

# Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXVII  
Bulletin No. 3

November 2017  
Heshvan / Kislev 5778

## Rabbi's message

### The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund to focus on congregants in distress

Starting now and for the balance of my service as your rabbi, all funds donated to the Temple Israel Rabbi's Discretionary Fund will be disbursed for one purpose: to help Temple members in financial distress. The word "all" means exactly that: while there are other acceptable uses for the fund, I am committing to use the fund for congregant assistance only.

Is your fellow congregant in distress? You might know; you might not.

Money problems are not necessarily the most painful sources of suffering, but one thing is true: they are among the most easily solved. From time to time one of your fellow congregants falls upon hard times and needs assistance beyond what the social service organizations in our community are able to provide.

The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund is

exactly that: A Temple fund that is used at the Rabbi's discretion. The funds may not be used for my personal benefit, and are under the control and oversight of the Temple Board. This is why your donations are tax-deductible. While I regularly report the categories of expenditures to the Treasurer, the specific disbursements to those in need are confidential.

And there are definitely those in need. You might not know it, but from time to time I know it, and I can assure you that it's a painful thing for me to know and not to be able to help.

You can help me to help them. Just write a check to the Temple Israel Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. I will take care of the rest.

*Rabbi Jim Cohn*



### Return of "The Two Rabbis"

By Rabbi Cohn

My colleague, Rabbi Victor Urecki, and I are resuming our conversation sessions in November. The programs are free and open to the public. They afford opportunities for shared learning that transcend denominational boundaries, bringing together the Jewish community as well as the larger non-Jewish community. These sessions are also an integrated part of my Basic Judaism Class. Please note that the November 15 program will be held at B'nai Jacob Synagogue.

Wednesday, November 8, 6-7 p.m.:  
"Shabbat." Location: Temple Israel.

Wednesday, November 15, 6-7 p.m.:  
"The Kosher Laws." Location: B'nai Jacob Synagogue.

### Combined Sabbath service at B'nai Jacob Synagogue Friday, Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m.

*Please note: there won't be a service at Temple Israel on Nov. 10. Rabbi Cohn will read the names from the Temple's yahrzeit list for that week at the service at B'nai Jacob.*

Rabbis Victor Urecki and James Cohn will lead a Shabbat service at 5:30 p.m. on

*(Continued on page 2)*

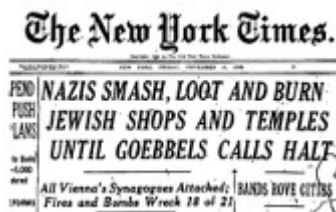
### Kristallnacht observance at Shabbat service Friday, Nov. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

On Nov. 9–10, 1938, the Nazis staged vicious pogroms—state sanctioned, anti-Jewish riots—against the Jewish community of Germany. These came to be known as Kristallnacht (now commonly translated as "Night of Broken Glass"), a reference to the untold numbers of broken windows of synagogues, Jewish-owned stores, community centers, and homes plundered and destroyed during the pogroms. Encouraged by the Nazi regime, the rioters burned or destroyed 267 synagogues, vandalized or looted 7,500 Jewish businesses, and killed at least 91 Jewish people. They also damaged many Jewish cemeteries,

hospitals, schools, and homes as police and fire bri-

gades stood aside. Kristallnacht was a turning point in history. The pogroms marked an intensification of Nazi anti-Jewish policy that would culminate in the Holocaust—the systematic, state-sponsored murder of Jews.

—This article is quoted from the website of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, [www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org)



## Schedule of November services

<b>Friday, Nov. 3</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Shabbat service and Kristallnacht observance, followed by covered-dish dinner</i></b>
<b>Saturday, Nov. 4</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b><i>"First Shabbat" morning service followed by Torah study</i></b>
<b>Friday, Nov. 10</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Joint Shabbat service at B'nai Jacob Synagogue—there won't be a service at the Temple</i></b>
<b>Friday, Nov. 17</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Shabbat service</i></b>
<b>Saturday, Nov. 18</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b><i>"Third Shabbat" morning service followed by Torah study</i></b>
<b>Friday, Nov. 24</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b><i>Shabbat service</i></b>

## Combined Sabbath service at the Synagogue Nov. 10

(Continued from page 1)

Friday, Nov. 10, at B'nai Jacob Synagogue, with an Oneg Shabbat reception to follow. At the service we will honor and celebrate the milestone birthdays of Betty Stern and Millie Snyder. We will also celebrate the lives of our many courageous veterans. Please mark your calendar and join us for this special joint service.

