

# Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXVII  
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February 2018  
Shevat / Adar 5778

*Purim at B'nai Jacob  
February 28*

## Rabbi's message

## Purim with the cousins

*This year we will celebrate Purim together with our Jewish cousins at Congregation B'nai Jacob. The event will be held at 6 p.m. on the Eve of Purim, Wednesday, Feb. 28 at B'nai Jacob Synagogue.*

Who doesn't like syllogisms?

Given:

1. Purim is a time for making merry; and
2. The more the merrier;

Therefore:

3. We will double our fun this year by joining with our Jewish cousins at Congregation B'nai Jacob for the reading of the Megillah and the celebration of the legendary victory of the Jewish people over the forces of hatred and oppression, as told in Megillat Esther, the Scroll of Esther.

You might be familiar with the expression "the whole Megillah" (*ganze megillah*). That's what we'll hear, in Hebrew with English summaries and some fun interpretations. Rabbi Urecki and I promise that a good time will be had by all.

You can add to the fun by coming in costume. I know I will! Graggers will be provided, but feel free to bring your own homemade noisemakers to drown out the name of the dastardly Haman. I recall using Band Aid cans filled with dry beans, which made an impressive racket when shaken. But... do Band Aids even come in cans these days? A wooden spoon and a metal pot do quite nicely as well. Anyway, you get the idea.



This event is in keeping with your request that our two congregations get together more often for shared activities. This one will be pure fun. And it comes just when we need it: when the winter doldrums haven't yet given way to the relief of spring.

See you then/there! Oh, and did I mention coming in costume?

*Rabbi Jim Cohn*



*Purim 2017*



## The return of the Tu Bishvat Seder: Friday evening Feb. 2, after Shabbat service

By Rabbi Cohn

This year Tu Bishvat falls on Jan. 31. In observance of this holiday we will have a covered dish dinner on Feb. 2. By popular request, the meal will include a Tu Bishvat Seder and Oneg dessert following the 5:30 p.m. service. No reservation is necessary.

Tu Bishvat is a Jewish holiday occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is also called "Rosh Hashanah La'llanot" (literally "New Year of the Trees").

In contemporary times, the day is celebrated as an ecological awareness day, and so at our February dinner we will enjoy the symbolic foods that bring to consciousness the web of our connections in and with nature.

## Schedule of February services

Friday, Feb. 2	5:30 p.m.	<b><i>Shabbat service, followed by covered-dish dinner and Tu B'shvat Seder</i></b>
Friday, Feb. 9	5:30 p.m.	<b><i>Shabbat service</i></b>
Friday, Feb. 16	5:30 p.m.	<b><i>Shabbat service</i></b>
Friday, Feb. 23	5:30 p.m.	<b><i>Shabbat service</i></b>
Wednesday, Feb. 28	6:00 p.m.	<b><i>Joint Temple/Synagogue Purim party and Megillah reading—held at B'nai Jacob</i></b>



*Illustration of a Megillah reading from Juedisches Ceremoniel, a German work. A beautifully illustrated description of Jewish religious ceremonies, rites of passage and feast days, the book first appeared in 1716, here in its second edition of 1724.*

*Please see front page for info on the Temple's joint Purim event with B'nai Jacob on Feb. 28, to be held **at B'nai Jacob Synagogue**.*

### 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)

### Moving?

Please let the Temple office know if you are moving or if you're changing your email address or telephone number. That way, you won't miss any news about what's going on at Temple Israel.

We also want to make sure we have your current contact info for the Sisterhood yearbook. If you'd like to change anything in your listing, please let the office know. Thanks.

## Rabbi Cohn's "Basic Judaism" Class

### "Who is a Jew?" and "What about Jesus?"

Rabbi Cohn's Basic Judaism class continues this month with the exploration of a variety of Jewish topics. The public is invited. For other sessions, go to [www.templeisraelwv.org](http://www.templeisraelwv.org) and click on the "Learning" tab. Here is this month's schedule:

Wednesday, Feb. 7 – Beliefs: God, Torah, and Israel (and "Who is a Jew?")

