From the rabbi's desk

Dear Congregants, Community members, and Friends,

Greetings! I hope that the High Holy Days proved to be meaningful and a source of uplift for you. It was a pleasure and a privilege for me to be with you for these holidays. If you have any comments about them, good or bad, please be in touch and let me know. I can't improve if I don't hear about things that need work; and of course, compliments (if any) are also gratefully accepted.

I want to express my appreciation for those of you who have already shared with me comments and suggestions about the services, and about High Holy Days in particular. Please know that I take those comments seriously, and I am working to address those things I can improve because I want your experience to be the best it can be.

I am aware of issues in the area of volume: I have been trying to remain close to the microphone so it will pick up my voice, but in a recent conversation it became clear to me that one reason it's sometimes hard to hear me is probably due to when I am facing the Ark or bending down towards the Torah, thus away from the microphone. I am looking at ways to work with the microphones and sound system to address that and other issues.

The results, based on some comments I received, are that what I have tried so far is better than prior services, but still needs more work. I will keep on

trying to make it the best possible – please continue to let me know your experience of it.

I gave page numbers for almost every page through the High Holy days because we were skipping pages and moving back and forth in the machzor (high holiday prayerbook). I am sure it was still confusing. Unfortunately, the way the book is set up, there is far more in it than is expected to be used, it is not arranged in the order of the past machzor, and there are also options for almost every prayer on what is to be included, so it can be overwhelming. I am planning before the next High Holidays to hold a class to examine the book in some detail, particularly at how it is constructed, what is in it, and what we will be using. I hope that will help a bit.

If you have any other suggestions, please don't hesitate to let me know. If you are feeling shy, or you think I might bite (!), please pass your comments and suggestions to me through a member of the ritual committee or the president of the congregation. I don't need to know who said it; I do need to know what you said – all constructive criticisms or suggestions are valuable.

At this point, we are in the home stretch of the holiday marathon, with Sukkot ending, leading into Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah at the start of October. After Oct. 2, we enter the month of Cheshvan, often called Mar-Cheshvan (bitter Cheshvan) because there are no special holidays included. (A little secret is that by the time we arrive

at Cheshvan most rabbis are *thrilled* to have a pause in the almost non-stop holiday mode we have had for the past month!)

Although our holiday celebrations will be on hold for a bit, our activities will not! Take a look at what is in store, and please plan to jump in and join me in as much as you have time, energy and interest to do. I am looking forward to seeing you at various events. And please note — a few items have changed dates or details, so note what is here and don't rely on prior information!

Joe Rabbi Joe Blair



Temple Israel will host a Klezmer concert by Klezmephonic, part of FestivALL Fall, on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. The show will feature traditional Jewish dance instructor Deborah Denenfeld leading the crowd in enjoying the music with their feet. See back page.

Schedule of October worship services

Friday, Oct. 5 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service, followed by a covered

dish dinner

Saturday, Oct. 6 10:30 a.m. "First Shabbat" morning service followed

by Torah study

Friday, Oct. 12 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service

Friday, Oct. 19 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service

Friday, Oct. 26 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service

From the Rabbi

Mi Sheberach announcement: a change in practice

I want to repeat that there is a change that has been implemented at the request of the Ritual Committee. Please note that during services I will announce the names of those for whom prayers for healing and wholeness are requested beforehand. The names will be read just prior to the Mi Sheberach prayer that we sing, but a name will only be read at this time if the person named agrees that their name is to be included in the announcement in advance of a given service.

How to make this happen: Names for the Mi Sheberach list can be sent to me ahead of the service at which they are to be read so I will have time to check with the person (if it is not you) and secure their permission to be included in the announcement list. You may send the name(s) to me by text or voicemail (304) 989-4014 or email RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

Please don't trust my memory and simply tell me a name!

Unless you tell me otherwise, names will be included for one week; they don't carry over from week to week. When you do request inclusion for multiple weeks, please give me

a sense of how long that might be – the default for multiple weeks absent a specific length of time will be roughly four weeks. Beyond that time, if it is still appropriate, you can always ask that a name be included again; please do so as long as it is to be included in the Mi Sheberach list.

Request for participants

Any adults interested in reading Torah (or Haftarah) during the year, and anyone interested in adult confirmation or celebrating an adult B'nai Mitzvah, please be in touch with me so I can plan for that to happen! If there are children who are coming up on B'nai Mitzvah (Bar or Bat), and wish to celebrate the event at the Temple, I invite the parents to talk with me about it.

