

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

SHABBAT VAYAK'HEIL - P'KUDEI

Parashah: Exodus 35:1-29 (page 668),
Numbers 19:1-3 (page 1145)
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 - 36:38 (page 1651)
Illustrated Torah: Kindly sponsored by Barry & Nancy Wicks

KABBALAT SHABBAT

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

6pm Kabbalat Panim

6.15pm Friday Night Shabbat Service

Board members: Rebecca Silk, Judi Cohen and David Freedman
Shammash: Rhonda Nirens
Darshanit: Rabbi Kim Ettlinger
Aufruf: Michael Hershan and Amelia Batrouney
Shira: Cantor Michel Laloum, Sharon Mattatia,
Yuliya Mik, Mary Lascaris and Patrick Prunster

SHACHARIT SHABBAT

FRIEDLANDER SYNAGOGUE & CULTURAL CENTRE

10am Geshet Service

MAIN SYNAGOGUE

10am Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

Board members: Rebecca Silk and Joanne Loewy Irons
Shammash: Dot Nathan
Darshanit: Rabbi Kim Ettlinger
Bar mitzvah: Riley Page
Wedding Blessing: Alex Bock and Cameron Shackleton
Shira: Rhondda Hall
Torah readers: Yuliya Mik, Rhondda Hall and Riley Page
Kiddush: Kindly co-sponsored by the Page and Bock families

ST KILDA REPAIR CAFE EVENT

The St. Kilda Repair Cafe returns on Sunday 11 March, between 2 and 5 at the Port Philip Eco Centre, 55A Blessington Street St. Kilda. Bring items that need repairing (just about anything you can carry!) to the Centre where volunteers will repair the item free of charge. The St. Kilda Repair Cafe is an initiative of JECO (Jewish Ecological Coalition) and the PPEC. For further details contact John Hillel on 9807 9653 and visit stkildarepaircafe.org.au



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

DRASH FOR SHABBAT VAYAK'HEIL - P'KUDEI BY RABBI FRED MORGAN, UPJ MOVEMENT

As anyone who has ever put together a piece of furniture from IKEA knows, there is a world of difference between reading the directions for assembly and actually putting them into effect. For the past three weeks we've been reading the directions for assembling the mishkan or Tabernacle. This elaborate structure will provide a dwelling place for God and accompany the Jewish people in their wanderings through the wilderness. This week's double Torah portion, Vayak'heil-P'kudei, reiterates these directions, in many places word for word, as the people, led by the master craftsman Betzalel and his deputy Oholiav, go about constructing the mishkan. We don't hear any of the expletives that normally accompany the construction of an IKEA product; undoubtedly these were edited out of the text. (The spirit of Purim continues to hover over this week's drash!) But, at the start of the portion P'kudei, we do have an unexpected recording (pekudim) of all the gold, silver, copper, threads, clothing and furnishings that went into the Mishkan and its accoutrements. Moses himself orders this accounting: the accounts are drawn up al pi Moshe, at Moses' bidding.

The tradition asks why Moses would have drawn up this report, and why the accounts are recorded with such care in Torah. Many answers are offered but they all boil down to one simple idea: people in public office, leaders of the community, must be above reproach. They must work to a higher ethical standard than others. The rabbis understood that, whenever people are in a position of handling sums of money or goods on behalf of others, there is a temptation to appropriate or misuse them.

The Masorti chumash Etz Hayim puts it perfectly. Those who are responsible for expending funds for the public good "must be above any suspicion of personal aggrandizement." It refers to the midrash on Shir Hashirim which teaches that

the official who supervised the collection of the half-shekels which we read about on Shabbat Shekalim would wear a garment without pockets or long sleeves so no-one could accuse him of pocketing the offerings. Whether or not he did actually wear such a garment, it is clear that the rabbinic sages could not abide the thought of corruption in public service. They see this value reflected in the opening to P'kudei, where Moses carefully records all the offerings that went into the construction of the mishkan.

In our day and age, it is similarly unconscionable that figures in public office would defraud those whom they serve by mishandling funds, selling the fruits of their position, doing secret deals that bring them reward or engaging in corrupt practices of any kind. And it is equally unacceptable that the public would excuse any of these corrupt practices on the grounds that "it's just what politicians do" or "he may be financially suspect but he's good for the Jews," as we sometimes hear. It is unethical to argue that the holding of particular political views justifies financial corruption.

Sadly, financial corruption is well-documented in Israel. The number of political leaders who have spent extended periods in jail for their fraudulent activities is shocking. It is not only embarrassing to us in the Diaspora when high-ranking public figures in Israel are arraigned on charges of fraud and the misuse of public funds; it is not only criminal activity; it is also contrary to the models of leadership expressed in the Torah and it undermines the values which have defined our people for millennia. The damage that corruption does to the Jewish soul is inestimable. Every Jew has the right - and the duty - to demand that Israel's leaders are fully accountable, even as Moses was.

