

Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXVIII
Bulletin No. 8

Pre-paid Seder RSVPs due by April 12

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

April 2019
Adar-II / Nisan 5779

From the rabbi's desk

Dear Temple Israel Congregants,
Community members, and Friends,

Shalom, and Greetings!

I am feeling teased and taunted by Spring! Daylight saving time began and warm and pretty days have come and gone more than once, making me impatient for the full and official change of seasons. Spring officially begins next week as I write this, but it can't come too soon. Not that this has been a terrible winter, but the nice days have been so inviting that I just want to luxuriate in the pleasant weather!

March was a full month at the Temple: Introduction to Hebrew, hosting the area religious leaders group, CARLA, the first of three scheduled Death Cafes and our joint Purim celebration with the Synagogue, held at B'nai Jacob.

April is already heavily booked with wonderful events: Covered dish dinners after services April 5 and May 3, and "First Shabbat" Saturday morning services with Torah study and noshes April 6 and on May 4.

Recent WVU OLLI courses were successful and I am looking ahead to two more in April. The first one covers Passover, while the second – led by Ellie Schaul with some assistance from me – focuses on the artwork of the Temple. See the Rabbi's Program Schedule for details on the topics of bimah, Seder and death. The Yom HaSho'ah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) service will be May 1

at B'nai Jacob. The reading of names May 2 will be held at the Charleston Town Center Mall from 10 AM to 3:30 PM. Please call the Temple office to make your reservation for a slot to read names.
This cannot be done by email.

is our commemoration of liberation and freedom, emancipation from enslavement, through the miraculous events of the plagues and the Exodus itself, and marks our Redemption as a people – thus it is often seen as the second side of the triad "Creation, Redemption, and Revelation." It is the middle stage as we move from "Creation" at Rosh HaShanah towards "Revelation" on Shavu'ot, coincides with the arrival of spring and the barley harvest, and is known variously as the spring holiday, time of our liberation, feast of matzah and festival of unleavened bread. This is also a holiday that focuses on "fours" and what that means.

One of the main features is avoiding any leavened products. This commemorates the flight from Egypt – so great was the haste there was no time for the dough to rise, so it baked into flat cakes in the heat of the sun – matzah.

Avoidance of leaven continues to be observed, but it also carries a further, spiritual meaning, where extraneous or unwelcome or unhealthy practices, concepts, and beliefs are also considered as a form

of leaven – something introduced from outside the source (literally, the airborne bacteria that triggered the fermentation process), and which we can remove in a form of spiritual cleaning and renewal.

Passover comes six months after Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, so it is the mid-point in the year when we evaluate progress and make course

(Continued on page 6)



Think Spring!
Think Bulbs!

**Sisterhood's 65th Annual
Holland Bulb Sale is here**

Please see p. 5

Living Coral Tulip Blend
Gardens will spring to life with dazzling shades of coral! It's the 2019 color of the year, and this vibrant Darwin Hybrid Blend is right on trend & quite an eye-catcher!
25 Bulbs for \$19.00!

As always, I was honored to be permitted to serve as a pastoral presence, a privilege for which I am grateful.

This time of year is always busy, a spiritual highlight for Jews. It is noted as the first month of the year, with the commandment to count from the start of this month to mark the calendar for our people, even though the annual calendar is based on the date of Rosh Hashanah. It

Schedule of April worship services

Friday, April 5	5:30 PM	<i>Shabbat service, followed by a covered dish dinner</i>
Saturday, April 6	10:30 AM	<i>"First Shabbat" morning service followed by Torah study</i>
Friday, April 12	5:30 PM	<i>Shabbat service</i>
Friday, April 19	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	<i>Shabbat service</i> <i>Congregational Passover Seder</i>
Friday, April 26	5:30 PM	<i>Shabbat service</i>

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.

Contacting the rabbi

Rabbi Joe Blair is available by appointment.

His all-hours cell phone number is **304-989-4014**.

PLEASE call this number to contact him for any reason.

Messages on the Temple office voicemail

will be checked periodically, but the best contact is the cell phone number shown here.

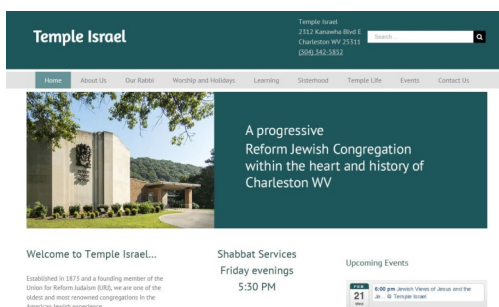
Rabbi Blair may be reached by email at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

He 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/Messenger are not seen during these

periods.

