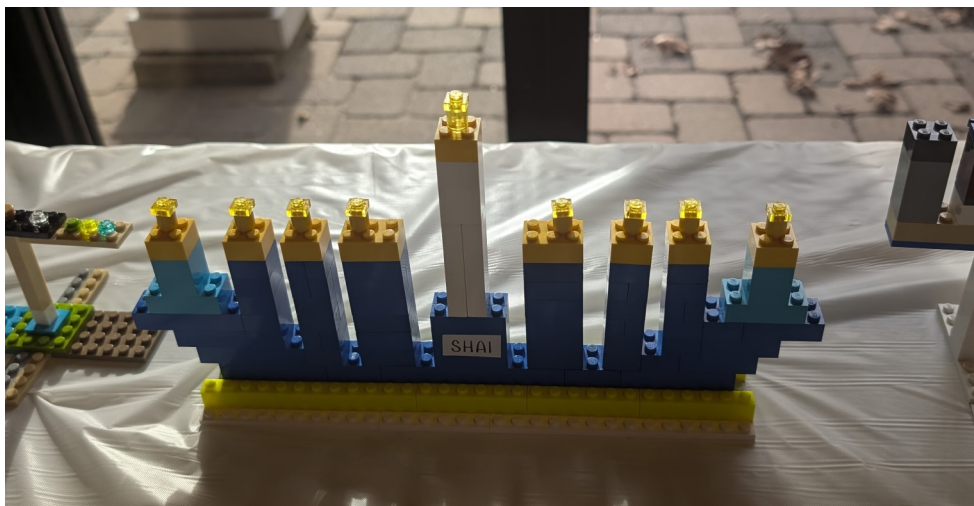


Growing up in the North San Fernando Valley in the 1950's was a somewhat unique experience. We had hills behind our house that abounded with wildlife; lizards, horned toads, rattle snakes and the occasional coyote. It was a great place to play and experience nature face to face. Our neighborhood was one of those with laid down post war housing. Our neighbors and their families were Vets of WW2 or Korea. There was a comradery amongst the kids whose families were all scraping along on fairly low wages. We didn't know any better, so it didn't matter.

Then came the Christmas season. Every house on the block was festooned with colorful lights and plastic Santas.....except ours. In school we began preparing for the big Christmas Assembly learning "Away in the Manger" and "Silent Night" with a passion. I don't think we had the obligatory Dreidel song. At home we had a wooden Star of David we covered with foil in front of the fireplace as my parents attempted to create some sense of inclusion for us.

Nevertheless, it was clear that somehow, we were different than everyone else. There wasn't any sense of antisemitism. Rather, the neighborhood was simply oblivious to the fact there were some who didn't recognize or relate to their holiday.

Fast forward about seventy years and I still have that mildly discordant feeling when this season rolls around. What sustains me today is being engaged in a community that illustrates all that is best about our heritage. I am glad Temple Beth David will be here for future generations to provide a pathway for full engagement in our Jewish culture.



**FEED YOUR IMAGINATION**

# **TBD's TOGETHER WITH TOTS**

**ARTS AND CRAFTS \* MUSIC \* STORYTIME**

**LEARN TOGETHER ABOUT SHABBAT AND  
HOLIDAYS WITH YOUR 3 -5 YEAR OLD  
CHILD/GRANDCHILD**

Classes will meet monthly on Tuesdays throughout the school year, 4:30-5:30pm. All families with young children are also invited to join us for TBD Family and Holiday Events.

**TBD's Together with Tots Monthly Classes:**

**January 7, February 11,**

**March 11, April 8, May 6**

**TBD Holiday and Family Events (RSVP required):**

**December 15, March 16, May 18.**

**Fees: Members \$200/Child; Non-Members \$250/Child**







# Margie Gursky Religious School News

**H**appy New Year to all our Religious School Families!

I hope that our long winter break brought you joy, relaxation and quality time with your children. Like all our Jewish holidays this past year, Hanukkah came a little later in our secular calendar, ending on January 2! The holiday corresponded almost exactly with the Christmas holiday week. I know some families prefer that and others do not. Because there was so much time between the Hanukkah Happening (December 15) and the actual holiday (December 25), Hanukkah went from eight days of celebrating to a season of celebrating.

At our Hanukkah Happening, we all had a great time while celebrating early. We had an amazing showing of families, new, newish, veteran and prospective. Our Religious School Committee led by Becky Camera and assisted by Rachel Vikingstad, Pablo Idez, and Sarah Ziolkowski, helped plan a lot of fun activities, including Relay Race to Light the Menorah, Silly Chanukah Book Reading Corner, Electric Paper Menorah (led by Art Salander), Lego Menorah contest, Edible Menorah (led by Stacey Kravette), Button Menorahs and Dreidels (led by Sisterhood), Kindness Coupons for each night of Hanukkah, Egg Carton Menorah (led by the Morrison/Taft family) yummy latkes served by Brotherhood and so much more! Its success was also due to our many teen volunteers, some of our teachers -- Joan Gilbert, Marilyn Pomeranz, Nancy Hertel and Stacey Kravette, as well as Beverly Wolcott and Denise Jacobs. It

truly was a great way to kick off the Season of Light! Check out the fun we had in the photos scattered throughout the *HaKol*.

In January, we have one major event coming up: On Sunday January 26 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm we will be hosting the Religious School Bingo Brunch Fundraiser run by Lisa Kleinman! Last year, this was a great success with fun, prizes, bagels and raffles. So mark your calendars and keep an eye out for more information as we get closer to the date!



PIC-COLLAGE

**Hanukkah  
Happening  
2024**



# Hanukkah Happening 2024



PIC • COLLAGE



## Sisterhood



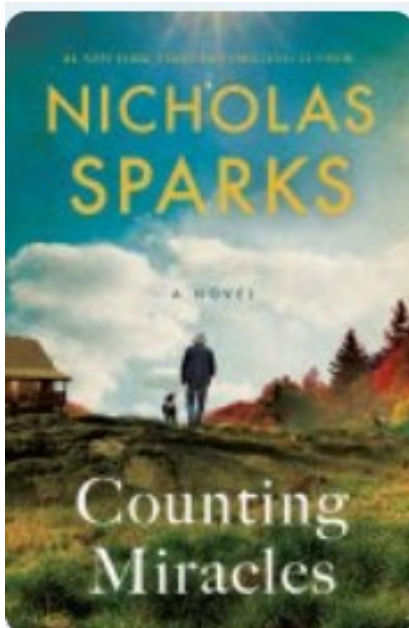
Sisterhood had so much fun in December. We hosted an awesome cooking class organized by cultural arts chairperson, Toni Spring. We made our very own dough from scratch, taught by Lynne from [www.lynneskitchentable.org](http://www.lynneskitchentable.org). Not only did we sample the most delicious veggie potpie, we each got to take one home to cook. It was an enjoyable and inspiring experience to see how each person decorated her own potpie. Special thank you to the helpers that night, Deborah Faust and Holly Dornfeld.

Sisterhood again worked together at the Hanukkah Happening on December 15. Debra Blatt, Jodi Maisel, Irma Sarisohn, and Denise Jacobs organized and assisted the children in making either a dreidel or menorah button art. It was so much fun to see all the creativity and appreciate each unique finished project.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events. Check the Megillah and your email for more detailed information.

- Wednesday, 1/08 Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- Thursday, 1/09 Book Club: Counting Miracles by Nicholas Sparks, 8:00 pm via Zoom
- Sunday, 1/26 Israeli Dancing 1-3 pm
- Wednesday, 1/29 GAME NIGHT 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, 2/12 Tu B'Shvat Seder 7:30 pm

Have a Happy and Healthy Hannukah and New Year!  
--Debra Blatt







## News from Isaiah 58

Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year from the Social Action Committee!

As I take stock of this past year, significant personal goals were met maintaining my health, being more open and demonstrative to those dear to me, attending our son's wedding while wearing sparkly dancing heels on my feet, supporting those in need, voting, opting to take the stairs and giving to charitable organizations that speak to me. How did you do? P.S. I have fewer goals now!

Truly, I am optimistic about the coming year and, although a Jewish New Year already started in the fall, I look forward to another celebration of a secular new year. Perhaps it is my advancing age – I look for reasons to celebrate. Made it to Shabbat? Good reason to celebrate AND have some wine. Made it to another full moon? Good to go. Made it through the children's elementary school Winter Concert? You get the drift...Keep celebrating in 2025!

Our leaders and members of the Social Action Committee are so grateful to Diane Kraut for her five years of heading Mitzvah Day! We celebrate YOU, Diane, and know that you will remain an integral part of our group and advise other leaders as you step down from leading this amazing day at TBD. Many thanks to all our project leaders and especially our chairpersons of Hat Looming, Food Drives, Food Pantry and PB&J and to Dr. Gursky for their ongoing yearlong efforts. Special shout out to the *Hakol* staff and TBD office staff who help us all year long.