Wednesday, Feb 21 – Jewish views of Jesus and the Jewish Messiah

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)  
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David Shapiro  
President

James D. Cohn  
Rabbi

Israel B. Koller  
Rabbi Emeritus



# February yahrzeits

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

## February 2nd

Herbert Frankenberger (3)  
Ben Marks (3)  
John A. Pianfetti (3)  
Esther Sloman (3)  
Leora Osgood May (4)  
Louise Parker (5)  
Ruth Teichman (5)  
John Warren (5)  
Myron "Mike" Greenwald (6)  
Leonard Ingraham (6)  
Mary Weisberg (6)  
Nat Jurin (7)  
Harry Silverstein (7)  
Louise Herzog Sclove (8)  
Morris Siegler (8)  
Bernard L. Wasserman (8)  
Joseph Weisberg (8)

## February 9

Barbara Reinfeld (10)  
Lorene Adler (11)  
Irving Badner (11)  
Helaine Rotgin (11)

Sylvia G. Goldman (13)  
Alan A. Greenspon (14)  
Roselind Case (15)  
Norma Cohn (15)  
Dr. Morris I. Mendeloff, Sr. (15)  
Clara Warner Schwabe (15)  
Melvin H. Hager (16)  
Jacob Kandel (16)  
Jerome Warner Schwabe (16)

## February 16th

Doris Lewis (17)  
Clara Price (17)  
Isadore J. Berman (18)  
Doris Mack (18)  
Newton Margolis (18)  
Miriam Mayer (18)  
Aaron Cohen (19)  
Fannie Galperin (20)  
Philip Frankenberger (21)  
Howard Michael Levinson (21)  
Ida Schwartz Preiser (21)  
Pauline Reinfeld (22)  
Irma Rose (22)



## February 23rd

Sylvia Berman (24)  
Sadie W. Levin (24)  
Hazel Westen (25)  
Annette Cohen Hark (26)  
Anne Shore Levinson (27)  
Rebecca Taub Godfrey (28)  
Laura Loeb Small (28)  
Marcus "Bill" Thalheimer (28)  
Frances Sokolovsky (March 1)  
Fred A. Bloomberg (March 2)  
Natalie Melman (March 2)  
George Harry Meyer (March 2)

## February at a glance

Friday, Feb. 2 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service followed by a covered dish dinner and Tu Bishvat Seder and Oneg dessert – no RSVP necessary, see p. 1

Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. – Rabbi's Basic Judaism class: Beliefs: God, Torah, Israel, and "Who is a Jew?", see p. 2

Friday, Feb. 9 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service

Sunday, Feb. 11 (time to be announced) – Combined Sisterhood board and general membership meeting with luncheon and program, see p. 5. NOTE: this is change in date from information previously published. An email will go out when time is scheduled.

Monday, Feb. 12 – Sisterhood Schmooze Time 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m. – Temple board meeting

Friday, Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service

Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6 p.m. – Rabbi's Basic Judaism class: Jewish views of Jesus and the Jewish Messiah, see p. 2

Friday, Feb. 23 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service

Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. – Joint Temple/Synagogue Purim celebration at B'nai Jacob, see p. 1

## Next month

March 2 – Covered dish dinner following the Friday evening Shabbat service

March 3 – "First Shabbat" morning service and Torah study

March 11 – Sisterhood cooking at the Temple for a Sojourner's Shelter weekend meal, see p. 5

**Deadline for the March Bulletin is Feb. 15th.**



*Looking ahead to spring*

## **Temple's congregational Passover Seder to be held March 30 — RSVP by March 23**

Temple Israel's congregational Passover Seder will be held Friday, March 30 at 6 p.m.

Due to the expense of the food we must purchase and having to order table linens in time for the event, we ask that Seder reservations, along with pre-payment, be received in the Temple office no later than Friday, March 23.

Your check is your reservation.

