

TEMPLE ISRAEL BULLETIN

**Volume LXXIX
Bulletin No. 2**

**November 2019
Cheshvan - Kislev 5780**

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Dear Temple Israel Congregants, Community members, and Friends,

Shalom, and Greetings!

I write this just after the High Holy Days. It was a pleasure and an honor for me to be able to share these Holidays with you. I hope that you found them meaningful and uplifting. What a joy to experience the services in the beautifully refurbished sanctuary in a comfortable and welcoming space! If you have any suggestions for how to make the experience better or more uplifting, please let me know, or tell Ronni Spudich (Chair, Ritual committee) or Mary Rich Maloy (chair, Rabbi Liaison committee).

There is much I want to tell you. Probably more than will fit in a single bulletin!

To start, I hope you will attend and participate in two big events that are coming up early this month.

The first one is November 3rd, 2-5 pm; the Interfaith Forum on Climate Change, sponsored by the Social Action Committee. There will be tons of information, wonderful presentations and speakers, a chance to find out more about the situation, and even some cool things to check out! Be sure to put this on your calendar. There is a poster/flyer attached to this email.

Second, on November 9th, 8 pm, the Jewish community as a whole is sponsoring a concert by the amazing Jewish-American musical group, SAFAM. If you don't already know the music of this Boston based six man group, definitely come and prepare to be entertained and captivated! Those who know of them are very excited that we have been able to pull off such a major win by bringing them here. Their repertoire includes old standards, original works, and classic material! You really don't want to miss this! No cost to attend, but you need to RSVP to reserve your seat (304-685-8764, 304-345-6626, or 304-541-6146). Again, there is a poster/flyer attached to this email.

Looking at the coming month:

November 1st at 10-11:30 am I invite you to join me for an Interfaith Devotional event at Temple Israel, led by the Baha'I community. The focus is on *Hope for the Family*. I will be participating, and would welcome any or all who wish to join me. This is an

outgrowth of the Peace Rose initiative that the Baha’I community offered, as a part of which they planted a peace rose on our property (near the door to the religious school wing). We will gather in the Chapel, and they have planned for the entire event.

Our regular covered dish dinners return on November 1st, following the Friday evening service at 5:30 pm. Bring something to share, if you can, and join us for a meal and the Oneg Shabbat that follows.

Saturday morning, November 2nd, is the next First Shabbat, when we will have an abbreviated Shabbat morning service followed by a Torah Study, with noshes. 10:30 am for the service, ~11:15 for the Torah study. The Parashah of the week is Noah, Gen. 6:9-11:32 (our focus will be primarily on 6:9-8:14, the reading for Triennial Year 1 in the reading cycle).

The Friday evening Shabbat service on November 8th will be our observation of Krystallnacht, as well as our commemoration honoring Veterans, so please join us for that evening.

November 9th at 8-10 pm we will enjoy the music of Safam (see above).

The first session of the level 2 Introduction to Hebrew course will be held on November 13th at 5 pm in the Chapel. We will be working on prayers that are part of our regular liturgy. You are welcome to join in – the only prerequisite is that you be able to recognize the Hebrew letters and vowels, so you can sound out what we are reading. This course is free, and open.

The First session of the Two Rabbis series for this year is also on November 13th at 6:30 pm. This month it will be at the Temple.

November 17th is the Global Day of Jewish Learning, and there will be a program at 5 pm at the Temple. Please join me there.

Also, November 17th at 7-8:30 pm is the first Death Café for this congregational year. This is an opportunity for anyone who wishes to come and talk about anything that is related to death. These events were well attended and very popular last year. Come, join the conversation.

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 28th. The Friday evening Shabbat service on November 29th will be led by members of the Ritual committee. If you wish to participate, please contact Judy Lundy.

Just to put it on your radar, please note that the Congregational Chanukah Dinner will be on Sunday, December 29th. As always, you must RSVP to the office by December 23rd, and your check is your receipt.

Please note: the Ritual Committee requested that we experiment with having Torah read at Friday Shabbat services twice a month. We will begin that practice, with short Torah readings generally on the 1st and 3rd Friday. In November, that will be readings from Noah and Vayera.

I am seeking to find interest level in three Adult education initiatives that are possible. Please let me know if you would want to commit to any or all of these. I am thinking of a monthly schedule for the first two, and something less regular for the third. Please let me know if you find any of these interesting and would consider committing to attending.

