

SHMOOZELETTER



Friday, September 18 – Erev Rosh Hashanah
7:30 PM (NOTE TIME)
Saturday, September 19 – Childrens' Service 9
AM
Rosh Hashanah Morning Service 10 AM
Sunday, September 20 – 2nd Day Rosh Hasha-
nah 10 AM (Outside, weather permitting)

Sunday, September 27 – Erev Yom Kippur/Kol
Nidre 7:30 PM (NOTE TIME)
Monday, September 28 – Children's Service 9
AM
Yom Kippur Morning Service 10 AM /Afternoon,
Yizkor, and Neilah times TBD

* Services will be exclusively live-streamed
either on our private YouTube channel or Face-
book Live (children's services)

* Services will be shorter this year as they will
be live-streamed. Morning services, which are
longer, will have a break in the middle

FROM THE RABBI

CY STANWAY

In every way imaginable, this year's holidays will be one we will talk about and analyze for a long time to come. No one in a hundred years or more has ever had to figure out how to reach people spiritually and meaningfully during a pandemic. Where does one even start? It is in situations like this that it is either sink or swim. There was simply no time to get a detailed analysis about how to do online services for Shabbat let alone how to do online services for the Days of Awe. There was no playbook and there was no pre-plan. Every congregation had to wing it to one degree or another. Everything from weddings to b'nai mitzvah to classes to meetings to school had to be modified and, to use a sailing metaphor, when the wind changed, everyone had to tack with it. There was no choice.

TBM is an egalitarian community where traditional families, LGBTQ people, interfaith families and partners, singles, Jews-by-Choice and anyone interested in finding a sanctuary will be welcome. You will always be embraced regardless of your background, previous affiliation, or Jewish knowledge. We believe that you are a vital part of the Jewish future and present and we are a place in which to nurture and protect your Jewish self.

Join us anytime for a class, a service or an event.

The Days of Awe present a unique problem. How do we make these days and services meaningful in the time of COVID when we will be sheltering at home. How do we bring a service to you that is uplifting, challenging and brings into your hearts the themes of these Days of Awe. Like all of my colleagues, I am finding new wells of resources and creativity that I never knew I had.

To that end, let me elucidate some of the things which you may already know about and some you may not.

First and foremost, you probably know that the services will all be online. The temple has installed a live feed streaming system that will be used on the holidays and on Shabbat services, as well. It will be on a private YouTube channel and only those with the key - which will be sent to everyone - will be able to check in. Unlike Zoom, you won't be able to see other people. Those are for the main services. For the Childrens Services, since there are so many non-temple families joining us, the service will be live on Facebook live and Zoom. And, for the second day of Rosh Hashanna, the service will be outside and, again, on Zoom and Facebook live. In other words, we are taking advantage of every bit of technology we can to bring the services to you. Apples and Honey in the time of COVID. Whoever would have imagined?



Services will also be shorter this year. The cantor and I are very aware of how difficult it is to sit on the couch for an extended period of time. We have cut the longer services into 2 with a 1/2 hour break between both parts so that you can stretch out and take a break.

As well, the evening services of Rosh Hashanna and Kol Nidre will begin at 7:30. This gives us all time to enjoy our dinner and then attend the services with our families and the earlier half-hour is more family friendly.

But these are just the mechanics of the service. What about the spirituality and gleaning meaning and purpose from all these services? We won't have the same grandeur and drama that we usually do and you and I won't be able to communicate with body language, laughter at my missteps, and a shared experience. This is where you come in in a big way. Let me explain through a Talmudic story.

Shimon bar Yochai and his son Rabbi Elazar were escaping from the Romans during those

terrible days of the Roman Siege. They were both righteous but, as you will see, they had very different personalities. They escaped to a cave and dwelled there for many years. After some time, they emerged from the cave, and saw people who were plowing and sowing. Rabbi Shimon bar Yoḥai said: “These people abandon eternal life of Torah study and engage in temporal life for their own sustenance.” They were angry that in all this time, people were more engaged in the world than in Torah study. So angry were they that the Gemara relates that every place that Rabbi Shimon and his son Rabbi Elazar directed their eyes was immediately burned.

God was not pleased.

A Divine Voice emerged and said to them: “Did you emerge from the cave in order to destroy My world? Return to your cave.” Their impatience with other people was not something to be rewarded, no matter how righteous they were. And so God sent them back into the cave.

