ELUL STORIES
Sharing our stories, sharing lives, creating community

Elul is the month leading up to Rosh HaShanah. Each day during the month, a different Temple Beth Torah congregant will share a High Holiday reflection to help us prepare for this season of prayer, repentance and tzedakah.

The Difference A Day Makes
Robyn Weiner

Last Rosh Hashanah started out as a very special, spiritual day and ended as a sad day. I arrived at the Early Service “extra early” to get a close seat and greet old friends. The service was wonderful and I was honored to be on the bimah as the Torah Sitter during the Torah Service. We had lunch with our family at the Diner which is a tradition and enjoyed a beautiful sunny September day. In the late afternoon, I received a call that my mother was very ill and I was on an evening flight down South. As I sat on the plane, I reflected on the day never dreaming that this is how it would end. I lost my mother the next day. I have been told that a very special person dies during the Jewish Holidays and that is certainly the case with my Mother.

As I shared during my recent Emunah sermon, Judaism and the Temple were very important to my mother. Even though we lived in a small southern town, we were brought up with Jewish values and traditions. My mother especially enjoyed the holidays and was famous for her blintz casserole during the community break fast every year. She would never come to visit my sister or me during the holidays because she only wanted to be in her Temple- she felt it was unfair to not support her Temple which had so few members.

Our family involvement in the Temple is a tribute to my Mother and I am so grateful for Temple Beth Torah. You never know what the day will bring so enjoy and celebrate every moment! Happy New Year!

Robyn Weiner is the 2nd Vice-President of the Temple and has been a Temple member for 21 years. She is married to Michael and mother of Alyson and David. Robyn is a Middle School Guidance Counselor.
Would you like to share your story? It can be a High Holiday memory, a first experience or a ritual that is special to you at this time of year. Send your stories to ravsusie@gmail.com.
If you missed any of the previous Elul Stories you can go to www.tbtony.org (media galleries/elul stories).