### **Cost of the meal:**

- Adults: \$15
- Students (all ages): \$5
- Pre-kindergarten: \$2

Please notify us of any special dietary needs well in advance of the event. Let us know if you will need a high chair or booster seat. Let us know of any seating preference, which will be accommodated as much as possible. The most we can seat at one table is 12 people.

The Seder is open to members of the Jewish community and their families. If you wish to bring guests other than your family, please check with Rabbi Cohn before inviting them.

Please make checks payable to Temple Israel and mail to Temple Israel, 2312 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston WV 25311.



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

### **Oneg Shabbat receptions**

An Oneg Shabbat, the small reception after services, a "nosh," gives us time to celebrate Shabbat together, with time to visit old and new friends.

If you would like to sponsor an Oneg, you can choose to shop (items are up to you: some fruit, pastries, cheese and crackers or anything else you would like) to serve about 20 people. Please deliver your food to Mary at the Temple by noon on that Friday. If you prefer that the Oneg Committee do the shopping, please send a \$35 check made payable to Temple Israel, and write "Oneg" and your date on the memo line.



**Your Oneg here.**

There are only two remaining open dates this year, March 9 and 16. Please call Judy Lundy, Anne Fishkin or Beth Winter to reserve your spot.

We thank these members for making our Shabbats more special in January:

- Jan. 5 – Brett Radow, in memory of his father, Berle Radow
- Jan. 12 – Sue Eisinger in memory of the birthday of her mother, Geneva Mann Sessions
- Jan. 19 – Dona Hall and Tiana Hall, in memory of Dona's husband and Tiana's father, Philip Barnett Hall
- Jan. 26 – Anne Fishkin, in memory of her mother, Judith Pollack

### **Flowers on the bimah**

- Jan. 5 – Brett Radow, in memory of his father, Berle Radow

*If you would like to sponsor Shabbat flowers, please contact Betty Stern. Cost is \$35. Please make checks payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.*



**Sisterhood message****Covered dish dinner Feb. 2; general membership meeting and luncheon Feb. 11; Schmooze Feb. 12; cooking for Sojourner's on March 11; Elder-Beerman coupon books on sale now**

Is it February already? I hope that February is warmer than January was!

We are continuing our covered dish dinners on the first Friday of the month. Our next one will be Feb. 2. Plan to attend and bring a dish serving 10-12 to share. We eat well at these dinners! Thank you to Francine Thalheimer for keeping them going.

Last fall, Lois Coleman and Lynn Gattlieb planned a program for a Sisterhood luncheon, a panel discussion with Marion Baer, Hedy Poppelsdorf and Margot Jogwick, talking about what it was like living in Germany around the time of the Second World War. The three women have since given this presentation to Kanawha County Schools counselors and will be giving it again to a larger group of educators. We thank them for sharing these difficult memories.

Roberta Levine has asked if the Sisterhood could participate in the East End Family Resource Center's annual Heart and Soul Dip Dinner, which takes place this spring, and I told her we would. Hopefully by our next meeting we will know the date it will be held at the Roosevelt Neighborhood Center on Ruffner Ave.

**Cooking for Sojourner's**

On March 11, women of the Temple and Sisterhood are invited to cook a main meal for the YWCA Sojourner's Shelter for Homeless Women and Families. This will relieve the shelter's staff of the

responsibility to cook for 80 people on the weekend. There is usually a two-hour shopping trip during the week before the meal and a few hours prep at the Temple that day. It is a fun and easy time to work together and support this wonderful program. We then transport the dinner to Sojourner's by noon that Sunday for the Sojourner's staff to serve.

Gathering to cook this meal has been a simple and fun event for us. So, bring your apron and come hang out with us as we duel for best chopper. Menu is usually frozen lasagna, salad, bread and a dessert – "easy-peasy" as our grandkids would say. Caroline Ostand looks forward to hearing from you if you are interested in helping, or you could choose to donate large black trash bags (30-gallon), breakfast cereal, kid-friendly snacks, laundry detergent, personal care items such as shampoo, canned soup and many other non-

perishables. There are many ways you can help, so call to sign up or make a plan to drop off things in the Sojourner's collection box in the foyer at the Temple. Hope to see you March 11 and thanks for all of your continued help. If you have questions about Sojourner's, please contact Caroline Ostand.