The Talmud tells us, they again went and sat there for twelve months. They said: The judgment of the wicked in Gehenna lasts for twelve months. Surely their sin was atoned in that time. A Divine Voice emerged and said to them: Emerge from your cave. They emerged. Rabbi Elazar did not change, but Rabbi Shimon did. Everywhere that Rabbi Elazar would strike, Rabbi Shimon would heal.

It is an instructive story, especially in light of COVID. It is easy for any one of us to be impatient and expect things to be as they were. In the midst of this pandemic, I have heard about people losing their patience and lashing out at their friends and families. This is perfectly understandable and perfectly normal.

But what does this have to do with the Days of Awe? When they emerged from the cave the first time, they were both angry. And their anger literally blazed upon those who they felt were not sufficiently faithful. But another stint in the cave soothed the anger of Rabbi Shimon. His choice was presented to him once again. How would he respond to the world now? Elazar stayed bitter. Shimon became the healer.

We can approach these holy moments like Elazar - angry and upset that services have been disrupted and that the temple has to remain shut because of the virus. Or we can be like Shimon and try to bring healing and understanding, be a bit more forgiving of one another as we all struggle through this first-ever High Holidays in the midst of a pandemic.

There is no real silver lining to anything happening today. But that doesn't mean there aren't valuable lessons. If we can glean a bit of empathy and understanding borne of our own disappointments and that leads us to a more gentle approach to the world, then without a word of liturgy, the Days of Awe have made their mark. If we can glean a bit more forgiveness and understanding that each of us struggles in our way these days and each is trying to do

the very best possible, then, once again these Days of Awe become meaningful even without the drama and the grandeur and the soaring services. The holy days aren't about those beautiful trappings. Rather they are about the still, quiet voice of God that whispers words of forgiveness, understanding, healing and love. The cantor and I will try to communicate that through our services but we require you to listen to the voice of God that lies just below your perception and, this year, you may have to bend down a little lower to hear it. But we know you will and we know you can.

Stella, Abraham, Naomi, SaraAnn and I wish you all a wonderful new year. This year may we listen to the actions of Shimon and be more forgiving and healing. May we be healed in body and spirit as we pray for those who have been so terribly touched by COVID-19. May our country be restored to health and prosperity and peace. Let 5781 be a year when we emerge from our caves of indifference and anger to embracing one another in joy.

Shanna Tova - have a sweet, peaceful, healthy and joyous new year.

Thank You Tim Knotts



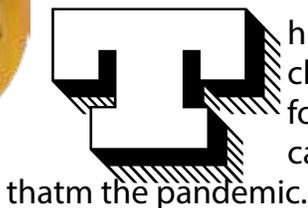
For well over 15 years, Tim Knotts has been the Chairman of the cemetery committee. In all weather and at all times of the day and night, Tim has served in this capacity and has taken care of the congregants' needs in a time of sorrow. He has done so with great professionalism and empathy. Now, after serving for so long, Tim is handing the reins over to the temple office which will make arrangements for deeds, helping to prepare the final resting spot, and all the other things that are required for this sad, but necessary, task. The temple extends its deepest thanks and appreciation to Tim for his fine work and his dedication to this important task.

If you require cemetery services, please contact the office and speak with George.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



DR. BARRY EDISON



thatm the pandemic.

his has been the year of all years. There are no more words or cliches to share that have not been said. My New Year's wish for all you is the familiarity that comes from the High Holidays can provide comfort to the stresses we have all experienced fro

Forever, our perspectives will be delineated by life before and after Covid-19.

Will our careers, our children's education, our relationships with our families and friends be forever different?

Temple Beth Miriam is based on our relationships-with each other, our rabbi, our cantor, our leaders. As president I would like all of us to take some time and think how we will move forward at Temple Beth Miriam. What are you seeking from our temple? What role can you play? I encourage you to share with me, share with our clergy, and share with our leaders.

I wish all of you a Happy and Healthy and Safe New Year.

Barry Edison
President of Temple Beth Miriam



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

STELLA JERUZALMI STANWAY



t has been a very unusual summer for everyone and certainly for me. My mood has been dependent on the headlines and while that can be very unhealthy, it drove my way of thinking about if, when and how to have our program take place. You wouldn't believe the many contingencies planned in my head. Finally, with the help of our Religious

School committee, we reached out to the parents for input. Many thanks to all those who participated in our survey.