### Any news?

Do you have news to share about births, weddings, or bereavements in your family? Please email Rabbi Cohn and we will include it in our print bulletin and our email announcements.

Note that we only accept information directly from family members and never from third parties, in keeping with considerations of privacy, accuracy and the Jewish customs of Ethical Speech.

The Temple office email is

[templeisraelwv@gmail.com](mailto:templeisraelwv@gmail.com)

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Rabbi Cohn's email is

[rabbi.mailbox@gmail.com](mailto:rabbi.mailbox@gmail.com)

Visit [rabbijamescohn.com](http://rabbijamescohn.com)

**Deadline for the  
December Bulletin  
is Nov. 15th.**

## New this month: First and Third Shabbat

By Rabbi Cohn

You asked for it, you got it. This month there will be two opportunities for Shabbat morning worship and study, on the first and third Saturdays in November. The mornings will begin with a Shabbat worship service at 10:30, followed by participatory Torah study with the delightfully obligatory nosh.

Both Torah portions describe infertile parents whom God miraculously enables to conceive. Why is this a recurrent Torah theme, and what meaning might it have today? Come and contribute your thoughts.

**Saturday, November 4 at 10:30 a.m.**

Torah Portion: Vayera, Genesis 18:1 - 22:24

For the text and commentary, check out

<https://www.sefaria.org/Genesis.18.1-22.24?lang=bi>

<https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study/vayeira>

Or read the Women's Torah Commentary in the Sisterhood Lounge, starting on p. 85

**Saturday, November 18 at 10:30 a.m.**

Torah Portion: Toldot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

For the text and commentary, check out

<https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study/toldot>

<https://www.sefaria.org/Genesis.25.19-28.9?lang=bi>

Or read the Women's Torah Commentary in the Sisterhood Lounge, starting on p. 133

IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE  
WEATHER:

Call the Temple at 304-342-5852 and follow the prompts to hear about any cancellations.

TEMPLE ISRAEL  
2312 Kanawha Blvd., E.  
Charleston, W.Va. 25311  
304-342-5852  
[www.templeisraelwv.org](http://www.templeisraelwv.org)  
[templeisraelwv@gmail.com](mailto:templeisraelwv@gmail.com)

David Shapiro  
President

James D. Cohn  
Rabbi

Israel B. Koller  
Rabbi Emeritus

# November yahrzeits

*Names are read the Friday evening prior to the yahrzeit date, which is in parenthesis.*

## November 3rd

William F. Hoss (4)  
Seymour Kantor (4)  
Joseph Klee (4)  
Louis Goldfarb (5)  
Charles McHale (6)  
Floy M. Sessions (6)  
Carl H. Lehman (7)  
Michael M. "Mike" Margolis (7)  
Edwin Stabins (7)  
Joseph Gotlieb (10)  
Florine Marks Isaac (10)  
Susan Jubelirer Nesi (10)

## November 10th

Sam Badner (11)  
Louis Cohen (11)  
Lilla Wolf (11)  
Barbara Brooks (12)  
Albert Schwabe (12)  
Ellis C. Amburgey, Sr. (14)  
Harry Fleischmann (14)  
Bernard Gottlieb (14)  
Jean Merz Klee (14)  
Sydney M. Kleeman (15)

## November 17th

Anna Barton (19)  
H. H. Wills (20)  
Louis Jordan (21)  
Esther Mendeloff (21)  
Edith Hartley Aaron (22)  
Frances W. Freedman (22)  
Nina Poppelsdorf (22)  
Sadie Shane (22)  
Edith Burnett (24)

## November 24th

Minnie Hess (26)  
Morton A. Lewis (26)  
Harriet B. "Cissy" Abrams (27)  
Doris Kleeman Leopold (27)  
Reba Markstein Lindenberg (27)  
Jane Glaser (28)  
Bernard H. Jacobson (28)  
Carol Katz (28)  
Robert Albert (29)  
Reba Blustein Cohen (29)  
Bob Baer (30)  
Maxine Stabins (30)  
Joanne Mendeloff Misaqi (Dec. 1)



## Condolences

We note with sorrow the recent death of our friend and fellow congregant Bernice "Bea" Cohen. Bea moved to Jackson, Ohio several years ago to be near her family, but she remained a member of Temple Israel. May the memory of Bea Cohen serve as an enduring blessing.