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 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 Temple website

www.templeisraelwv.org

Is the easy way to stay current.

Please contact the Website Committee or the Temple office if you have news or suggestions.

April at a glance

Wednesday, April 3 at 6:15 PM – Introduction to Judaism at the Temple

Thursday, April 4 at 5:30 PM – Special meeting of the congregation. Temple members: see the notice you received in the U.S. Mail.

Friday, April 5 – Covered dish dinner following the 5:30 PM Shabbat service. No RSVP necessary and there is no charge.

Saturday, April 6 at 10:30 AM – “First Shabbat” morning service and Torah

study. Parashat hashavuah Tazria, Shabbat HaChodesh (Lev. 12:1-13:59, Num. 28:9-15, Ex. 12:1-20).

Sunday, April 7 at 10 AM – Sisterhood cooking for Sojourner’s Shelter

Monday, April 8, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Sisterhood Schmoose

Wednesday, April 10 at Temple Israel at 10 AM – OLLI Short Course: Passover – history and meaning

Wednesday, April 10 at B’nai Jacob, 6:15

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The deadline for the May issue of the Bulletin is Monday, April 15th.

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David Shapiro, *President*
Joseph M. Blair, *Rabbi*

Rabbis Emeriti
Rabbi James D. Cohn, Z”L
Israel B. Koller

April yahrzeits

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

April 5th

Lylla Shinberg (6)
Lee Harry Kay (7)
Sam Hess (9)
Blanche E. Jacobson (9)
Ellis C. Amburgey Jr. (11)
Fanny C. Berman (11)
Bette Rascovar (11)
Simon Barton (12)
Joseph L. Galperin (12)
Maxwell Lopin (12)

April 12th

Josef Grossman (13)
Alma Goldberg (14)
Beatrice Jurin (14)
Bea Dorzback (15)
Anna Schneider (15)
Alcine Allen (16)
Bertie Cohen (17)
Lillian Mendeloff Lakin (17)
Sara H. White (17)

Louis Glasser (19)
Joseph Lopin (19)
Harry Pincus Jr. (19)

April 19th

Adam Aaron (20)
Louis W. Cohen (20)
Robert Gordon Markham (21)
William F. Wood (21)
Norma Hess Builtman (22)
Edith Goldstein Hallam (22)
Bill Howley (23)
Rubin Sokolovsky (23)
Beatrice Hess (24)
Henita Gattlieb Picket (24)
Settie Swarts (25)
Estelle Kasanof Gottlieb (26)
Dr. Morris I. Mendeloff Jr. (26)
Sabina Rosenberg (26)

April 26th

Herschel Shapero (29)
Bernice Rosenthal Roche (30)
Anne Mae Walter (May 1)
Sylvia Glasser (May 2)
Julius Hess (May 2)
Alvin Julius Lindenberg (May 2)
Mary Lillian Dees (May 3)
Harry Greenspon (May 3)
Cecil R. Sessions (May 3)
Henry Sloman (May 3)

Condolences on p. 5.

April at a glance (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

PM – Introduction to Judaism:
“Jewish Literature”

Thursday, April 11 at B’nai Jacob at 10
AM – OLLI Short Course: Passover –
music

Friday, April 12 – deadline for Temple
Israel congregational Seder pre-paid
reservations

Friday, April 12 at 10:30 AM – OLLI Short
Course: Temple Israel Art

Friday, April 12 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service

Sunday, April 14 at 10 AM – Combined
Sisterhood board and general
membership meeting, brunch and
program. Election of officers.

Sunday, April 14 at 5 PM – Bimah
Etiquette and Choreography

Tuesday, April 16 at B’nai Jacob at 10
AM – OLLI Short Course: Passover –
food

Tuesday, April 16 at 5:30 PM – Temple
board meeting

Wednesday, April 17 at Temple Israel at
10 AM – OLLI Short Course:
Passover – Chocolate Seder

Friday, April 19 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service

Friday, April 19 at 6 PM – Congregational
Passover Seder – you must RSVP
with your check no later than April
12.

Friday, April 26 – Temple office closed
for the seventh day of Passover

Friday, April 26 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat
service

Sunday, April 28 at 6 PM – Charleston

Death Café – free and open to the
public

Next month

Wednesday, May 1 at 6 PM at B’nai
Jacob – Yom HaSho’ah (Holocaust
Remembrance Day) service

Thursday, May 2 at Charleston Town
Center Mall 10 AM – 3:30 PM –
“Unto Every Person There is a
Name.” To schedule a slot, call the
Temple office. No emails, please.

