The President, Robert Hershan, together with the Board, Rabbis and staff of TBI, welcomes you to our community.

BY RABBI RAFI KAISERBLUETH, EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE, WOOLLAHRA, NSW

DRASH FOR SHABBAT KORACH - ROSH CHODESH TAMMUZ
BY RABBI RAFI KAISERBLUETH, EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE, WOOLLAHRA, NSW

A powerful lesson I learned in the Navy is the idea of not complaining about something unless you are prepared to offer a tangible solution. Complaining for the sake of complaining is detrimental to morale and counterproductive. It may make you feel better in the short term, but in the long run will only ruin any positive feelings or incentive to improve, and also go on to create a toxic culture where the goal is to tear down others and not to build. Much ink has been spilt attempting to explain where Korach went wrong. Many agree that he had good people skills and great charisma, yet there is also almost universal consent that he was a horrible leader. How can this be? He instilled the loyalty of 250 people to go against perhaps the greatest leader, Moses. Could he really be so terrible? Leadership is not simply about having followers. That perhaps is the easiest part of being a leader. The harder part is developing a vision, a reason for people to follow you. Korach’s vision is simply to not be Moses, or more accurately, to call out Moses for consolidating power, while offering no tangible solution. One cannot articulate a vision by defining what you are not. Korach’s main complaint is: “You have gone too far! For all the community are holy, all of them and Adonai is in their midst. Why then do you raise yourselves over Adonai’s congregation?” There is no alternative, simply that Moses shouldn’t have all the power. What kind of vision is that? Pirke Avot teaches us, “Every dispute which is for the sake of heaven, in the end it will endure. And every one which is not for the sake of heaven, in the end it will not endure. Which is a dispute for the sake of heaven? The dispute of Hillel and Shammai. And which is not for the sake of heaven? The dispute of Korah.”

What was Korah’s dispute? Ostensibly, it was for Moses and Aaron to share the leadership, a very worthy cause. So why then do the rabbis condemn it as a dispute not for the sake of heaven?

Rambam sheds some light on what this type of dispute might mean. He teaches that those who cause disputes not with the intention of causing trouble, but instead to seek the truth, their words will stand and their ideas will not be cut off. Therefore, according to Rambam, Korah must have been more interested in creating a dispute rather than finding ultimate truth. The implication then is that a dispute that is for the sake of heaven endures precisely because it has uncovered truth. Ultimate truth is enduring and if Korah wasn’t actually interested in finding truth, but rather simply in making a problem for Moses, then his rebellion was not for the sake of heaven. This is evidenced by his complete unpreparedness or unwillingness to offer any alternative. His leadership was totally devoid of any vision or inspiration. One wonders then how he was able to inspire 250 people to follow him. I pray that we find the strength to put forth our thoughts and complaints in a positive light and at the same time be able to offer a possible solution to any problems we perceive. Anyone can offer an objection. A true leader with vision offers a way forward. For any dispute not for the sake of heaven, I pray that we take seriously the obligation to pursue disputes in an open and honest way, seeking that ultimate truth.

We kindly ask that phones and cameras not be used during services

MELTON SCHOOL

' THE CHANGING FAMILY'

Join Rabbi Kim Ettlinger for a look at the complex relationship of the changing Jewish family through the lens of an interfaith family.

Thursdays 6, 13, 20 July 7.30pm

Please RSVP: info@tbi.org.au

LIMMUD

Sponsored by pjfeX

TBI services are now streamed live and archived on our website tbi.org.au for the benefit of the community. If you are positioned near the front of the synagogue or near the bimah your image will be recorded. Attendance and participation in our services will be deemed as consent for your image, or the image of minors in your care, to be used for the purposes of filming and promotion. We thank you for your support.
MISSION: Temple Beth Israel is a kehilla kedosha (spiritual community) bringing innovation and creativity to Jewish traditions. We provide multiple pathways for our members and friends to enjoy an engagement with Progressive Judaism that enhances their lives through spiritual enrichment, learning and community. We are guided by principles of egalitarianism and respect for others. We are inspired to continually develop and grow and to provide a spiritual home for all who wish to embrace our values. Temple Beth Israel acknowledges that we are assembled on land whose traditional custodians are the people of the Kulin Nation.

WHAT’S ON

TORAH TREK
SUNDAY 25 JUNE 8.15AM
Join Max Jared Einsohn for an authentic experience of Jewish tradition, with a medium-grade hike and provided lunch.
RSVP: info@tbi.org.au

ROSH CHODESH WOMEN’S GROUP (OFFSITE)
SUNDAY 25 JUNE 7.30PM
‘King David: politician, sovereign or playboy?’
Call 9510 1488 for location.

CALENDAR

Sunday 25 June
8.15am Torah Trek
7.30pm Rosh Chodesh Women’s Group (OFFSITE)

Tuesday 27 June
4pm TBI Tamid
7.30pm Intro to Judaism
7.30pm Parashat Hashavua

Wednesday 28 June
10.30am Drop In and Chat

Thursday 29 June
7.30pm ‘Aleph Isn’t Enough’ Hebrew class

Friday 30 June
10am Bubs & Bagels
5pm Ruach choir rehearsal
6.15pm Kabbalat Shabbat service

Saturday 1 July
9am Ruach choir rehearsal
10am Shabbat Chukat service
6pm Young TBI Giving Circle and Havdallah

REMEMBRANCE

We remember those lost to the recent acts of terror around the world. Our hearts go out to their families and loved ones. We wish all those who are injured a refuah shleimah (a full healing).

SHLOSHIM

• Joseph James Abrahams
  Brother of Ann Geller, uncle of Yvonne, Karen and Robert, great uncle of Donna and Vanessa

• Joshua Leon Cho Orlanski
  Son of Benjamin Orlanski and Joyce Cho grandson of Henry and Ronit

• Recep Emregul
  Husband of Sevil, father of Sanem and Barin

• Maree Findley
  Wife of Ray

• Danny Gesundheit
  Husband of Donna, father of Keshia, Indiana, Shafaye and Zachariah

• Merwyn Goldblatt
  Husband of Greta, father of John, Mark, Craig and Nicole

• Nigel Grainge
  Cousin of Andrea Bliss

• Louise Israel
  Wife of Gerald, mother of Robyn Zingler

• Merle Klooger
  Wife of Geoff, mother of Samantha, Leah and Jasmine, sister-in-law of Ken and Carol

• Sidney Krasey
  Father of Deborah, Charles and Fred

• Jenny Rosenberg
  Wife of Robert, mother of Mark and Andrew

• Elaine Schwarz
  Mother of David Schwarz and Nicole Matchett

• Olga Tramer
  Mother of Henry

• Maria (Manya) Van Engel
  Mother of Josef and Hanna Rojter

• Victor Michael Zmood
  Husband of Jenny, father of David, Peter and Belinda

YAHREIZTS OBSERVED THIS SHABBAT

• Moses (Moshe) Ajzenstat
• David Bock
• Marshall Cohen

• Anna Haar
• Eugene Hellinger
• Felecia Hutchinson

• Josephine Forshaw
• Dora Jacobson
• Ouida Claire Joseph

• David Kuperholtz
• Norma Levin
• Joseph Lewner

• Huskel Jack London
• Leah Mahlab
• Naima Meyer

• Paul Anthony Mees
• Jill Pomeroy
• Mayer Page
• Philip Payne

• Irene Popper
• Michael Rawack
• Lorraine Seligmann

• Montefiore David Silberberg
• John Silberberg
• Arthur Simmelmann

• Helena Skop
• Warren Spivak
• Alfred Stone
• Genia Unglik

• Dov Urban
• Chaim Weiss
• Polly Zent

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