On Mitzvah Day, all temple members, officers and committees participate together. There is strength in numbers! Be on the lookout for information regarding Mitzvah Day 2025 with the OyVey5K and the car wash to be held on Sunday, May 4th. We will have collections, the run/walk/stroll, activities and fundraising to give to those in need. And the need is great! Our upcoming 2025 brochure will list all the planned activities and collections. Wear your Mitzvah Day T-shirt on 5/4/25!

Working with our local agencies (including Long Island Cares, local pantries and the Suffolk JCC) furthers our mission and our reputation in the community. Check out the glass case in the temple lobby to sample the many thank you letters we receive for our generous work. The Isaiah 58 Social Action Committee and TBD have been working hard for over 25 years!

Please join us in our efforts this year to help those around us in need. If you have a group such as Scouts, Key Club or Rotary, Students for 60,000, or any other organization, join forces with us. Community service credits are available. Come make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, loom hats with our Hat Looming Club or celebrate giving in a way that is good for you. If you prefer, make a monetary donation to us online. All donations gratefully accepted!

Amid strife and war in the world, I remain grateful and hopeful. Wishing you shalom and love.

--Jane Oberwager Gaines,  
Isaiah 58 Chair



Our Peanut Butter & Jelly Gang in action!





## Hat Looming

Easy and Fun to make!

Beginners welcome, no experience needed!

Simple loom and finger-knitting.

Recommended for 4<sup>th</sup> graders and older.

All hats and scarves made will be donated to the Dolan Center, a family wellness center in Huntington that gives help and healthcare to families in need.

Sunday, January 5 and January 26  
Sunday, February 2 and February 9

10:30-11:30 AM

Room 5

Questions: Abby Taft, [debbieabby4@gmail.com](mailto:debbieabby4@gmail.com)





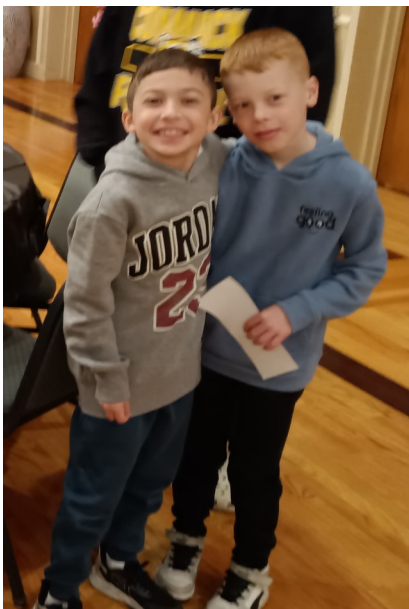
## Spotlight on Brotherhood

*I*t is deadline time for this month's *HaKol* article. With only two weeks left in the year, should I write about the successes of Brotherhood that we have enjoyed in 2024? Ice cream sundaes at Carvel (lots of them?) Religious School pancake breakfast? Chanukah latkes? Retro-Oneg? (Do you see a trend here?) An energized Brotherhood hiked in the woods, built a Sukkah, played X Golf, watched the Jets play on Monday Night Football (ok maybe not so much of a success,) and helped open a brand-new restaurant at our annual paid up membership dinner (we are still waiting for dessert to be served). If you joined us at any of these events, thank you for your support. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for doing your part to make Temple Beth David a welcoming community.

It is deadline time for this month's *Hakol* article. When you read this, our new year will just be getting underway. Should I write about our many upcoming exciting activities? Keep a lookout for our announcements. We are planning an ambitious calendar of events.

It is not too late to make good on your New Year's resolution and join us. Get in on the fun! Make new friendships, rekindle old ones, and help us support Temple Beth David in the process. It is going to be a great year!