## November at a glance

Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. – Confirmation orientation meeting, confirmands only  
Friday, Nov. 3 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service and Kristallnacht observance, see p. 1. Followed by a covered dish dinner – there is no cost and you don't have to RSVP.  
Saturday, Nov. 4 at 10:30 a.m. – "First Shabbat" morning service and Torah study, see p. 2  
Sunday, Nov. 5 – Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 5 at 10 a.m. – Sisterhood board meeting, see p. 5

Tuesday, Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. at WVU Charleston – Rabbi Cohn's Spinoza program, see p. 5  
Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Temple – "The Two Rabbis" discuss Shabbat, see p. 1  
Friday, Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m. – Combined Temple/Synagogue Sabbath service at B'nai Jacob, see p. 1. *NOTE: There won't be a service at the Temple.*  
Monday, Nov. 13, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Sisterhood Schmooze time, see p. 5  
Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 5:30 p.m. – Temple board meeting  
Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. at B'nai Jacob Synagogue – "The Two Rabbis" discuss the Kosher laws, see p. 1

Friday, Nov. 17 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service  
Saturday, Nov. 18 at 10:30 a.m. – "Third Shabbat" morning service and Torah study, see p. 2  
Thursday, Nov. 23 – Temple office closed in observance of Thanksgiving  
Friday, Nov. 24 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service  
Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. – Rabbi Cohn's Basic Judaism class: Jewish history overview, see p. 4

## Next month

Friday, Dec. 1 – Covered Dish Dinner following the 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service  
Saturday, Dec. 2 – "First Shabbat" morning service at 10:30 a.m., followed by Torah study

## ***Oneg Shabbat reception sponsorship dates available—reserve yours today***

An Oneg Shabbat reception is a special way to honor or remember a birthday, yahrzeit, or to celebrate any other occasions. If you would like to sponsor an Oneg, these dates are still open as of press time: December 1 and 22; January 19; February 9 and 16; March 9 and 16; April 6 and 13.

To reserve your date, please call one of the Oneg Shabbat Committee members: Judy Lundy 304-744-4932, Anne Fishkin 304-744-3114, or Beth Winter 304-421-0231. If you're hesitant to sponsor an Oneg thinking it may be more work than you can do at this time, no worries. You can write a check for \$35 payable to Temple Israel and write "Oneg and your date" on memo line, and one of them will do the shopping. Please check to make sure your date is still available before mailing your check to the Temple office.

If you prefer to prepare your Oneg, that's also a fine way to be a sponsor. With our services at 5:30 p.m., please remember that most Onegs are only a nosh before dinner. Your creative choices might include light appetizers such as veggies and dip, as

well as fruit, cheese, crackers and a baked item. Food for 15-20 people will be plenty!

However, if you would like to sponsor an Oneg on the first Friday of the month (December 1 or April 6), please note that



your Oneg will be the dessert for our monthly Covered Dish Dinner, so please plan to serve 25-35 people.

In either case, please bring your items to Temple before noon on Friday.

*Oneg Shabbat Committee*

## **Thanks for making Shabbat even more special**

### **Oneg Shabbat receptions**

- Oct. 6 – Given by Natalie Winowich in honor of her husband Nick Winowich's 95th birthday
- Oct. 13 – Given by Beth Winter in honor of the birthday of her husband, Gary Winter
- Oct. 20 – Given by Roberta Lee Levine and Richard Hess in memory of Roberta's brother, Jearoll Casto
- Oct. 27 – Given by Lois Coleman in memory of the birthday of her daughter, Mary Beth Chadwick



### **Flowers on the bimah**

- Oct. 6 – Given by Lynn and Phil Hicks, in honor of the birthday of Nick Winowich

*If you would like to sponsor Shabbat flowers, please contact Betty Stern. Please make checks payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.*

## ***Rabbi Cohn's "Basic Judaism" Class Overview of Jewish History Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m.***

By Rabbi Cohn

Yeah, I know – four thousand years of Jewish history compressed into one hour. Crazy, right? But we're going to do it!