Friday, May 3 – Covered dish dinner
following the 5:30 PM Shabbat
service. No RSVP necessary and
there is no charge.

Saturday, May 4 at 10:30 AM – “First
Shabbat” morning service and Torah
study. Parashah Acharei Mot and
Shabbat Machar Chodesh (Lev. 16:1
-18:30).



Rabbi Blair's programs in April

Focusing on the next month or so, here is the list of upcoming events and programs. I look forward to sharing them with you.

OLLI Short Course: Passover

Rabbi Urecki, Marilyn Urecki and I are offering a four-session course on the topic of Passover. I will teach the first session that looks at the history and meaning of Passover. Rabbi Urecki will teach the second session on its music. Marilyn will teach the third session on its food. All three of us will lead the fourth session, the Chocolate Seder. The dates are April 10 (Temple), 11 (Synagogue), 16 (Synagogue), and 17 (Temple).

OLLI Short Course: Temple Art

I am delighted to assist Ellie Schaul as she once again leads a tour of the art within the Temple. This will be on April 12. A reprise of the October Sisterhood program.

Friday Shabbat Service & Covered Dish Dinner



April 5. Bring food – or if you can't (or forget), just come anyway – I can't imagine anyone will go away hungry! There will also be one May 3.

"First Shabbat"

Saturday April 6 at 10:30 AM. A short Shabbat morning service, followed at 11:15 by a Torah/Text study. The parashat hashavuah (weekly reading) is Tazria, Shabbat HaChodesh - Lev. 12:1-13:59, Num. 28:9-15, Ex. 12:1-20). No prior knowledge is required. Join us for an uplifting service and a fun conversation

(with a nosh to follow!). If you can't make it this month, we will meet again May 4, for Parashah Acharei Mot and Shabbat Machar Chodesh - Lev. 16:1-18:30.

Introduction to Judaism

Rabbi Urecki and I will continue to offer this series as schedules permit. These are scheduled on selected Wednesday evenings 6:15-7:30 PM (with an opportunity to attend the evening minyan before each session). The series is free and open to anyone, and it is "drop-in"; you don't need to attend all sessions. Bring your questions – we would love to include you in the conversation. Lifecycle has been a recent topic and there may be things left to discuss – we will be guided by your interest. Tentative schedule:

- Lifecycles &/Or Calendar/Holidays (Major & Minor); April 3 at the Temple
- Jewish Literature; April 10 at B'nai Jacob
- Jewish History; May 8 at the Temple
- Contemporary Topics; Synagogue/Temple Life; May 22 at the Temple
- Conversion; May 29 at B'nai Jacob
- Qs & Conclusion, June 12 (date subject to confirmation) at the Temple

Introduction to Hebrew (continuing)

The Introduction to Hebrew course will continue, but we need to reconsider dates – we have run out of Wednesday evenings! I will send an email to those registered and try to work out our next meeting. Please consider what you would like to see as our next steps.

"Havdalah And..."

Our first Havdalah evening was March 9. We enjoyed noshes, viewed a wonderful documentary film, and we concluded with a short but lovely Havdalah ritual. Our next program will be in May. Watch for more details.

"Bimah Etiquette & Choreography" **Sunday, April 14 at 5 PM**

A repeat of the course offered last fall. Come talk about what to do when you're on the Bimah and how to serve as a master of ceremonies for the Torah service. Bring your questions. Watch for more information in weekly reminders.

Congregational Passover Seder Friday, April 19 at 6 PM

Please send your pre-paid reservations to the Temple office no later than Friday, April 12. Adults \$15 • Students (all ages) \$5 • Pre-kindergarten \$2



Charleston Death Café

WOW! Who could have expected it? We had huge interest in this event. The next one is planned for April 28 from 6 to 8 PM. I hope you will join me – and invite others who might be interested.

What could be nicer? A cup of tea (or coffee), a little cake, a chance to talk about death....

It used to be that one would never speak in polite society about money, sex, religion, or death. It seems that the last of the taboos today is death – but being taboo does not eliminate the need to discuss it.

At a Death Café, practically any topic of conversation relating to death is welcome and permitted: whether it concerns your own feelings about death, an experience related to the death of another, the process of advance- and pre-planning, practical/logistical issues, or any questions you want to ask. Death Cafés are not affiliated with any religion or product, they have no agenda, and there is no sales pitch or pressure. No one is judged.

In the congregation

[This includes only those who have approved having their name included.]