**Next Schmooze Feb. 12**

Our next Schmooze Time will be held Monday, Feb. 12. Come any time between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Bring your lunch; coffee and ice water will be provided. Be thinking if you would prefer a different day instead of Mondays to hold our Schmooze Time. We have had a request to change the day that we hold it. Unfortunately, the prediction of bad weather on our January meeting day meant that not many people showed up. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate for our February Schmooze.

**Elder-Beerman coupon books on sale for shopping March 1-3**

We will be selling booklets with coupons for Elder-Beerman Stores. The coupon booklets cost \$5 and each booklet has a coupon for \$10 off one purchase, plus the booklet offers a total value of \$500 in discounts. Sisterhood keeps the money from selling the booklets. You can purchase them at our next general membership meeting Feb. 11, or at Schmooze Time on Feb. 12. If you would like to purchase booklets but can't attend on those dates, please call me at 304-346-9767. The sale days are Thursday, March 1 through Saturday, March 3.

A nominating committee has been formed to find officers for the Sisterhood's 2018-2019 year. The committee will be chaired by Ronni Cohen Spudich with Lois Coleman, Caroline Ostand, Anne Fishkin, and Ina Angel serving with her.

**Next general membership meeting on Feb. 11**

Our next general membership meeting with a luncheon will be held Sunday, Feb. 11. Please note: this is a change of date from the information in our yearbook. You will receive an email or phone call regarding the start time of this meeting. As I write, the program has not been finalized. Lynn Gattlieb and Lois Coleman hope to have a speaker talking about the opioid crisis that our state is experiencing. Please plan to join us.

*Sue Eisinger, President*

**Elder-Beerman coupon book raises money for Sisterhood**

Once again, your Sisterhood is offering this coupon book at a cost of \$5.00.

Sisterhood retains the full purchase price of \$5.

The book offers a total value of \$500 in coupons.

The first coupon in the book gives a \$10-off any purchase. So, with this purchase you gain back the full amount of your donation.

The use of the coupons runs March 1 – 3, 2018.

You can purchase coupon books at our Sisterhood meeting, Sunday, Feb. 11!





## Passenger drop-off and accessible parking area in semi-circular driveway

The semi-circular driveway at the Temple's front entrance on Kanawha Boulevard can be used as a passenger drop-off area and as accessible parking, for people with disabilities that make it difficult or impossible to climb steps.

If a driver is a person with disabilities and needs to park in front of the building, we ask you to pull as close to the edge of the driveway as possible. This will allow other cars to drop off passengers and pass through on their way to park in one of the Temple's lots or on the street.

**When parking in the semi-circle, please *don't block the ramp* that leads to the front doors.**



*Even before he was president 2013-14, the late Phil Angel (inset, left, conferring with treasurer Jack Levin) made many building improvements, such as the semi-circular driveway at the Temple's Kanawha Boulevard entrance, built August 2012. Lighting bollards were added April 2015 by Phil's Building and Grounds Committee successor, Jerry Goldberg.*

### Photos and graphics

Tu Bishvat fruits and nuts

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tu\\_BiShvat#/media/File:Driedfruit5.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tu_BiShvat#/media/File:Driedfruit5.jpg)  
By Gilabrand (talk) - en.wikipedia, CC BY 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9019725>

Matzot René Neymann Wasselonne avril 2014

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Matzot\\_Ren%C3%A9\\_Neymann\\_Wasselonne\\_avril\\_2014.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Matzot_Ren%C3%A9_Neymann_Wasselonne_avril_2014.jpg)

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Seder plate

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover\\_Seder\\_plate#/media/File:Seder\\_Plate.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover_Seder_plate#/media/File:Seder_Plate.jpg)  
By Yoninah - Own work, CC BY 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=798176>