The results of the survey were a sort of vote of confidence about how we managed our remote learning in the spring. We learned that most of the students attended classes most of the time and that most of the time, they did enjoy seeing each other, were engaged with the lessons, and thought it was worthwhile. We learned that Tute Time was helpful, and that keeping students con-

nected online was important, and provided some sort of normalcy. The weekly schedule reminders were useful and knowing the topic in advance was constructive.

Areas of improvement included making sure each child was engaged, having longer sessions, having shorter sessions, having breaks, not having breaks (some students didn't remember to attend after a break) more screen sharing, more interactive opportunities, adding homework, starting at 10, and having both Music and Library more tailored to the age groups.

The final and most important question was about how to move forward. The majority of those who responded felt we should remain online for the first few months of class, and the Religious School committee agreed. Valid concerns were expressed both for and against in person learning, from worrying about some students losing interest or maxing out with online learning given secular studies, to concerns about keeping students and faculty very safe.

Therefore, the Eisenberg-Bierman Religious School will take place online only, at least through the end of 2020. We will reevaluate about a month prior and reach a decision about the rest of the year at that time, and most likely we will ask for your input then as well.

Meanwhile, our outstanding faculty has been working hard with me to reimagine our curriculum in general and online. We have been learning about some new technologies and online game creations to keep our lessons fun and meaningful. In the spring, we had to learn to pivot quickly and managed to do a pretty good job, but this year, we are planning better for these platforms so our students remain as engaged and connected as possible.

We are keeping in mind, and we ask parents and students to realize, that while there are both many positives and negatives to virtual classes, it does not necessarily follow that it's going to be less valuable or less engaging or just less...good. It will be different, to be sure, but we are determined that it will be quality nonetheless.

Enrollment is now open via Chaverweb (<https://www.chaverweb.net/COALogin.aspx?key=B2139771205>). We have lifted both the deadline and any late fees, in an effort to being sensitive to parents as they make their decisions for the fall. We ask that parents also be sensitive to the school as we need to know how to prepare our faculty and in the purchase of materials which may be back ordered.

B'Shalom,
Stella

FROM THE CANTOR

MARNIE CAMHI



Judaism has a built in musical calendar. You can close your eyes and listen to the music and know exactly what holiday it is, what part of the week it is (weekday or Shabbat) and what time of day it is. In ancient times, when most people weren't literate, they relied on the leadership to give them musical cues in the liturgy and scroll chanting. We were an aural society. These musical cues are called nusach or motifs (specific melodies that are special to a particular holiday or day of the week or time of day). There are six scroll chanting systems called cantillation or trope. There are two for Torah (Shabbat/everyday and High Holiday) and four for Haftarah (Shabbat, Esther [Purim], Shir haShirim/Ruth [Passover and Shavuot] and Eicha [Tisha b'Av]).

The High Holy Days are no exception. I look forward every year to the majesty and awe that the music of the Yamim Noraim evokes. The music is grand and powerful. The melodies have the power to transport us back in our memories to our childhoods of sitting in services with our parents and grandparents. How wonderful it is that we can create these special memories for our children! The special melodies and liturgies for this season repeat throughout the services (and differ slightly between evening and morning). I have put up several YouTube videos (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM-9hSiO4yOA>) with examples of our High Holy Day music for you to become familiar with in preparation for the High Holy Days. It would make me so happy to know that you are singing along with me for the Holidays (even though we won't physically be together this year, we will be together spiritually!). Please take a look.

Although our High Holiday services will be online this year, the Rabbi and I have worked very hard all summer to make sure that we will lead you in a familiar and fulfilling Days of Awe!

My family and I wish you a Happy and Sweet New Year! L'Shanah Tovah u-M'tukah!

Cantor Marnie
cantor@bethmiriam.org

Introducing Something Exciting!

What's YOUR story? What's your JEWISH story?