Please let us know about milestones

The Sisterhood's Uniongram list is the source of information on significant milestone birthdays and anniversaries. Please do send that in when the request goes out for

information towards the end of this calendar year, so we will know about milestones to acknowledge. Also note a new idea that will be tried soon

Request for information

If there is something you think I need or even might need to know, please tell me, and don't assume someone else has! This is especially true for information related to anyone who is in the hospital (hospitals no longer give out information to clergy), anyone who is ill, anyone who might appreciate a call, visit, or a time to talk for any reason, and any significant changes or major events in someone's life (birth, death, milestone lifecycle event, education or job-related news). One way to remember to tell me is the guideline that if you think the Sisterhood Care Committee or the office should know, please share with me the information as well!

In the congregation

Refuah Shelemah/Mi Sheberach (Healing & Wholeness/ Blessings):

To those included in the recent Mi Sheberach lists at services:

Lois Coleman Kim Aaron Margie Hutt Daniel Cohn and family Gary Markham Rabbi Israel Koller Peggy Koller

And those who are now on the mend or healthy again:

Barbara Braun Tweddle
Gary Winter
Betsy Gooding
Karl Gattlieb
Fedor Poppelsdorf
Richard Holicker

Baruch Habah (Welcome):

We are always happy to welcome guests and visitors.
Please make yourself known to us so we can offer our hospitality to you.

The newest member of the Temple is Rabbi Earl Jordan. Known, and not truly new, in the usual sense, he has moved back to Charleston and become a member of the Temple.

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

Grandparents Shelly and David Winowich, parents Lauren and Spencer, and greatgrandparents Betsy and Roy Gooding and Natalie and Nick Winowich on the birth of Theia Laurie Lane.

Grandparents Terrie and Bill Rosenfeld, parents Jessica & Markus on the arrival of Emilia Maya Klausnitzer Rosenfeld. Parents of the bride Amy & David Shapiro on the marriage of their daughter Annie to Peter Hildenbrand.

Rabbi Joe Blair

TEMPLE ISRAEL

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www.templeisraelwv.org templeisraelwv@gmail.com David Shapiro, President Joseph M. Blair, Rabbi

Rabbis Emeriti Israel B. Koller Rabbi James D. Cohn, z"l October 2018 templeisraelwv@gmail.com

October yahrzeits

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

October 5th

Dottie Greenspon (6)

Bertha Sclove (6)

Frank B. Wotiz (6)

Jeanette Gotlieb (7)

Rebecca Blankstein (8)

Harold Freedman (8)

Amelia L. Hess (8)

Alan Land Susman (8)

Freda Gordon Kopelman (9)

Bernice "Bea" Cohen (10)

Leona Spigel (11)

Stella Hess Swarts (12)

October 12th

Bernard Sclove (13)

Sam Kopelman (17)

Madeline Erlich (19)

October 19th

Jacob Nusbaum (20)

Bertha "Bertie" Feldman (21)

Grace Ratowsky (21)

Augusta Angel (22)

Howard Coleman (24)

Sidney Gattlieb (24)

Lucille Goldfarb (25)

Karen Bramnik Syken (26)

October 26th

William L. Sloman (27)

Lena Baker (29)

Dorothy Rae Boiarsky (29)

Ira Loeb (29)

Dr. Myron I. Price (30)

Simon Meyer (31)

Alece Schwabe (Nov. 1)

Max Frankenberger (Nov. 2)

Robert Herzbach (Nov. 2)

Celia Jurin (Nov. 2)

Condolences

Baruch Dayan Ha'emet

[Traditional phrase said when we hear bad news, such as a serious illness or a death.]

Since the last bulletin was written, we have had two devastating losses within the Temple in a span of less than a week. Our community is poorer for each, and we are bereft. We note with deep sadness the passing of Jane P. Silverstein on August 25, and Rabbi Jim Cohn on August 27. May their memories be a blessing, and may their mourners be comforted from heaven.

Our congregation shares sympathies with Anne Fishkin and Bill Kroesser and their family on the recent death of Anne's brother, Richard Pollack. May his memory serve as an enduring blessing.

October at a glance

Monday, Oct. 1—Temple office closed in observance of Simchat Torah

Friday, Oct. 5 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service, followed by a covered dish dinner – no RSVP necessary

Saturday, Oct. 6 at 10:30 a.m. – "First Shabbat" morning service and Torah study

Monday, Oct. 8, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Sisterhood Schmooze: Bring your lunch, come when you can, leave when you must.

Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 10:30 a.m. – OLLI (WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at Temple Israel . Preregistration required. See p. 4 for more info.

Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 5:30 p.m. – Temple board meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. – Hebrew "crash course" taught by Rabbi Blair. First of five. See p. 4 for more info.

Friday, Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service

Sunday, Oct. 14 at 10 a.m. – Sisterhood board meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 10:30 a.m. – OLLI class taught by Rabbi Blair

Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. – Hebrew "crash course"

Thursday, Oct. 18, 7 – 10 p.m. – Klezmer concert and dancing, part of FestivALL Fall. Free and open to the public, seats are first come, first served. See back page for more info.

Friday, Oct. 19 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service

Sunday, Oct. 21, 2 – 4 p.m. – Sisterhood fundraiser: "Tea and Tour of the Temple" – tickets \$10 at the door. See p. 5 for more info.

Tuesday, Oct. 23 at 10:30 a.m. – OLLI class taught by Rabbi Blair

Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. – Hebrew "crash course"

Friday, Oct. 26 at 5:30 p.m. – Shabbat service

Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 10:30 a.m. – OLLI class taught by Rabbi Blair

Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m. – Hebrew "crash course"

Next month

Nov. 2 – 5:30 p.m. Shabbat service followed by covered dish dinner

Nov. 3 – 10:30 a.m. "First Shabbat" morning service followed by Torah study

Nov. 6 – 10:30 a.m. OLLI class taught by Rabbi Blair

Nov. 7 – 6 p.m. Hebrew "crash course"

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Rabbi Blair's programs

Focusing on the immediate future, here is the list of events and programs that are now upcoming. I look forward to sharing them with you. – Rabbi Joe Blair

Joint Simchat Torah Event at B'nai Jacob, Oct. 1 at 5:30 p.m.

We invited B'nai Jacob to join us at the Temple to decorate the Sukkah and enjoy a "pizza in the hut" in September and it was great! They are reciprocating by inviting us to join them for their Simchat Torah service on Monday, Oct. 1 at 5:30 p.m., after which there will be a light meal. This is an opportunity to dance with the Torah scrolls, so come kick up your heels.

"First Shabbat" – the first Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m., starting Oct. 6

In addition to the scheduled weekly Shabbat Friday evening services, Rabbi Blair continues the "First Shabbat" tradition on the first Saturday of each month. He will lead a short Shabbat morning service beginning at 10:30, followed by a Torah or Text study. The service will sometimes include reading from the sefer Torah, other times not, leaving more time for discussion. No prior knowledge is required - just bring an open mind to tease out new understandings. This month should be a great time to start - it is Parashat Bereshit, the beginning of the Torah with creation!

OLLI (WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) – five consecutive Tuesday morning sessions starting Oct. 9

Rabbi Blair will teach a five-session OLLI course starting Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 10:30 a.m., held at the Temple: "Bible Babes: Women of Valor and Their Stories in the Hebrew Scriptures." Come tease out these hidden gems in the text – no background required! The \$25 OLLI membership allows you to take as many courses this fall as you wish – see their catalog on the information center – including religion-based courses (one taught by Rabbi Urecki) as well as non-

religion. [Note to Temple members: if the OLLI membership fee is a problem, please be in touch with Rabbi Blair prior to the start of his course.]

"Absolute Beginner's Introduction to the Hebrew Alefbet and Vowels" – Five consecutive Wednesdays at 6 p.m., starting Oct. 10

Is Hebrew "Greek" to you? Always wanted to know what that funny writing was? Rabbi Blair is offering a "crash course" for anyone wanting to learn the language or to "brush up." This is from scratch – no prior knowledge required. Class will cover the alphabet, vowels, roots, some grammar and the beginnings of a liturgical vocabulary. The goal is to learn to decode – sound out any word you come across as well as recognize words that appear often in the liturgy. This is a bite-sized approach – with practice and homework, you will succeed!

"Introduction to Judaism" – selected Wednesday evenings starting Nov. 28 (time TBD)

A series of 10 one-hour stand-alone sessions. Rabbis Blair and Urecki will lead this series together, the first one to be held at the Temple on Nov. 28 (please note: change from previously announced start date), and the location will alternate between B'nai Jacob and the Temple after that. The rabbis will divide up some topics so that one will present on that subject entirely, while for others they will present their individual views. An evening service minyan will precede each session. The series is open to anyone and is "drop-in": you don't need to attend every one. The material will be of interest to those of any background or level of knowledge. For anyone who is new to or considering Judaism, this should be an excellent start: it will serve as the first part of a Jewish studies curriculum, a requirement for anyone considering converting to Judaism. Everyone is welcome.