*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.

ROSH CHODESH WOMEN'S GROUP

SUNDAY 18 MARCH, 6.30PM

Please join us as we celebrate Rosh Chodesh through women and dance. The evening will begin at 6.30pm as we help a bride, Emily and her family learn basic Israeli dancing.

CALENDAR

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Monday 12 March

OFFICE CLOSED FOR PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday 13 March

- 10am TBI Archive Group
- 4pm TBI Tamid
- 6pm Beginner Hebrew - Aleph Isn't Tough
- 7.30pm Introduction to Judaism
- 7.30pm Parashat Haftarah

Wednesday 14 March

- 10.30am Drop In and Chat
- 7pm Melton School - Core Curriculum
- 7.30pm Melton School - The Star and The Crescent

Friday 16 March

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

Saturday 17 March

- 9.30am Tot Shabbat
- 10am Shabbat Vayikra service
Pia Zayontz bat mitzvah

WOMEN AUTHORS PANEL

Meet **Maria Lewit, Barbara Kamler and Grace Halphen** as they share their journey into writing on a variety of themes. Maria, Barbara and Grace span the generations of what it is like for women to write, to have a voice and enter into the literary world.
Moderated by **Elise Hearst** the panel will be at **3pm** on **Sunday 25 March at TBI**
RSVP: info@tbi.org.au



SAT 31 MARCH 6PM

COMMUNITY SEDER
A LIVELY & INTERACTIVE PESACH CELEBRATION

The seder will be led by Cantor Michel Laloum from our own **TBI Haggadah** and will include opportunities for participation from young and old.

TBI Members	\$65
Non-members	\$75
Table of 8	\$550
Children 13 & under	\$40
Sponsor a seat	\$65
Sponsor a Seder plate	\$18

JOIN US AS WE SING, DANCE, EAT AND ACT OUR WAY THROUGH THE PASSOVER STORY LIKE NEVER BEFORE.

BOOKINGS tbi.org.au/community-seder 9510 1488 info@tbi.org.au



WOMEN'S SEDER
"... A PHENOMENON OF OUR TIME"

Bring your mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, aunt or girlfriend to celebrate Jewish Women through Struggle and Redemption. Led by Rabbi Kim Ettlinger and the women of Temple Beth Israel. Join us on this remarkable journey of freedom.

Last Day Erev Pesach services at 6.15pm followed by Women's Seder.

TBI Members	\$50
Non-members	\$60
Children 13 & under	\$40
Sponsor a Seder Plate	\$18

THOUSANDS OF JEWISH WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD CELEBRATE THE PESACH SEDER EVERY YEAR WITH AN EVENING OF CEREMONY AND REMEMBRANCE LED BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN.

THU 5 APRIL 7.15PM

BOOKINGS tbi.org.au/womens-seder 9510 1488 info@tbi.org.au



TUE 27 MARCH 7PM

TBI'S FAMOUS CHOCOLATE SEDER
ALL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME

Join our Tamid Learning Program and enjoy Pesach like never before with this fun and tasty spin on our ancient tradition!

This year children and family of all ages are invited to celebrate with our community.

Space is limited, so please include with your **RSVP your family name and number of participants.**

BOOKINGS max.jared.einsohn@tbi.org.au

REMEMBRANCE

זכור

We mourn the loss of the young lives so senselessly taken in the Florida shooting three weeks ago. Our hearts are with the victims and their families.

SHLOSHIM

- Henry Bliss Brother of Philip
- Leigh Matheson Uncle of Nick Dyrenfurth
- Amelia Raynor Mother of Sharon, Jacqueline, Judith and Anthony
- Kay Stein Mother of Luke, friend of Gerry Eltringham
- Lenny Straeger Brother-in-law of Lawrence Jordan
- Lewis Woolf Husband of Deborah, father of Sharon and Lisa

Yahrzeits Observed This Shabbat

- Fay Aarons • Phillip Aarons • Ervin Bence • Erika Bence • Lily Bernstein
- Rosalie Bristow • Bela Chmielarz • Ruth Collard • Darren Egelhoff
- Salomon Fast • Siegfried Gaster • Olga Geiger • David Genis
- Egon Greiner • Alexander Hegedus • Ada Jacoby • Stephen Jacobs
- Charlotte Kenner • Stanley King • Geoffrey Opat • Annie Roberts
- Ralph Samuels • Haidee Esme Sharpe • Harold Shock
- Leah Esther Slonim • Leonore Spivakovsky • David Wajsberg
- Joseph Zamsky

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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