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Rabbi Stanway is happy to share this with you:

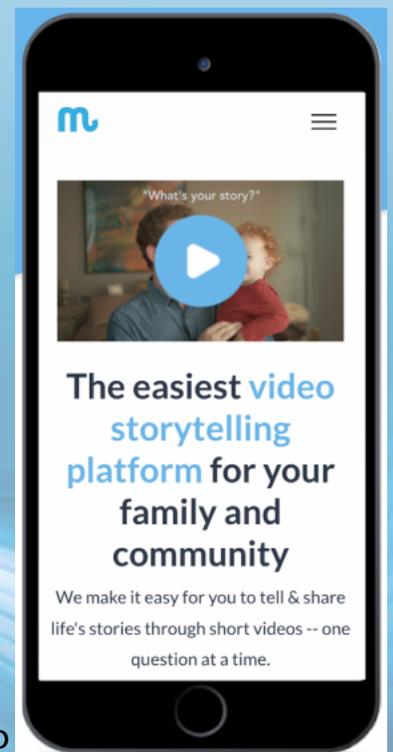
Megilla is a user-friendly video-diary to easily record, preserve & share life's stories.

Megilla provides a free, web-based platform to easily connect with friends, family and community during the High Holy Days and beyond.

In the Jewish tradition, asking questions is a central part of who we are and Megilla provides an extensive question library to help guide and navigate the journey of recording stories about our Jewish identity and beyond. Users can send questions to anyone as well as create and send their own personalized questions. Megilla empowers storytellers with the option of keeping videos private or downloading videos anytime.

Rabbi Stanway is paving an innovative path integrating technology into Jewish congregational life. We will be sharing a Zoom recording between Rabbi Stanway and Megilla company founder Nathan Firer, exploring the Megilla platform and the dynamic ways video can help create a media-rich, engaging High Holy Days during COVID-19 and beyond. Check out the ZOOM video and the megilla.com links below for a great introduction. All you need is a computer and a webcam and internet access and, presto, you are sharing your personal and unique story.

<https://www.megilla.com/>
<https://www.megilla.com/how-to-video>





★★★

BETH MIRIAM DAYS OF AWE
FOOD DRIVE



★★★

GETTING CREATIVE
FOR 5781

FOOD DRIVE

BETH MIRIAM HELPS FEED THE HUNGRY

ROSH HASHANNA TO YOM KIPPUR
DONATE AT OUR DEDICATED LINK:

Our annual food drive is a Days of Awe tradition. Since we aren't in the building this year, our donations will be online.

Donate at this link

<https://fulfillnj.fenly.org/TBM>

*For full details, go to the temple website at
www.bethmiriam.org*

TEMPLE BETH MIRIAM SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

180 LINCOLN AVE, ELBERON, NJ 07740

www.bethmiriam.org

ANNUAL DAYS OF AWE FOOD DRIVE



Our annual food drive with the participation of our 200+ congregant households is a High Holiday tradition at Temple Beth Miriam. With religious services not in-person this year, and instead broadcast virtually from the Temple, our High Holiday tzedakah tradition will be different.

Here is what we are doing this year:

You can make a donation by credit card easily and securely via Temple Beth Miriam's special donation page on the Fulfill (formerly The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties) website. USE THIS LINK:

<https://fulfillnj.fenly.org/drive/temple-beth-miriam-to-raise-funds-for-the-hungry-for-high-holiday-tradition/> Our TBM High Holiday goal is \$3600

FULFILL has two locations:

NEPTUNE FACILITY (Monmouth County) in Neptune

THE B.E.A.T. CENTER (Ocean County) in Toms River, Bringing Everyone All Together, a hub for community services and partnership of Fulfill, the Peoples Pantry and the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Kitchen.

Fulfill services a network of over 300 food pantries and soup kitchens.

Fulfill provides over 12 million meals every year and over \$15 million in resources to help food insecure households with access to SNAP, affordable health insurance, tax credits, and jobs skills.

Besides food distribution Fulfill has a suite of service programs designed to get our neighbors-in-need back on their feet for good.

FAQ about Fulfill's client communities (our neighbors):

Two out of every 5 people served through Fulfill's network of food pantries and other community feeding programs are CHILDREN.

Between 2007-2017 poverty has grown in MC from 5.9% to 7.6% and OC from 8.1% to 10.9%. For children, poverty figures have increased in MC from 7.2% to 9.9% and in OC from 12.4% to 18.7%.



Havdallah Schedule

Havdallah is a beautiful way to end the Shabbat and, since the beginning of the pandemic and everything is on Zoom, we began doing Havdallah every week as a congregation. The pandemic is still going on and people are not necessarily confined to their homes any more but many still want to do Havdallah from time to time. Below is the schedule for the upcoming Havdallahs in our temple Zoom Room 589-198-4173 at 7:30. Everyone is most welcome and invited to attend.