"Pulpit Exchanges"

Rabbis Blair and Urecki have agreed to share (or swap) pulpits periodically. At

the first one, Rabbi Urecki will deliver the Devar Torah at the Oct. 19 Friday evening Shabbat service at the Temple, and Rabbi Blair will deliver the Devar Torah at the service at B'nai Jacob on Saturday morning, Oct. 20. Feel free to attend both and compare their approaches to the same Torah reading!

"Global Day of Jewish Learning"

Rabbis Blair and Urecki will be participating in an international celebration of Jewish learning in November. Communities around the world will all be focusing on the same theme – Extraordinary Passages: Texts & Travels. We will each offer a teaching around this theme. Details will be announced soon.

"The Two Rabbis"

Rabbis Blair and Urecki will together host a periodic session loosely based on the successful series "The Two Rabbis." It will likely take the form of a conversation on selected topics, something like "the Jewish view on X" or "Judaism and X," exploring topics such as afterlife, death and burial; halachah (Jewish law); or the meaning and purpose of prayer. Location and time will vary with each session. This first one is anticipated for November, with date and time to be announced soon. It is free and open to everyone.





Religious Coalition for Community Renewal

The dinner will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church on Corridor G and will benefit RCCR's Samaritan Inn.

Tickets cost \$75 each and can be purchased from the Religious

Coalition for Community Renewal www.rccr.org or (304) 346-6398.

October 2018 templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Sisterhood message

"Tea and Tour" Oct. 21 to feature Temple treasures and history, led by Ellie Schaul

The Sisterhood fundraiser "Tea and Tour" will be held Sunday, Oct. 21 from 2 until 4 p.m.

The event will feature Ellie Schaul as docent, leading guided tours to view the art and artifacts collections of the Temple. High tea will be served during the tour, with background music performed by a local group to be determined.

The tour will be an added feature of the 2018 FestivALL and will also be noted in an article to be written for the Charleston Gazette-Mail.

Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Gayle Twigger-Shaw, President



Sisterhood will host a Tea and Tour at the Temple, Sunday, Oct. 21, 2-4 p.m., as a fundraiser. This event is a tour of Temple art and artifacts conducted by Ellie Schaul. A high tea will be served concurrently, as attendees tour the building. Above: Detail from the "Breath of Life" tapestry by Muriel Nezhnie Helfman. Photo by Michael Keller.

YWCA's Sojourner's Shelter seeks household items to keep running smoothly

Sojourner's Shelter for Homeless Women and Families, which is run by the Charleston YWCA, continues to serve 70- 80 residents a day. That's more than 29,000 meals and overnight stays in a year.

To help the facility run smoothly it needs, always: new sheet sets and pillow cases, new pillows, snack foods, laundry detergent and plastic eating utensils.

Preparing a meal for them can also be a big help. Please contact Caroline Ostand if you have questions or would like to help.

Monday, Oct. 8
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Sisterhood Schmooze:
Bring your lunch, come
when you can, leave
when you must.

Contacting the rabbi

Rabbi Joe Blair is available by appointment.

Rabbi's all-hours cell phone number is 304-989-4014. *Please call this number in case of an emergency.*

This cell phone number is the best way to reach the Rabbi at all times.

He may be reached by email at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

Rabbi reads email regularly through the day, except on Jewish holidays or Shabbat, when he does not use the computer or electronics that require typing. Please note that both email and Facebook are not seen during these periods.

Messages on the Temple office voicemail will be checked periodically, but not nearly as frequently or regularly as the listed cell phone number.

Please let the Rabbi know if you or anyone you know is ill or would want a call or visit for any reason.

You are also invited to contact the Rabbi to arrange an appointment to

meet. The rabbi will be happy to set a mutually convenient time to meet or speak with you, so that he can offer you his full, undivided attention.

> The deadline for the November issue of the Bulletin is Monday, Oct. 15th.

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Our Thoughtful Contributors

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

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): checks should be made payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood, noting which fund on the memo line.
- 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.

IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER

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

Temple to host FestivALL Fall Klezmer concert Oct. 18 at 7 p.m., featuring Klezmephonic and dance instructor Deborah Denenfeld

Freylakhs, bulgars and horas – rollicking Eastern European dances – will be brought to life by the Ann Arbor, Mich.

-based Klezmer band Klezmephonic, at Temple Israel on Thursday, Oct. 18, 7-10 p.m.

The concert is a special program of the Friends of Old-Time Music and Dance (FOOTMAD) and part of FestivALL Fall.

