

THE SHO- FAR שופר

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BOARD MEETING

May 11, 2026 5:30PM

RABBI PRAVER'S SHABBAT

May 2, 23

Temple Emanu-El of Bayonne

Volume 155/May 2026

14 Iyar- 15 Sivan

CONTACT NUMBERS

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SHABBAT

Fri., May 1/14 Iyar

Candle Lighting 7:35

Sat., May 2/ 15 Iyar

EMOR-Omer 31

Fri., May 8/ 21 Iyar

Candle Lighting 7:42

Sat., May 9/22 Iyar

BEHAR/BACHUKOTAI

Fri., May 15/28 Iyar

Candle Lighting 7:49

Sat., May 16/29 Iyar

BAMIDBAR-Omer 45.BIRCHAT

HACHODESH

Fri., May 22/6 Sivan

SHAVUOT

Candle Lighting 7:56

Sat., May 23/7 Sivan

SHAVUOT

Fri., May 29/13 Sivan

Candle Lighting 8:01

Sat., May 30/ 14 Sivan

NASSO

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

SEDER

On Thursday, evening, April 2, 2026, Rabbi and Beth Praver and his family Noah, Moshe, Elizabeth, Oren, and Eden, celebrated the second night of Passover. It continued our tradition of coming together as a community and telling the story of leaving Egypt.

It was a lovely evening spent with the Fuchs family, who joined us, even though some no longer live in Bayonne. Emily, Sam and Eric went to our Hebrew School and it was a pleasure to see Eric and Sam as adults. Helen contributed to our festivities with some stories of her past. Renée and Albert, who left Egypt many years ago, told stories of their experience. Irwin and Iris reminded us of past seders at the former building, which we miss very much. Alan and Lee helped the rabbi sing some melodies and Diane helped with the decorations. The pièce the résistance was Eden, Rabbi Praver's granddaughter, who sang the Four Questions along with Sam. And finally, Eden found the Afikomen. Irene, Arnie, and Varda thank everyone for making this a fabulous evening.

As the rabbi conducted an inclusive seder, as we enjoyed a Kosher for Passover meal together, and as we sang traditional Passover songs, we followed our beautiful traditions and we continued to fill the air with joy.

We are grateful for the Bayonne police department, who protected us during the entire service.

May we continue to be together for many years.

We had a very Zisen Pesach.

RABBI'S MESSAGE

SHALOM AND BLESSINGS OF PEACE

As we step into real spring — with real summer just around the corner — I've been reflecting on the very real things we've shared. Even through one of the coldest winters in years, this community stayed active, warm, and alive. My admiration and warm feelings go out to each of you. Our time together has been fruitful, and I believe we can keep growing.

A key to that growth will be how we use our social media and website. They're essential tools for carrying our work forward and welcoming those searching for a spiritual Jewish home. That means sharing photos, videos, and resources that show who we are. I know I have much to offer — and I know you do too. Let's do this together.

Every figure in the Torah was imperfect. Yet they struggled, and became good, consequential people. We can accomplish our goals in that same spirit.

Lag B'Omer occurs on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, beginning at sundown on Monday, May 4. Lag B'Omer celebrates the deeper wisdom of Torah — the awareness that extraordinary things are happening around us, in ordinary moments, all the time.

The Psalmist teaches: “Or zaru'a la-tzaddik u-le-yishrei lev simchah” — “Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright of heart” (Psalm 97:11). The Zohar, whose teachings we link to Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai — whose *yahrzeit* we mark on Lag B'Omer — reads this verse as a promise: the first light of creation was scattered like seeds across the world, waiting for fertile hearts to receive it.

Isaiah gives us the image: rain and snow fall from heaven and do not return empty. They water the earth, bringing forth sprout, seed, and bread (Isaiah 55:10–11). Some seeds land on rocks or in the sea and don't take root. Whereas, others find fertile ground — and life bursts forth in these places.

Blessings and opportunities surround us always. We ourselves must become the fertile soil — hospitable to blessings, and open to growth. Sometimes that means making room in the field so others can have room for self expression.

That is the spirit of Lag B'Omer: the pursuit of deeper introspective Torah learning with a focus on human development.

Rabbi Isaac taught: “The light the Holy One created at the beginning reached from one end of the world to the other and was hidden away... hidden for the righteous, as it says, ‘Light is sown for the righteous.’” Rabbi Judah added: “If it were completely hidden, the world could not last a moment. Rather, it is sown like a seed that gives birth to fruit bearing trees. Every single day, a ray of shines into the world sustaining life. Often that light shines through you and me as an intrinsic part of God's ways.

May we be ready to receive it.

May we be ready to share it, and

May we be exceedingly blessed.

Birchat,

SCHMOOZE

Roger Platizky spoke about Larry Kramer, who wrote the play “The Normal Heart,” and Tony Kushner, who wrote “Angels in America.” The subject of the presentation was the experience of AIDS in the United States.

In 1981, the first reports of rare forms of pneumonia and cancer were found in 41 gay males mostly living in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York were recorded. In 1983, the first cases of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was found in drug users, and Haitians.

