

## A tribute to Bonnie Gordon

Bonnie moved to Altoona from Bradford Pennsylvania in 1997. She called the Temple and told them that she had taught Sunday School in Bradford for 10 years and served as principal for 2 of those. She said, I am available to substitute.

In October 1997 she began teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade which she loved. Bonnie taught Sunday school here for 15 years, stepped out to teach 7 for a couple years but most of you know her as the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers. She had Falon Morris, Ginger Glass, Joel Schocker but she especially remembers Jimmy Holiday. Every Sunday he would walk her into class and say "Mrs. Gordon, whats the craft and whats the snack."

Her class projects are legend. She made bears every year for all the kids for the Bear Life Cycle events. The bear wedding, the bear mitzvah and the bear naming. The class always wears their crowns to the naming with their stars and jewels embellishing them reflecting their good behavior. She also takes her class on a virtual trip to Israel and rolls them up like Torah for simchat torah. Who knows what a cubit is? The significance of a butterfly. One class sent their butterflys to the Jewish museum in Texas. Her classes did treasure hunts in the synagogue and temple and learned about Havdalah, although some did not like the flame.

Her favorite book to teach was Herschel and the Chanukah Goblin. She actually received Thank you notes from some of her students. She will be missed. Thank you Bonnie for everything you did for these kids and the Sunday school.