This program is part of my Basic Judaism class and will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m. For recommended book links and specific readings associated with this and all other sessions, go to [www.rabbijamescohn.com](http://www.rabbijamescohn.com) and click on the "Confirmation" tab.

**101**



**Sisterhood message****Thanks to volunteers—Cards to college youth— “Community Days” coupon books fundraiser—Covered Dish Dinner Nov. 3— Sisterhood board meeting Nov. 5—Schmooze Time Nov. 13**

Is it November already?  
From the number of acorns  
that have hit our roof, it must  
be!

We had good  
weather for the  
decorating of the  
sukkah and the  
pizza, salad, and  
ice cream meal  
that followed.

This event was  
chaired by Betty  
Stern. The weath-  
er cooperated  
and we all enjoyed our time in  
our garden and in our sukkah.  
Thank you, Betty!

Our October covered dish  
dinner was held on Friday, Oct.  
6 with a special Oneg Shabbat  
recognition of Nick Winowich's  
special birthday. Thank you,  
Francine Thalheimer for coordi-  
nating this meal.

We had our October  
Schmooze Time on Monday,  
Oct. 9. We had hoped to eat  
lunch in the sukkah, but this

time the  
weather did  
not cooperate,  
so we  
schmoozed in  
the Sisterhood  
Lounge.

Cards went out  
to our college  
youth for the  
High Holy Days.

Thank you, Ann Kushner! I am  
glad we are keeping in touch  
with them.

We thank Marion Baer,  
Margot Jogwick and Hedy Pop-  
pelsdorf for sharing their mem-  
ories of living in Germany in the  
WWII era at our Oct. 15  
meeting. Their talks made us all  
more thankful to be living in

**Sisterhood is selling  
coupon books for Elder-  
Beerman's "Community  
Days." Each book earns  
Sisterhood \$5 and can  
save you more than the  
cost of the book when  
you shop Nov. 8—11.**

this country.

Sisterhood is participating  
in a fund raiser that is run by  
Elder-Beerman for their  
“Community Days.” We are  
selling coupon booklets for \$5  
each which can be used at Elder  
-Beerman and at  
six other stores:

The Bon-Ton,  
Bergner's, Bos-  
ton Store, Car-  
son's, Her-  
berger's and Younkers. The  
Sisterhood keeps the profit  
from the sale of the coupon  
booklets. The booklet contains  
a coupon for \$10 off plus other  
coupons for additional savings.  
You must use the coupons  
Wednesday, Nov. 8 through  
Saturday, Nov. 11. You can use  
the coupons online or in person  
at the stores on the above  
dates. They make great gifts –

happy shopping!

November dates to re-  
member:

Friday, Nov. 3: Covered  
Dish Dinner after the 5:30 p.m.  
Shabbat service observing Kris-  
tallnacht

Sunday, Nov. 5  
at 10 a.m. –  
Sisterhood  
board meeting

Monday, Nov.

13, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. –  
Sisterhood Schmooze Time in  
the Sisterhood Lounge. Come  
when you can, leave when you  
must!

Thanksgiving is Thursday,  
Nov 23. May you be with family  
and friends for a festive meal  
and a reflection upon all that  
we have to be thankful.