September 26

October 24

November 28



Eric Blumenfeld
 Marian Jewell
 Deborah Deener
 Arthur Rothschild
 Heather Foster
 Meryl Ledwitz
 Toby Abrams
 Barbara Bascom
 Andrea Susman
 David Lambert
 Vita Dworkin
 Robert Skolnik
 Steven Singer
 Kimberly Suchodolsky
 Karina Lehman
 Jared Kaufman
 Sandra Maseda Perez
 Martin Aronow
 Rachel Ford
 Michael Weisslitz
 Pat Shapiro



Richard and Jan Auerbach
 Marvin and Barbara Steinberg
 Zion and Tatiana Shabat
 Eric Blumenfeld and Annie Raulerson
 Bob Kaye and Diane Upright
 Peter and Josephine Grayson
 Steven and Danielle Reisler
 Jason and Stacie Harkavy



September Yahrtszeits

May our loved ones' memories be an eternal blessing

September 5

Kitty Fried
Eileen LaRue
Sheila Lukins
Harry Rosenstein
Hattie Silberstein
Harry Barr
Frances Browne
Mollie Guntman
Aaron Lefkowitz
Adelaide K. Wormser
Eugene Amron
Estelle Gabel
Augusta Kaye
Sophie Ziment
Jack Goodman
Milton Susman
Morton Fastov
Lauryn Giannone
Leland Gottstein
Bobby King Baker
Eugenia Reschke
Morris Sherman
Lisa Storm
Livia Werfel

September 11

Richard Bascom
David Furman
Henry Morose
Barbara Peters
Edward Rosen
Lillian Weiss
Moritz Cohen
Keith Grossman
David C. Rose
Irving Sturm
Jay Weisman
David Cramer
Miriam Falk
Ronald Fleck
Kate Garland
Harry Greenberg
Barry Segall
Samuel Aginsky
Samuel Levie
Charlotte Lorand
Cedric Nussbaum
Victims of 9-11
Rhoda Anton
Harry Cohen
Jacob Hershoff
Morton Lopate
Richard Miuccio
Ida Schwartz
Dorothy Agisim
Sophie Baser
Caroline Rosenheim
Stanley Stamaty

September 18

Alex Cohen
Sophia Karen
Octavio Lopez
Fred Sternheimer
Robert Cohan
Max Epstein
Jennie Hershoff
Robert Howard
Pauline Rapps
Julius Feinberg
Morris Raine
Emanuel Tepper
Wendy Weiss
Sophie Berger
Rachman Berke
Max Feldman
Barnett Rochestie
Albert Brandt
Miriam Carlin
Harold Davis
Mark Gellis
Julie Goldman
Lionel Rosen
Arthur Frankel
Sidney Krauss
Madeline Lazarus
Jennie Levy
Joseph Martin
Bud Shapiro
Sam Weiss

September 25

Gerson (Buddy)
Abramson
Pearl Barrett
Charlotte Haas
Carolyn Kirshbaum
Marc Eber
Sophie Goldfarb
Ted Petty
Leo Beckwith
Gus Berman
Norman Nathanson
Jeffrey Steinberg
Leo Zieve
Sadie Katz
Frieda Schneider
Dolores Rosen
Gordon Berkow
Marilyn Glaser
Isodore Levitt
Clementine Sostman
Sol Brooks
Mary Satsky
Rita Ziff

October 2

Abraham Fisher
Edgar Garland
Howard Nashel
Rachel Negin
Ruth Raskin
Jerry Rothschild
Margaret Helpin
Bart Rogers
Frances York
Samuel Bloch
Claire Hecht
Shirley Rubinstein
Isabelle Hirshfield
Solomon Marcus
Isidore Rotwein
Abraham Erlanger
Elliot Rosenberg
Seymour Seider
Zelig Dutchkin
Edward Leimberg
Sara Marcus
Ida Rosen
Scott Turchin



FROM THE SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE



One hundred percent. Many of us haven't experienced this as a realistic goal since childhood. But that is URJ's target for TBM and all Reform congregations: 100% voter participation in the upcoming November election.

Might your sincere and emphatic pledge to vote be an answer to what this high holiday season asks of each of us? On Yom Kippur we demonstrate anew that we indeed respect and care for those around us, particularly those who depend on us. By pledging to vote for leaders who share your philosophy for a better world, you are acting decisively to repair what needs fixing.