The show is free and open to the public, with seating first come, first-served.

Integral to the experience, the concert will highlight the history and cultural influences of Klezmer music, a tradition of the Jews of Eastern Europe.

Originally consisting largely of dance tunes and instrumental display pieces for weddings and other celebrations, in the U.S. the music evolved considerably as Yiddish-speaking Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe came into contact with

American jazz.

In the second half of the program, professional dance leader and instructor

the audience to participate in the show as dancers.

Deborah's experience with traditional Jewish dance began with dancing at Family Club dinner dances, weddings

Deborah Denenfeld will invite

celebrations, and she now she leads contra dances and a project for veterans, Dancing Well: The Soldiers Project.

and bar/bat mitzvah

Sponsors for the evening include Temple Israel, B'nai Jacob Synagogue, FOOTMAD and FestivALL Fall.



Moving?

Please remember to let the Temple office know if you are moving or changing your email address or telephone number.

We need your current address to mail the Bulletin and have correct contact info for the Sisterhood yearbook. We can only get updates from you. October 2018 templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Thanks for making the holidays and Shabbat even more special

Holiday receptions

Rosh Hashanah reception – Temple board and Sisterhood board

Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast - Sisterhood

Oneg Shabbat receptions

Yes, an Oneg sponsorship helps in many ways: remembrance of a loved one and special times that bring a smile to your heart.

Sponsorships are still available. Please contact Judy Lundy to reserve your date(s) of choice, at (304) 744-4932 or jlundy43@gmail.com

Sept. 7 – Anne Fishkin in memory of her father, Harry A. Pollack

Sept. 14 – In honor of the special birthdays of Betsy and Roy Gooding, given by Betsy's children Wendy, Cindy, Shelly and Jeff

Sept. 28 – Natalie Winowich in honor of husband Nick's 96th birthday

Flowers on the bimah

Rosh Hashanah – In loving memory of Lenard Kushner, husband of Ann and father of David, Noah, and Adam; and by Ronni and David Spudich, in memory of Ronni's parents Helen and Edward B Cohen, and Ronni's brother Ricky Cohen.

Yom Kippur – In memory of Jacob Stern, by Betty and David Stern; and in memory of Philip and Jane P. Silverstein, by Leigh Sult and Peggy O'Connell.

Sept. 14 – In honor of the special birthdays of Betsy and Roy Gooding, given by Betsy's children Wendy, Cindy, Shelly and Jeff

Sept. 28 – In memory of Dr. Howard Klapper, given by Patricia Klapper Social Action Committee Report

New co-chairs invite you to build on the Temple's rich history of Tikkun Olam

This quote from the Talmud is our guide to address the "Issues of Conscience of Reform Judaism" that affect our community, state and nation. We are delighted to co-chair what we believe is a core of our Temple's rich history.

The Social Action

Committee has a long history of contributing to Tikkun Olam, healing our world. Working with others in the larger community for Civil and Human Rights — in the areas of race, immigration, reproductive rights, sexual orientation, class, mental health and health care, homelessness, prison reform and clean elections — we have led or contributed to many educational programs, resource fairs and forums.

We worked with the African American community during the Civil Rights Movement, held interfaith dialogues – including one with the Muslim community after 9/11, and are co-founders of Covenant House, the Religious Coalition for Community Renewal and Manna Meal.

We welcome you to join this sacred work as an active member of the committee. We will meet once a month to decide together what to focus on, work on these priorities, and bring to the board of trustees your interests and passions as we invite you to take a leadership role.

Save the Dates

Healthcare for All! A Community Forum, Cosponsored by West Virginians for Affordable Healthcare, at the Woman's Club of Charleston, Oct. 14 from 2 to 4 p.m.

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care Gala Fundraiser: Telling Our Story, at the Woman's Club of Charleston, Nov.8, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.

Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.

You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you to abandon it.

-The Talmud

The Religious Coalition for Community Renewal's (RCCR) 22nd Annual Beans, Cornbread & More Dinner, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m., at Redeemer Lutheran Church (on Corridor G).

Please contact either of us if you are interested in joining the committee or for more information.

Cookie Glasser, Co-chair Rachel Dash, Co-chair

Leora May Book Club next meeting Oct. 17

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m., at Aladdin Restaurant. The book is former U.S. Secretary of State

Madeline Albright's (right)
Fascism. It is a newer book but should be available at the various libraries.





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Temple website

The Temple website www.templeisraelwv.org
Is the easy way to stay current.
Please let the Website
Committee know if you have
news or suggestions. Contact the
Temple office for more info.