Hamantaschen

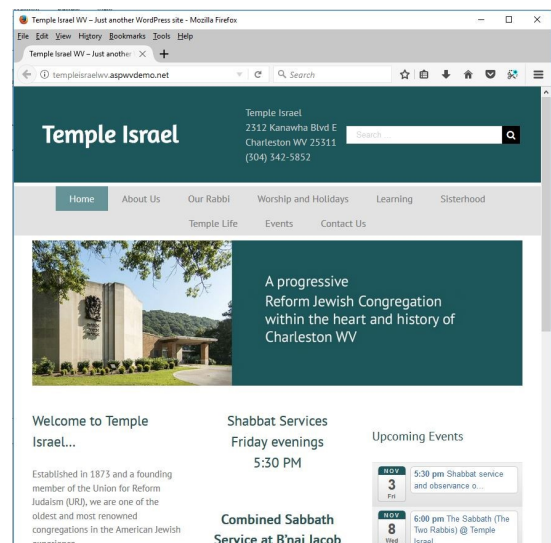
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purim#/media/File:Homemade\\_hamantaschen2.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purim#/media/File:Homemade_hamantaschen2.jpg)  
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Me'ah Berachot, an 18th-century prayerbook on the miracles of Purim

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purim#/media/File:Me%27ah\\_Berachot6.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purim#/media/File:Me%27ah_Berachot6.jpg)  
In the public domain

Illustration from *Juedisches Ceremoniel*, a German book published in 1724  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Megillah\\_reading#/media/File:Purim\\_1724\\_from\\_Juedisches\\_Ceremoniel\\_\(4110241535\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Megillah_reading#/media/File:Purim_1724_from_Juedisches_Ceremoniel_(4110241535).jpg)

At the time of upload, the image license was automatically confirmed using the Flickr API. For more information see Flickr API detail.



### Temple website

The Temple website [www.templeisraelwv.org](http://www.templeisraelwv.org) is now back online. Please let a Website Committee member know if you have news or suggestions. Contact the Temple office for more info.

**Social Action report****Pantry established at John Adams Middle School for food and necessities**

At press time, Sisterhood and the Social Action Committee planned to meet in late January to continue exploring how we can assist local schools in need. We planned to meet with Melissa Case, a teacher at John Adams Middle School.



Our mission is to partner with John Adams in a collective food-and-necessities pantry located within the school. Melissa has created the pantry, and it is now in need of inventory and support. In the event Sisterhood and Social Action find this project a viable endeavor, we will examine the possibility of expanding our outreach.

Many students in the Kanawha Valley are coming to school hungry and in need. It is unthinkable this should be happening right in our own back yard, and we intend to do whatever is possible to correct this sad situation.

*Gayle Twigger Shaw, chair*

[From the Covenant House website](#)**Food Pantry provides food and diapers twice a month to those in need**

The Food Pantry, located at Charleston's First Presbyterian Church, is open weekdays 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. With a referral from the Covenant House Drop-In Center, families and individuals in Kanawha County can receive food and diapers twice a month without fear of judgment or being turned away.

To learn more, contact David Bennett, Assistant Director at 304-344-8053 x24.

**The Drop-In center is a safe space open to all, weekdays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

The heartbeat of Covenant House, the Drop-In Center provides access to a variety of services, referrals and programs.

Referrals to employment, education, counseling services, and other assistance: contact Wilsie Herlihy, Drop-In Center Coordinator 304-344-8053 x12 or

[wherlihy@wvcovenanthouse.org](mailto:wherlihy@wvcovenanthouse.org)



The Covenant House annual fundraiser "Chef's Challenge" will be held at the Clay Center on Tuesday, March 27. For sponsorship info, email Angie at [adouglas@wvcovenanthouse.org](mailto:adouglas@wvcovenanthouse.org)

**Our Thoughtful Contributors****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/>

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.

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

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