1. Chai Mitzvah. This is a monthly meeting to discuss a selected topic using a variety of Torah, Rabbinic, and Other Jewish texts. It is a curriculum that is provided to congregations on a subscription basis, with materials provided for the people that sign up in advance. Topics might include Adult Rites of Passage, Tzedakah and Philanthropy, Interpersonal Relationships, Gratitude, Mussar, Judaism and the Environment, or Death and Loss. They describe it on the website as: Chai Mitzvah is a program to enhance Jewish engagement. Like a book group, Chai Mitzvah network groups meet monthly with text-based source books on Jewish topics. Each person in the group builds their 'Jewish Bucket List' by completing 5 steps throughout the program:
 - a. Meet monthly with your Chai Mitzvah group to discuss the monthly sourcebook topics
 - b. Adopt or deepen a ritual or spiritual practice
 - c. Identify something to learn
 - d. Engage in a social action project of your choosing
 - e. Celebrate the Chai Mitzvah journey with a certificate of completion; a tree is also planted in Israel to honor your journey

This cost is \$72 for the Congregation, plus \$36/person, payable in advance.

2. Making Prayer Real. The Making Prayer Real Course curriculum offers an innovative, spiritual dynamics approach to learning prayer and liturgy. Outstanding teachers are brought into the classroom via video, beginning a conversation that challenges students and draws them into dialogue with prayer, the Siddur, their clergy and each other. Skills are emphasized before theology as a workshop atmosphere is cultivated. As students explore numerous traditional and alternative prayer practices, they discover their preferences and abilities, crafting their own relationship to Jewish prayer as individuals and as members of the community.

The cost of this curriculum is \$350 for as many members of the Congregation as participate.

3. Informal Discussions and Dialogues. A loosely connected series of programs and dialogues, spaced out through the year, that would be centered on the theme of Issues and Concerns that Arise for Many Women. Some topics might be Hopes and Wishes for your Daughter/Granddaughter, Spirituality

and Community, Ethical & Spiritual Wills, Loss & Grieving as Friends/Neighbors and Relatives/Family/Spouses Fade Away, Conversations from Generation to Generation on Various Themes, Loss & Legacy, Roles and Changes with Age, Isolation and Engagement, Interfaith Families, Grieving and Accepting Losses/Change, and Health and Living a Fulfilling Life.

I hope you will participate in many of our services and activities, and take advantage of whatever interests you from among all that is offered. I look forward to seeing you.

B'virvat shalom,

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

CONTACTING THE RABBI & THE OFFICE

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.

He 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 **Email, Text, and Facebook/Messenger are not seen during these periods.**

Messages on the Temple office voicemail will be checked periodically, but irregularly: the best and most certain contact is the 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 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.

You may call the Office at 304-342-5852. If there is no one there to answer, you can choose to leave a message on the voicemail, or (the much better choice for quick responses) call the rabbi's cell phone, 304-989-4014.

You may email the office at TempleIsraelWV@gmail.com, but until Greg Proctor returns to work on a regular basis, emails will not be seen immediately or regularly. If the matter is urgent or time-sensitive, please email the rabbi at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com.

IN THE CONGREGATION

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

Refuah Shelemah/Mi Sheberach (Healing & Wholeness/Blessings) to those who have been included in recent Mi Sheberach lists at services, and wishes for continued good health for those who are on the mend or have returned to full health:

Lois Coleman
Jonathan Freedman
Robin Godfrey
Pam Goldfarb
Margie Hutt
Rabbi Israel Koller
Peggy Koller
Gary Markham
Greg Proctor
June Warhoftig

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

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

Caroline & Paul Ostand on the birth of a grandchild, Margo Elaine Fesman, 7 lb 14 oz, on 10/13/2019, to David and Maria Fesman of Cincinnati.



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

Doris & Jack Goldfarb, Gary Winter, Millie Snyder, Alan Fleischmann, Gloria Kelley, Ken Kleeman, Karen Blair, Betty Stern, Jill Epstein, and Norma Winter

If you have a milestone event, or any birthday, anniversary, or life event that is worthy of celebration, please let us acknowledge and celebrate it with you! Tell the Rabbi about it.

COMMITTEE DOINGS

Library Committee – Mary Rich Maloy

New in our library this month:

* