

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

## SHABBAT VAYEISHEV

Parashah: Genesis 38:1-26 (page 250)

Haftarah: Amos 2:6-3:8 (page 352)

## KABBALAT SHABBAT

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

6pm Kabbalat Panim

6.15pm Friday Night Shabbat Service

Board member: David Freedman, Sue Silberberg and

Joanne Loewy Irons

Shammash: Rhonda Nirens

Darshanit: Caroline Heard - WIZO

Shira: Cantor Michel Laloum, Elizabeth Riordan,

Yuliya Mik and Joel Reicher

## SHACHARIT SHABBAT

FRIEDLANDER SYNAGOGUE & CULTURAL CENTRE

10am Geshet Service

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

10am Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

Board members: Gary Lewis and Joanne Loewy Irons

Shammashim: Dot Nathan and Jackie Birkett

Darshanit: Rabbi Kim Ettlinger

Bar mitzvah: Gabriel Solomon

Shira: Rhondda Hall accompanied by

Joe Stupel

Torah readers: Caroline Paz, Yuliya Mik, Evi Morawetz and

Gabriel Solomon

Kiddush: Kindly sponsored by the Solomon family

## MINCHAH SHABBAT MIKEITZ

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

4pm Afternoon Service

Parashah: Genesis 41:1-14 (page 264)

Board member: Rob Sward

Shammash: Jeff Caser

Darshanit: Rabbi Kim Ettlinger

Bar mitzvah: Justin Barnett

Shira: Cantor Michel Laloum

Torah readers: Evi Morawetz and Justin Barnett



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

## DRASH FOR SHABBAT VAYEISHEV BY MAX JARED EINSOHN, TBI

This week's parashah made me consider what is most important to me in life. In many ways, I hope that our engagement with our ancient texts regularly forces these introspective thoughts, encouraging us to re-evaluate our place in the world, what we do, and who we are. That is one of the many reasons we are called to busy ourselves with the study of Torah - so it moves us.

That said, reading parashat Vayeishev caused me to feel quite stuck. Even though Vayeishev is my Bar Mitzvah Torah portion, rediscovering the concepts present in the text as an adult has been a challenging experience. The text itself did not change, but I surely have over the last 17 years, and I noticed something that my 13 year old self certainly glanced over.

After Joseph's brothers tossed him into a pit to leave him to die, they quickly reconsidered their decision. But not for the better. Judah asks "what can we gain from killing our brother and covering it [the blood] up?" The text then continues to describe the selling of Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty silver pieces, and subsequent taking of Joseph to Egypt. Rashi comments to clarify that Joseph's brothers pulled him out of the pit to sell him to the Midianites, confirming their involvement, and acknowledging the financial gain they received for enslaving their brother.

Twenty pieces of silver. Twenty pieces of silver was all that Joseph was worth to his brothers. It is possible that at that time, it was a lot of money. I've always wondered what Joseph's brothers spent the money on. Was it worth it? It seems that even in the days of our biblical ancestors, we desired money to an unhealthy extent.

The Haftarah for Vayeishev chooses to focus on this matter as well, through the prophet Amos' opening line "...for selling an innocent man for money". The rest of the Haftarah continues with a series of cause and effect examples of how God will punish the people of Israel for having their priorities out of whack.

As I reflect on why this section of Torah stands out to me, I wonder

too about my own relationship with money. Maybe it is because I am now planning my wedding, a full-time working professional, with a future that seems more real than ever before, that I focused on how money played a role in Joseph's brothers' decision making. Reading that they valued money over their own family made me feel awful - they clearly valued "making a buck", and had no problem doing the wrong thing if it made them richer. Vayeishev reminds me that people can do horrible things and live contently. Unfortunately in today's complex and fearful world, this happens often. Wall Street, cigarette companies and gambling are just a few examples of how our desire to make money causes us to do horrible things at the expense of another.

The reality is that we have to spend money as a function of living. Our challenge today, the same challenge presented to Joseph's brothers, is making and spending money in a way that is not at the expense of others. We need to consider the impact on the world and on those around you when we consider how to make and spend money.

We may take the words of Vayeishev as teachings of what not to do - how not to emulate our ancestors. What may have happened if Joseph's brothers had not sold him into slavery for a quick buck? How can our lives change if we stopped to consider the impact of the things we do to make money?

