



Temple Beth Sholom

October 2012 5773

LAKE HAVASU CITY ARIZONA

Rabbi Elliot Rosenbaum

חזק חזק ונתחזק
Be strong, be strong, and may we be strengthened.



Are Jews Permitted to Celebrate Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving is a secular holiday in terms of its origins and the ways it is celebrated. Therefore, there is no religious problem with American Jews celebrating Thanksgiving. In other words, Jews are permitted by Jewish law to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving was first celebrated in America in 1621 by American pilgrims who wanted to show thanks for their harvest. During the American Revolution, the First Continental Congress proposed making Thanksgiving a national holiday, and many who were sympathetic to the revolution began to celebrate it. Then in 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving to be a national holiday and day of rest.

The majority of Americans do not celebrate Thanksgiving with religious rituals. Generally the holiday is celebrated by families gathering together to eat a festive meal with turkey. Thanks to television, watching the Macy's parade and football games has also become a popular Thanksgiving custom.

In addition, it is appropriate for American Jews to celebrate Thanksgiving. American Jews have a great deal for which to be thankful. America has been more than just a safe haven for Jews. In the long history of the Diaspora, Jews have never been as prosperous, organized, influential and accepted as they are today in America.

Furthermore, "giving thanks" has always been an important part of Judaism, from reciting blessings after meals to the Fall festival of Sukkot. Since Biblical times, the ancient Israelites celebrated Sukkot by bringing a portion of their fall harvest to the Temple in Jerusalem as a sacrifice, and then gathering with their families in booths (commemoration of their forty years of wandering in the desert before entering the Land of Israel) to feast on their portion of the harvest. Some even believe that the original Thanksgiving meal of the Pilgrims of New Salem, Massachusetts was inspired by the Sukkot festival celebrated by the ancient Israelites.

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Our Torahs are in need repair

There are repairs that must be made to our Torahs, and modifications to the rollers and covers to make them more durable and less prone to damage. The board has established a Torah Repair Fund and we would ask that you contribute what you can to this fund. Each Torah will cost approximately \$1500 to refurbish. If anyone would like to fund the repair of one or both Torahs, the cover would be embroidered with the dedication you would like.

Presidents Corner

Dear Congregants,

With the celebration of Simchat Torah we have concluded the sequence of holidays making up the New Year celebrations. I hope that all of you enjoyed hearing the Rabbi chant the prayers of the High Holy days and subsequent holidays. I know that it has been a long time since we had a qualified Cantor lead our services. It is the new beginning we have been waiting for at Temple Beth Sholom.

I can assure you that the Board of Directors and the Rabbi will do all they can to make our services and celebrations enjoyable. We also want to make it easier for all congregants to participate in the services. For those of you who do not read Hebrew, we will be working to transliterate some of these prayers for our Friday night services. Making you comfortable and part of our temple family is our first priority.

I know how important it is for me to see our temple grow and be an integral part of our religious community in Lake Havasu, and I also want you to be part of this experience. There is an immediate need that requires your assistance. The Torahs that are the symbol of the Jewish religion needs repairs. These repairs will cost the Temple \$1,500 for one of the Torahs. Therefore, I am suggesting that we set up a Torah repair fund that the congregation can donate money to for these repairs. If there is an individual that would like to donate these funds to the Temple, we will recognize this person or family by embroidering their name on a new Torah cover.

Shalom Stuart Flamm

Temple Beth Sholom

Rabbi Elliot Rosenbaum

2012 TBS Board of Directors

President	Stuart Flamm	president@tbshavasu.org
Vice-President	Stan Coffield	
Secretary	Andrea Coffield	office@tbshavasu.org
Treasurer	David Weisby	
Members at large	Linda Dux Vivien Simon and Jill Fetz	
Past President	Wayne Cohen	

Newsletter editor and webmaster

Stan Coffield

Our thanks for donations from the following congregants

Garry Meyers for his continued generous donations
and to Jill Fetz for the DELICIOUS home baked challahs

Daffynitions: Matzilation

(v.) Smashing a piece of matzoh to bits while trying to butter it.

Chutzpapa

(n.) A father who wakes his wife at 4:00 a.m. so she can change the baby's diaper.

Deja Nu

(n.) Having the feeling you've seen the same exasperated look on your mother's face, but not knowing exactly when.

Disoriyenta

(n.) When Aunt Linda gets lost in a department store and strikes up a conversation with everyone she passes.

Hebort

(v.) To forget all the Hebrew one ever learned immediately after one's Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

Jewdo

(n.) A traditional form of self-defense based on talking one's way out of a tight spot.

Mamatzah Balls

(n.) Matzo balls that are as good as your mother used to make.

Meinstein

slang. "My son, the genius!"

Mishpochadots

(n.) The assorted lipstick and make-up stains found on one's face and collar after kissing all one's aunts and cousins at a reception.

Re-shttlement

(n.) Moving from Brooklyn to Boca Raton and finding all your old neighbors live in the same condo building as you.

Rosh Hashana-na-na

(n.) A rock 'n roll band from Brooklyn.

Yidentify

(v.) To be able to determine Jewish origins of celebrities, even though their names might be St. John, Curtis, Davis, or Taylor.

Minyastics

(n.) Going to incredible lengths and troubles to find a tenth person to complete a Minyan.

Sponsors are needed for Oneg Shabat.

Oneg sponsorship requires that you supply refreshments for the congregation
or simply donate \$30.00 to buy the items.

Help support Temple Beth Sholom, contact David to purchase scrip that you can then
use to purchase groceries at Smiths or Bashas supermarkets.
David has scrip available in various denominations, using scrip to purchase groceries
is a painless way to financially benefit the temple.
You have to eat anyway, support the temple when you buy groceries.
Contact David at weisbly4@me.com for more information

Temple Beth Sholom needs your PARTICIPATION

**If you are aware of unaffiliated families, please invite them to
Sabbath services and/or advise the board.**

**Please consider taking a more active part in running your temple.
Call, email or let us know at services.**

Schedule of services through 2012

Friday, Oct. 26th at 7:30 PM Shabbat Service
Friday, Nov. 9th at 7:30 PM Shabbat Service
Friday, Nov. 23d at 7:30 PM Shabbat Service
Friday, Dec. 14th at 7:30 PM Shabbat Service
Friday, Dec. 28th at 7:30 PM Shabbat Service

Our Next Board Meeting is Thursday November 8

6:00pm at the Temple.

Plan on attending, show your support of TBS

Everyone is welcome