This Week at
Temple Israel of Long Beach
Experiencing the Warmth of Tradition



October 24, 2026
13 Chesvan 5787
Shabbat Lech Lecha

PARSHAT LECH LECHA
The Courage Not To Conform

Leaders lead. That does not mean to say that they do not follow. But what they follow is different from what most people follow. They do not conform for the sake of conforming. They do not do what others merely do because others are doing it. They follow an inner voice, a call. They have a vision, not what is, but of what might be. They think outside the box. They march to a different tune.

Never was this more dramatically signaled than in the first words of G-d to Abraham, the words that set Jewish history in motion:

"Leave your land, your birthplace, and your father's house and go to the land that I will show you.".
(Gen.12:1)

Why? Because people do conform. They adopt the standards and absorb the culture of the time and place in which they live – *"your land"*. At a deeper level, they are influenced by friends and neighbors – "*your birthplace*". More deeply still, they are shaped by their parents and family in which they grew up – "*your father's house*".

I want you, says G-d to Abraham, to be different. Not for the sake of being different, but for the sake of starting something new: a new religion that will not worship power and symbols of power – for that is what idols really were and are. I want you, says G-d. to "teach your children and your household afterwards to follow the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just" (Gen 18:19).

Abraham was prepared to be different. As the sages say, he was called *Ha'ivri*, "the Hebrew", because "all the world was on one side [be'ever ehad] and he was on the other".

That is why Abraham, at start of his mission, was told to "*Leave your land, your birthplace, and your father's house*", to free himself from the pressure to conform. Leaders must be prepared not to follow the consensus.

One reason that Jews have become, out of all proportion to their numbers, leaders in almost every sphere of human endeavor, is precisely their willingness to be different. Throughout the centuries Jews have been the most striking example of a group that refused to assimilate to the dominant culture or convert to the dominant faith.

Judaism is the counter-voice in the conversation of mankind. As Jews, we do not follow the majority merely because it is the majority. It is what makes a nation of leaders.

Excerpt from:
"Lessons In Leadership"
by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Candle Lighting
Shabbat - 5:46 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat – 5:56 pm
For week of 10/24/26 - 10/30/26

KIDDUSH
Sponsored by
Michael Schleimer
celebrating his
Birthday

May we celebrate many more together

With Gratitude

We thank the following donors for their generous contributions to Temple Israel this past week.

Eve & Stephen Milstein
Henrietta & Monroe Milstein
(Philanthropic Fund)
Deborah & Mitchell Gelberg
Mona & Neilan Stern
Linda Latman

רפואה שלמה

Wishing you a speedy and complete recovery.

Marcie Livingston	Helen Dresner
Kai Denson	Gert Griboff
Joan Schlissel	Sima Buckner
Deborah Dickstein	Sidney Weinman
Bonnie Gurland	Elyse Silverman
Esther Buckner	Carol Kantor
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IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Solomon Griboff	Rose Schulman
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KRISTALLNACHT

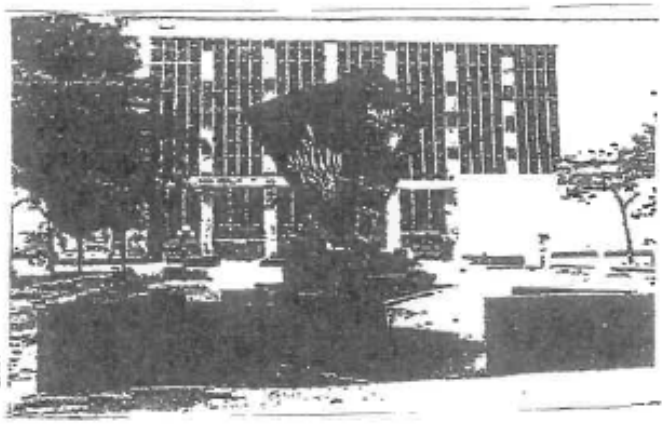
Commemorating the Beginning of the Holocaust

Sunday, November 1, 2026 – 1:00 P.M.

Long Beach City Hall, Council Chamber, 6th Floor.

1 West Chester Street * Long Beach * New York

Master Of Ceremonies.....	**Vincent Marmorale**
Pledge of Allegiance.....	**Jewish War Veterans**
National Anthem and Hatikva...	**Steven Bernstein**
Invocation	Rabbi **Benny Berlin**
Welcome.....	City Manager **Daniel Creighton**
Guest Speakers.....	Council President **Brendan Finn**
	State Senator **Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick**
	StateAssemblyman **Ari Brown**
	Nassau County Legislator **Patrick Mullaney**
	Honorable **Harvey Weisenberg**
Keynote Speaker	**Alexa Roth**
Musical Interlude	Cantor Lisa Klinger Kantor
Candle-Lighting Ceremony	**Esther Langer**
Holocaust Pledge.....	Honorable **Warren Vegh**
El Molei Rachamim.....	**Steven Bernstein**



Sponsored By: Holocaust Committee of Long Island

NEVER FORGET