--Steven Sarisohn  
President



## *Gracious Gifts from Thoughtful People*

**Rabbi Klafter's**

**Discretionary Fund**

**Elissa Cazassus**

*In honor of the wedding of Justin & Halle*

**Rabbi Halpern's**

**Discretionary Fund**

**Gary Bixhorn**

*In memory of Gloria Bixhorn*

**General Fund**

**Joan & Roy Gilbert**

*In memory of Phyllis Morris*

*In memory of Lucille Gilbert*

**Debra & Michael Ball**

*In memory of George Ball*

**Alfred Derrow**

*In memory of Elisas Derrow*

**Blaine Mandel**

*In memory of Hy Mandel*

**Sharmen & Edward Regensburg**

*In memory of Rosalind Mancher*

**Marcia & Howard Ettinger**

*In memory of Jeannette Miller*

**Arlene Senzer**

*In memory of Raymond Senzer*

**Janet Kohn**

*In memory of Max Kislovitz*

**Maxine & Ron Alschuler**

*In memory of Daniel Alschuler*

**Judith Tessitore & Ira Anekstein**

*In memory of Donna Anzalone*

**Karen Horowitz**

*In memory of Fred Horowitz*

**Ellen & Rob Linnemann**

*In memory of Marvin Linnemann*

**Lillian & Leon Falk**

*In memory of Angelina Rosario*

*In memory of Norberto Rosario*

**Sheila & Frank Eisinger**

*In memory of Fay Eehrenreich*

**Miryam & Lawrence Laifer**

*In memory of Jack Laifer*

*In memory of Werner Grave*

**Sydelle & David Metal**

*In memory of Tillie Reiff*

**Susan & Fred Paul**

*In memory of Bertha Paul*

**Lenore & Edward Seltzer**

*In memory of Max Seltzer*

**Andrea & Geoffey Weisman**

*In memory of Herbert Drucker*

**Barbara & Gary Sunshine**

*In memory of Anita Sunshine*

**Susan & Stephen Cooperman**

*In memory of Ida Glanzberg*

**Judy Goodman**

*In memory of Joseph Welton*

**Iris & Lou Schmidt**

*In memory of Morris Greene*

**Susan B. Dreilinger**

*In memory of Samuel Dreilinger*

**Marjorie Janicola**

*In memory of Geraldine Janicola*

*In memory of Philip Janicola*

**Economic Crisis Relief Fund**

**Carol Traster-Wilk & Alan Wilk**

**Isaiah 58 Fund**

**Lisa Wilks-Gallo & Bill Gallo**

**Kraut Family**

*In memory of Abraham Pearlstein*

*In memory of Rich Rosenberg*

**Marian Kent**

*In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of*

*Luke Wasserman*

**Donna & Ken Marenus**

*In memory of Richard Loman*

*In memory of Faye Marenus*

*In memory of Joyce Zion*

**Nicolle Horowitz**

*In memory of Lisa Shore Kratter*

**Religious School Fund**

**Judith Tessitore**

*In memory of Irving Fuchs*

**Water Main Repair**

**Barbara & Randy Klein**

**Judith & Joel Kurtz**

**Sandy Wolfson**

**Judith Tessitore**

**Debra Morrison-Taft & David Taft**

There are many ways to honor a loved one's memory, remember a joyous event, celebrate a special day such as a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a wedding or a baby naming. Temple Beth David's permanent plaques give lasting remembrance and honor while helping the temple.

**Yahrzeit Memorial**

located in sanctuary vestibule

\$ 500.00

**Tree of Life**

located in sanctuary across from Yahrzeit plaques

Gold or Platinum Leaf

\$ 180.00

Children's butterfly

\$ 36.00

Foundation Stone

\$ 450.00

**Sanctuary**

One seat

\$ 800.00

Two seats

\$1500.00





## What's Happening at TBD — January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1  Temple Offices Closed  No Religious School	2	3  6:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings	4  9:15 am Torah Study & Service
5  10:30 am Hat Looming	6	7  4:30 pm Together With Tots	8  7:30 pm Sisterhood Meeting	9	10  8:00 pm Shabbat Service	11  9:15 am Torah Study & Service
12	13	14  7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting  7:00 pm PB & J  8:00 pm TBD Board Meeting	15	16	17  8:00 pm Shabbat Service	18  9:15 am Torah Study & Service
19	20  Temple Offices Closed	21  7:30 pm Steering Committee	22	23  7:30 pm Isaiah 58 Meeting	24  8:00 pm Shabbat Service	25  9:15 am Torah Study & Service
26  10:30 am Hat Looming  11:00 am Religious School Bingo  1:00 pm Israeli Dancing	27	28	29  7:00 pm Sisterhood Game Night	30	31  8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Anniversary Blessings	1  9:15 am Torah Study & Service



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## Worship Schedule

Friday, January 3  
*Shabbat Vayigash*  
 6:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, January 4  
 9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, January 10  
*Shabbat Vayechi*  
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 11  
 9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, January 17  
*Shabbat Shemot*  
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 18  
 9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, January 24  
*Shabbat Vaera*  
 8:00 pm Shabbat Service with Anniversary  
 Blessings

Saturday, January 25  
 9:15 am Torah Study and Service

Friday, January 31  
*Shabbat Bo*  
 7:30 pm Shabbat Service with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, February 1  
 9:15 am Torah Study and Service

**HaKol**  
**TEMPLE BETH DAVID**  
**100 Hauppauge Road, Commack, NY**  
**11725**  
**(631) 499-0915**  
**[www.tbdcmmack.org](http://www.tbdcmmack.org)**

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 Copy & Layout ..... Robin Kain

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