Roger gave many different instances on how the disease spread and blamed a great deal of the spread on the gay community. The stigma ruined lives and left a broken legacy for those who were afflicted by it.

We thank Roger for his excellent reporting on this delicate subject.



SEDER 2026



TRIBUTES

Please send tributes and payments directly to the Temple or call 201.436.4499

CONDOLENCES...

**TO: GARY TURNER & FAMILY- IN MEMORY OF FRANCIE TURNER Z"L , BE-
LOVED WIFE, MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER, AND FRIEND**

FROM: RENEE & ALBERT BOUSSO,

HELENE NAGIAR

TO: SUSSKIND FAMILY- IN LOVING MEMORY OF BEVERLY SUSSKIND Z"L

FROM: ELAINE ZIFF

MAZAL TOV...

GET WELL-

YAHREZIT DONATIONS...

FROM:

EvaLynn Hollander Greenberg

Ellen Broderick

Sandra Drogin Greenberg

Marilyn Werber

FOR:

Philip Grodberg

Abraham Friedland

Dr. Milton Hollander

Evelyn Hollander Verbel

Goldie Grodberg

Gertrude F. Grodberg

May W. Fox

Alexander Drogin

Howard Steinman

BELOVED:

Uncle

Uncle

Father

Aunt

Great Aunt

Grandmother

Mother

Husband

Brother

In Loving Memory of

ELWYN JAMES BLATTNER

SHAVUOT

SHAVUOT

Renee and Albert Bousso volunteered to host the Shavuot service, which will take place on Saturday, May 23, 2026. This “festivity” is in blessed memory of

ELLWYN JAMES BLATTNER

Renée’s beloved father.

As it is our custom, the service will feature blintzes with different fillings.

AM ISRAEL CHAI!!!



SHABBAT FOR ISRAEL

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

6PM

April 26-May 2/9-15 Iyar

Yahrzeit

Freda Berger, Joseph George Grubner, Lt. Samuel H. Cohen, Frieda Eisenberg, Pearl Jacobs, Philip Temkin, Michael Guterman, Howard Steinman, Jacob Schnitzer, David Trambitzky, Bernard S. Levy, Sidney Serkin, Paula Magulies Cohen, Herman Cozewith, Aryeh Leib Berlin, Rose Edelman, Nathan Saltzman, Gertrude Grodberg, Hyman Gromnick

May 3-9/16-22 Iyar

Sam Henne, Lillian B. Ripps, Lawrence Levy, Kive Brown, Dr. Morris J. Weiss, Abraham Abramowitz, Meyer Buchbinder, Norbert Daniel, Israel Schapiro

May 10-16/23-29 Iyar

Sophia Freedman, Fritzi Adler, Randy Jay Lapidus, Sarah Gromnick, Lillian E. Susskind, Mildred Bromstein, Barnet Eisenstat, Morris Levine, Rose Bevy Chashin, Celia Shilling, Anne Guterman, Morris Hecht, Sarah Cohen, Sidney Flax, Mae Cohn, Bunia Cohen, Samuel Turteltaub, Rose Elwood, Lillian Gray Feldman, Eva Susi Kresch, Dr. Irving L. Herman, Fannie B. Charren, Jesse Block

May 17-23/1-7 Sivan

Sophie K. Levine, Harry Blum, Morris Padwe, Isador I. Tilton, Morris Gross, Barney Wachsman, Ann Povolotsky, Nathan Ginsberg, Ray Strauss, Dr. Benjamin H. Kohn, Sadie Geltzeiler, Ida, Israel, and Pinchas Bistriz, Sadie Shapiro Brown, Gerald Iskowitz, Moe Grotsky, Sali Bernzweig, Herbert Schneiderman, Jennie Levy, Anna Trambitsky, Annie Kresch, Bertha Strassman, Mitchell Eisenstat

May 24-30/8-14 Sivan

Rachel Polevoy, Hannah Elbaum, Beatrice A. Kline, Max Herbert Leslie, Abraham Liebeskind, Rebecca Altschuler, Dora Adler, Charles S. Goldberg, Edward P. Wolfson, Viola Steinbaum, Marion Ripps Canter, Isaac Rogow, Isador I. Tilton, Sylvia Nestler, Mack M. Grenert, Robert T. Egenberg

May 31-June 6/15-21 Sivan

Samuel Levine, Fani Traurig, Sarah Blachner, Harry Hoffer, William Kochansky, Minnie D. Willner, Hinda Liebeskind, Dinah Brooks Tucker, Saul H. Buchbinder, Gustave Sachs, Ethel Cohen, Ann Tepper, Julius A. Rose, Eva Posner, Tillie Turtelbaum, May Fox, Eliot D. Bronstein, Betty Goodman

MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Lag Ba'Omer	6	7	8	9
10MOTHERS' DAY	11BOARD	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21EREV SHAVUOT	22SHAVUOT	23SHAVUOT
24	25MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29	30
31Israel Day Parade						

Temple Emanu-El
115 West 42nd Street
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POSTMASTER:
Dated Material
Please Expedite