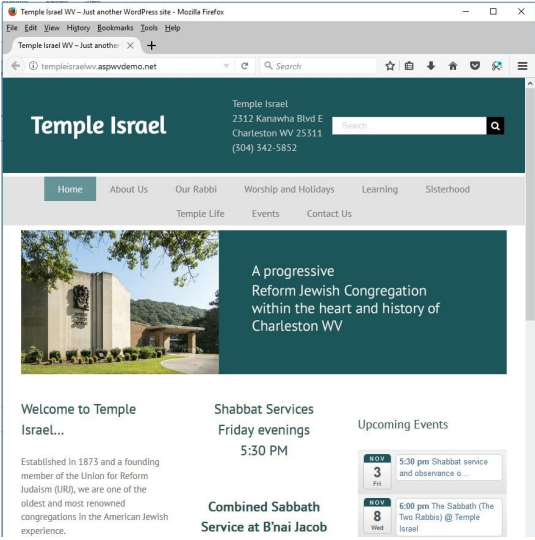
*Sue Eisinger, President*

**You are invited to Rabbi Cohn's  
Spinoza program at WVU  
Charleston on Tuesday, Nov. 7**

Rabbi Cohn will teach a one-session program about the pan-  
theism of Spinoza at WVU's Lifelong Learning Institute in Charle-  
ston's City Center East on Tuesday morning, Nov. 7, from 10 to  
11:30. You must register for the program at [http://](http://www.olliatwvu.org/)  
[www.olliatwvu.org/](http://www.olliatwvu.org/) Click “Available Courses” and then click  
“Locations” and choose “Charleston.”

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at West Virginia Univer-  
sity, known as OLLI@WVU, provides programs and educational  
opportunities designed for adults 50 and over.

*Following is Rabbi Cohn's description of the course:* In the  
17th century the Jewish philosopher Spinoza argued that the  
words “God” and “nature” were synonyms. Though accused by  
some of being an atheist, he has also been described as “God-  
intoxicated.” Both his opponents and his supporters agreed that  
he pursued the truth relentlessly and that he accepted the conse-  
quences of the path on which it took him. Find out more about  
this fascinating man and contribute your own thoughts during  
the discussion.



**Temple Israel**  
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A progressive  
Reform Jewish Congregation  
within the heart and history of  
Charleston WV

Welcome to Temple  
Israel...

Established in 1875 and a founding  
member of the Union for Reform  
Judaism (URJ), we are one of the  
oldest and most renowned  
congregations in the American Jewish  
experience.

Shabbat Services  
Friday evenings  
5:30 PM

Combined Sabbath  
Service at B'nai Jacob

Upcoming Events

NOV 3 Fri 5:30 pm Shabbat service and observance o...

NOV 8 Wed 6:00 pm The Sabbath (The Two Rabbits) @ Temple Israel

**Temple website**

At press time, the Temple website [www.templeisraelwv.org](http://www.templeisraelwv.org)  
was scheduled to be back online by the end of October.  
Please call or email the Temple office for more information.

## Hanukkah Dinner Saturday, Dec. 16

Temple Israel's annual congregational Hanukkah Dinner will be held Saturday, Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. Please RSVP to the Temple office by Friday, Dec. 8.



The cost is

- Adults: \$10
- Students (any age): \$4
- Pre-kindergarten: Free.

You don't need to pay ahead – simply pay at the door.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring from home a menorah and candles to fit it for the fifth night of Hanukkah display.

Thanks to Alan Fleischmann and his crew for preparing and serving the dinner again this year.

*Honoring milestones  
and our veterans*

**Joint service  
at B'nai Jacob  
Synagogue  
on Friday,  
Nov. 10 at  
5:30 PM**

*There won't be a service  
Nov. 10 at the Temple*

## Our Thoughtful Contributors



If you would like to make a donation to a Temple or Sisterhood fund, please mail your check to Temple Israel and tell us to whom you would like a card to be sent.

Donations to a Sisterhood fund (Care Committee, Floral Fund or Y.E.S. Fund), should be made payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood with a note on the memo line telling us which fund the donation is for.

Donations to the Temple Israel Social Action Fund should be made payable to that fund.

Donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund should be made payable to that fund. Donations are used to help Temple members in financial distress.

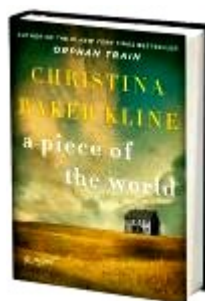
Unrestricted donations or those to the Library should be made payable to Temple Israel.

**Please write separate checks when making contributions to more than one fund or when paying membership dues.**

Donations received after the Bulletin deadline will be acknowledged in the next issue.