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

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

Linda Brogan
Lois Coleman
Jonathan Freedman
Brian Hudnall
Margie Hutt
Rabbi Israel Koller
Peggy Koller
Gary Markham
Kevin Smith
Craig Phillip Snyder

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

Please tell us about these events so we can acknowledge them as appropriate.]

To those who reached milestones in the past month, and to all who had any birthday or anniversary or other event worth celebrating! Among those we know who are/were to be acknowledged we include:

Glenn Goldfarb, Roy Herzbach, Marsha Albert, Zel Lewis, Pam Pushkin, and Lynn and Karl Gattlieb.

In addition:

Ben Kessler on being hired for a position in SC.

Ben Freedman on receiving the award of a Fulbright scholarship for a year of study in Japan.

Tiana Hall on being accepted for the Taglit Birthright program for this summer.

Baruch Dayan Haemet:

Our congregation shares sympathy with the family of Anne Fishkin on the recent death of her cousin, Rachel Cassidy. May her memory serve as an enduring blessing.

Sisterhood Message

April 14 meeting: election of officers, brunch and program; bulb sale starts

Sisterhood will hold our combined board and general membership meeting, brunch and program on Sunday, April 14 beginning at 10 AM. At this meeting we will elect officers for 2019-2020.

The cost of the meal, which follows the meeting, is \$10. Our program will be "The Benefits of Chair Yoga" with Barbara Steinke and Sue Julian.

At the Sisterhood board meeting Feb. 10, the Nominating Committee reported the following slate of officers for the 2019-2020 term:

President - Gayle Twigger-Shaw
Vice President - Millie Snyder
Secretary - Ronnie Cohen Spudich
Treasurer - Betty Stern

Financial Secretary - Judy Lundy

We encourage all our members to attend this meeting.

Our main fundraiser, the 65th Annual Holland Bulb Sale, starts this month. Please see the front page of this Bulletin and at right.

Gayle Twigger-Shaw, President



Check your mailbox this month for the soon-to-be-received flyers and order forms for Holland bulbs.

WE look forward to this OUR 65th year as being one of our best.

Yes, we are grateful for your support, which allows Sisterhood to continue local assistance in the community.

*Judy Lundy,
Holland Bulb Sale Chair*



All bulb sale photos courtesy Doornbosch Bros.



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): 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.

Important reminder to Temple members

A Special Meeting of the Congregation will be held at 5:30 PM on Thursday, April 4.

As a Member, we have mailed you a notice describing the purposes for holding this Special Meeting.

We hope to see you on April 4!

From the Rabbi's Desk—cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

corrections aspiring to the highest possible achievement. This self-assessment and adjustment in behavior reinforces what we seek at the High Holidays. Likewise, the High Holy Days are six months after Passover, so we can see how effective we have been.

Passover is probably my favorite holiday because its rituals are so very family and community centric, and it is imbued with rich and redolent associations of tradition, faith and symbolism.

May this be a time of emancipation for all, in whatever ways are needed, and may we all be blessed with health, wellbeing, prosperity, and joy at this time of marking and celebrating the realization of our covenant with the divine in our lives.

May we all be blessed with health, wellbeing, prosperity, and joy.

Rabbi Joe Blair

West Virginia Symphony Chorus and Marshall University Chamber Choir sing Bernstein April 6 in Huntington & April 7 in Charleston



Leonard Bernstein in 1955.
Library of Congress.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Leonard_Bernstein_NYWTS_1955.jpg

The West Virginia Symphony Chorus and The Marshall University Chamber Choir will join in tribute to Leonard Bernstein in concerts on April 6 in Huntington (7 PM, Johnson Memorial Methodist Church) and on April 7 in Charleston (7:30 PM, Christ Church United Methodist).

The program features the two choirs together in Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," a setting of verses from Psalms 108, 100, 23, 2, 131 and 133, in Hebrew, in the distinctive Bernstein style found in *West Side Story*.

Leonard Bernstein would have been 100 years old in 2018.

The Symphony Chorus also will perform Jeffrey Van's "A Procession Winding Around Me," an evocative setting of Walt Whitman's Civil War Poems, accompanied by Dr. Julio Alves on guitar, and the MU Chamber Choir will perform "Three Nocturnes" by Dan Forrest and "A Jubilant Song" by Norman Dello Joio.

Thanks for making Shabbat even more special

Oneg Shabbat receptions

March 1 – Beth and Gary Winter and cousin Carol Mack, in memory of our moms and “tantes,” Frances Sokolovsky and Doris Mack.