Beyond our vote, some of us feel particularly concerned or even personally responsible for a range of Social Action/Social Justice challenges around us, in-

cluding increased anti-semitism, persecution against innocents, and pervasive economic hardship. News of current events can bring an uneasy, almost painful feeling in the pit of the stomach. All the little and big transgressions that are happening in the real world can be obscured by life's routine distractions and even by the ivory-tower idealism of chanting prayer book affirmations and studying Torah. How can those who care really make a positive difference in each other's lives?

Some efforts to make a difference include the recent food collection, our TBM July 30 Zoom house meeting, the August 6 Zoom call with nearly 400 Reform Jews from 36 of 45 Reform congregations across NJ organized by RAC-NJ, Rabbi and Cantor and religious school's online activities, ongoing TBM board and committee meetings, and upcoming RAC-NJ and URJ RAC organizing and training sessions on Zoom. By now, the TBM board and Rabbi have also announced a pandemic strategy for our traditional high holiday food drive.

The unexpected pandemic, as a test of our will, is perhaps not unlike life-changing plagues faced by our ancestors. Please consider participating in events listed on the Temple home page, in Elijah and Shmozeletter, and on the TBM Social Action/Social Justice web page. The calendar is in front of us on our continual journey toward the Promised Land. And please answer the call when you are asked for your pledge to vote, your way, in November.

Phil Falcone, SA/SJ Chair



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Check out the temple website
for news and updates at TBM
www.bethmiriam.org



The TBM website now accepts donations through PayPal. Go to the home page, look at the menu bar at the top of the page and you can

make your donation. This is only for donations, not dues payments. Once you click the link, you will be taken to a PayPal page where you can specify the amount and, once you confirm, you will be taken to a Notes page to let us know what you donated for. If you have any questions, call the office at 732-222-3754.

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We are grateful for the following contributions

thank you!

Please note that the donations for the Days of Awe and Yiskor Book will appear next month

Stuart Ross: Heimlich-Aaron Library Fund: "Thank you for welcoming me to your online Shabbat services. It's been a great comfort and pleasure.

Anonymous - General Fund

Norfolk Tool Works : In appreciation to TBM for ongoing services and always a warm welcome - General Fund

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Vivian Fried TBM Wish List

TBM FUNDS

Tree of Life – An engraved leaf on the tree bearing the name of the person honored on occasions such as Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, birth, marriage or any other simcha. Contribution \$180.

The Yahrtzeit Memorials - memorialize your loved one in the sanctuary - \$500

Prayer Book Fund – Bookplates are inserted in recognition of donation. Contribution \$36.

Social and Community Action Fund – Provides support for local community programs.

Family Affair – A committee of caring to any of our temple members in good times as well as challenging times
Heimlich-Aaron Library Fund – In support of the library and its needs

The Endowment Fund – For the preservation of our temple and to enable us to fulfill our spiritual, educational, cultural and social needs.

Tzedakeh Fund – Financial assistance to congregants

Rabbi Joseph Goldman Fund for Jewish Learning – Proceeds support an array of educational programs.

Heimlich Memorial Scholarship Fund – Proceeds of this fund are to be used to underwrite a partial scholarship to a college or school of higher education.

Rabbi Discretionary Fund: utilized by the rabbi for purposes of tzedakah and discreet support.

Berg-Bialek Youth Leadership Retreat Fund – This fund is used to supplement the cost of youth leadership re-

treats.

Conn Music Fund – Used to provide special musical programs and/or performances during holiday or special celebration.

The Norty Kern Youth Scholarship Fund – Proceeds of this fund will be used to support Religious School students on class trips.

Arthur and Hazel Harmon Fund – The fund is an annual award for a Temple Beth Miriam student Grades 8-12 who has accomplished an outstanding service project for the benefit of the local community or for the Temple congregation. The award will be \$200.

The Milton Ziment Fund for Scholastic Achievement - An annual prize(s) for students of the Religious School who gain recognition for exceptional academic performance.

The Katz Family Fund – Religious School scholarship fund for families with the need for support

Temple Beth Miriam Wish List – Proceeds are used to help provide needed things not in the budget

Pess Family Youth Group Fund – Established by Lois & Gary Pess & will be used for all Youth Group activities not covered by other existing funds.

Cantor Discretionary Fund – This fund is directed by the Cantor of the congregation toward non-budgeted musical activities in the congregation.



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