### Leora May Book Club meets Nov. 15 at Edgewood Summit

We had a lively discussion about Martha Hall Kelly's *The Lilac Girls* Oct. 18. Most of us enjoyed the book despite the difficult subject matter. It was fun to have such a large group attend.



Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. at Edgewood Summit. The book is *A Piece of the World* by Christina Baker Klein.

Happy reading!

Amy Shapiro

### URJ info

You can find Torah study materials on the Union for Reform Judaism website at <http://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study>

*Reform Judaism* magazine was the official voice of the Union for Reform Judaism, linking the institutions and affiliates of Reform Judaism with every Reform Jew. It ceased publication in 2014. Previous content is available online at <http://reformjudaismmag.org/>

### Photos

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**Social Action news**

# Thanks for donations to the food pantry over the holidays and year-round —now accepting contributions to Covenant House Adopt-A-Family project

## *High Holy Days Food Drive update, and thank you*

Thank you to the many Temple members who generously contributed food to help stock the Covenant House Food Pantry. Your checks and donated non-perishables are a great help. We greatly appreciate the kindness of Richard Hess for delivering the groceries to the Food Pantry! Thank you also to those who remembered to give a check to Mazon, the non-profit Jewish response to hunger.

Thank you, too, to our members who add items throughout the year to the Food Pantry collection basket (in the entryway outside the Chapel) and the Sojourner's basket in the lobby. All are vital to providing nutritious food to those who would otherwise go hungry.

## *2017 Adopt-a-Family project now accepting donations*

The Temple is once again "adopting a family" who signed up for the Covenant House's holiday season program. As of press time, we hadn't yet received the names and wish list for our 2017 family of five, so please watch for details in an email going out in early November.

Thanks to the generosity of Temple members in the past, who've given monetary donations and bought presents on the wish list, we've helped some of the larger families and we'd like to do that again this year. We invite you to make a contribution.

If you want to give money, the committee will use those funds to purchase clothing, a special-request gift,

or gift cards for shoes or food. Please make your check payable to Temple Israel, with "Adopt-a-Family" on the memo line. If you prefer to buy a special gift for a family member, please bring your unwrapped gift to Temple and place it in that person's box on the stage. We also appreciate donations of gift cards, such as Kroger.



Covenant House asks that we wrap gifts only for the parents, not the children's. On Sunday, Dec. 3 the committee will wrap the parents' gifts and set aside wrapping paper and tape for them to wrap their children's

gifts. We will deliver everything to Covenant House the next day.

Please bring checks, gift cards and presents you've purchased to the Temple no later than Thursday, Nov. 30. Bring checks and gift cards to the Temple office, and place presents in the appropriate box on the stage in the Social Hall.

Members of the committee shop together for bargains to use your donations wisely, and often we have some money left over even after purchasing all the items on our family's list. As in past years, we ask your permission to use any excess to help others in need. We either write a Temple check to Covenant House so they can purchase items for other families who receive little, or we purchase socks, gloves and hats for Manna Meal clients. If you prefer that we use your donation only for the family we adopt, please note that on your check.

*Thank you,  
Anne Fishkin*



## **RCCR's 21st Annual Beans, Cornbread & More Dinner Nov. 16**

The Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR) will host its 21st Annual Beans, Cornbread and More Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1 Deerwalk Lane in Charleston (Corridor G area).

All proceeds benefit RCCR's Samaritan Inn. Since 1989, Samaritan Inn has provided a safe environment for men to recover from homelessness and become productive, independent members of our community. Today the program has a capacity of 9 men and is one of the few transitional housing programs that receive funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Temple Israel is a founding member of RCCR and has supported the dinner for many years, even hosting it on occasion.

The dinner will feature a silent auction, where you can bid on a variety of items donated by local businesses, as well as homemade cakes and desserts from RCCR member congregations. Mike Pushkin will be providing the entertainment for the evening.

This year's honoree is Buz McCormick, former director of the Samaritan Inn. Buz has served in social services in the Charleston area for over 40 years. He was the director of the Samaritan Inn for 15 years prior to his retirement in 2013.

For more information and tickets, phone RCCR at 304-346-6398. RCCR is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. Tickets cost \$75 each and, less the cost of the dinner, are a tax-deductible donation.

You can visit RCCR on the web at <http://www.rccr.org/>