March 8 – Liz and Louis Weisberg, just because

March 22 – Judy Lundy and Nathan Jurin, in memory of Charles “Chuck” Lundy and Harvey Jurin, grandfathers of Nathan Jurin

March 29 – Ditty Markham in honor of Gary Markham’s birthday



Flowers on the bimah

March 1 – Beth and Gary Winter and cousin Carol Mack, in memory of our moms and “tantes,” Frances Sokolovsky and Doris Mack.

March 22 – Judy Lundy and Nathan Jurin, in memory of Charles “Chuck” Lundy and Harvey Jurin, grandfathers of Nathan Jurin

If you would like to sponsor Shabbat flowers, please get in touch with Betty Stern. The cost is \$35, your check payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.

Social Action Committee Corner

Protecting WV seniors and the disabled; Consultation on Conscience May 19-21

Monthly Committee meetings continue to be well attended, and on March 4 included three guests whose work and interests coincided with our scheduled presentation and discussions.

Guests included Debbie Greenberg, who works in the field of senior services, shared her gratitude for her warm reception at Shabbat services. We had offered her an invitation since her interests coincided with our program. Other guests included Gail Bellamy and Dan Kurland, who returned to Charleston after retirement, have family here and are new members of B’nai Jacob. Because of their involvement in environmental matters, they will be working with the Committee on our climate change initiatives.

We discussed legislative bills that affect social justice. At our April meeting we will discuss improving the Committee’s and ultimately the congregation’s ability to react to these issues, particularly those that might call for a quick response of support. We will continue to prepare resolutions for board approval and consider joining with other faith communities.

Committee member Roy Herzbach, an attorney with Legal Aid of WV’s Elder Abuse program, provided a comprehensive description of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, along with materials describing its code of ethics, complaint categories, financial exploitation, those at risk, financial exploiters, warning signs, actions that can be taken and resources.

Roy also spoke about the WV Aging and Disability Resource Network’s long-term services, funded by the WV Lottery, which include care giver stress-relief programs and resources, community and institutional services, substance abuse and Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Waiver issues. Despite funding cuts, Adult Protective Services caseworkers must help clients deal with financial vulnerabilities, home health care risks, rural isolation and service inaccessibility, poor transportation,

and mandatory arbitration. He made available pocket guides on Financial Exploitation for clergy, social workers, and administrators, and noted there are additional guides for hairdressers, law enforcement and others working with the elderly.

In addition, Roy provided an overview of the legal issues managed by Legal Aid staff attorneys related to guardianship and conservatorship, and how his office deals with the abuse of elders and the disabled with only three-and-a-half lawyers.

The Committee continues work on a comprehensive Climate Change initiative for the Temple, to begin in the fall. A subcommittee will plan an event which will include other faith communities, local organizations, community leaders and others, on a variety of Climate Change problems and remedies. Everyone is invited to share their ideas.

We also will be considering ways to inform and share with our Jewish community the issues of conscience we have been learning about. Committee members Dona Hall, Tiana Hall and Cookie Glaser are registered to attend the 2019 Consultation on Conscience, organized by the Religious Action Center (RAC) May 19-21 in Washington, DC. The conference is an opportunity to improve connections within organizations, network with other communities facing similar challenges, and share successful organizing and advocacy skills. With social justice leaders from across the Reform Movement, the discussions will center on our beliefs and values, as well as our roles in charting a path toward repairing the world.

Cookie Glaser, Co-chair

Rachel Dash, Co-chair





**"Unto Every Person There Is a Name"
2019 Worldwide Commemoration of
Victims of the Holocaust**

Dear Friends:

Join the Charleston Jewish Community on

Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 6 PM

for a *Service of Remembrance at B'nai Jacob Synagogue*

1599 Virginia Street East, Charleston, WV 25311

conducted by Rabbis Victor Urecki and Joe Blair

and for the

**25th Annual "Unto Every Person There Is a Name"
Holocaust Memorial Program**

Thursday, May 2, 2019, between 10 AM and 3:30 PM,

at the Charleston Town Center Mall, Clendenin Street entrance,
formerly Macy's Court

We would be honored to have you join with family, friends
and neighbors to read names of those murdered.

To schedule a preferred time slot,
call Greg Proctor, at Temple Israel, 304-342-5852
Mon-Fri, 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

Please note, the office will be closed
Thursday, March 28 & Friday, March 29
Friday, April 19 & Friday, April 26

Co-Chairs: Jackie Artz, Lynn Meyer

Committee members: Robin Godfrey, Marc Slotnick,
Betty Stern, Beth Winter

Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)
Federated Jewish Charities