Reading this week's parashah reminds me to value family over money, and more importantly, to spend the truest form of currency, time, with those I love. With my mother in town from The States it is even more clear the teaching of Vayeishev: instead of sacrificing time and relationships with family for more money (by overworking, etc...) we should be spending our money to get closer to family. And this is another gift of Shabbat. Shabbat affords us the opportunity to put money aside, and focus on the ones we love. May this be a Shabbat rich with family.

\* 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.

**GYPSY FIRE PRESENTS ANCESTRY**

*SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2PM AT TBI*

Ancestry is a celebration of the rich musical ancestry of two leading virtuoso musicians Matthew Fagan on guitar and violinist Romana Geermans. Performing music from their European ancestors repertoire. TBI Members get discounted tickets at [gypsyfireancestry.eventbrite.com](http://gypsyfireancestry.eventbrite.com)

**TBI FILM CLUB**

*SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 6.30PM ENTRY, 7PM START*

Free entry. When members of the Ultra-Orthodox community choose to leave the world they were raised in, the challenges can be overwhelming and the ramifications far-reaching. Join Pathways Melbourne for the screening of documentary, 'One Of Us' followed by an interesting discussion on the enormity of change. Join the TBI Film Club contact [vklooger@netspace.net.au](mailto:vklooger@netspace.net.au)

**YOUNG TBI  
CHANUKAH PICNIC**

Facebook - Young TBI

**Sunday 17 December  
3pm @  
St Kilda  
Botanical Gardens  
11 Herbert St, St Kilda**  
Join us for some fried food on Chanukah!



For Twenty & Thirty-Somethings looking to do Jewish

CALENDAR

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**Sunday 10 December**

- 2pm Gypsy Fire Presents Ancestry Concert
- 5.15pm Kol Simchah choir rehearsal
- 7pm TBI Film Club

**Monday 11 December**

- 7.30pm Melton School - We Are What We Remember

**Tuesday 12 December**

- 4pm TBI Tamid
- 7.30pm Parashat Hashavua

**Wednesday 13 December**

- 10.30am Drop In and Chat
- 7.30pm Melton School - Beyond Borders Part 2

**Thursday 14 December**

- 10am Melton School - From Sinai to Seinfeld

**Friday 15 December**

- 10am Bubs & Bagels
- 4.15pm Emmy Monash Kabbalat Shabbat (OFFSITE)
- 5.30pm Chanukah Family Activities
- 6.15pm Kabbalat Shabbat service

**Saturday 16 December**

- 9.30am Tot Shabbat
- 10am Shabbat Mikeitz service  
Lexi Howard bat mitzvah

Proudly sponsored by PJ Library

# Chanukah Party

Temple Beth Israel invite all families to come and enjoy Chanukah songs and stories, fun art and craft activities ....and stay for Kabbalat Shabbat

5.30pm Friday 15 Dec at TBI  
RSVP 13 December to [bev@pjlibrary.org.au](mailto:bev@pjlibrary.org.au)

Bring your own chanukiah to light

Delicious DONUTS

For further information please email [max.jared.einsahn@tbi.org.au](mailto:max.jared.einsahn@tbi.org.au)

REMEMBRANCE

זכור

**SHLOSHIM**

- Bernard Freiberg Father and father-in-law of Arie and Monica
- Victoria Guysenov Mother to Jessica and Sandy, Partner to Alex, Daughter of Rita, Sister and sister-in-law to Alex and Irina
- David Gold Husband of Ingrid, father of Daniel
- John Learmont Father of Jeanette and Ralph
- Jean Segaloff Mother of Naomi, Miriam and Nathan
- Maya Shostak Mother of Lillian and Albert
- Ari Vainshtein Baby son of Karina and Igor
- Anita Wayne Mother and mother in law of Victor and Karen
- David Wise Husband of Shirley, father of Michael

**Yahrzeits Observed This Shabbat**

- Elizabeth Bane • Julian Basser • Kurt Beildeck • Itiel Bereson
- Sir Zelman Cowen • Max Drajer • Alen Eilenberg • Melvyn Goldstein
- Gunter Hauck • Bluma Holcdorf • Bela Jakobovits • Mavis Jordan
- Zara (Bobbie) Joseph • Regina Kempler • Maurice Korman
- Marian Lawrence • Bruce Le Bransky • Marion Levi • Bertha Melwit
- Sydney Morgan • Peter Nathan • Julius Penner • Malcolm Sharman
- Roy Sharpe • Alex Silbersher • Joseph Silver • Isobell Slonim
- Heinz Ziffer

**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.

Please take this news sheet with you



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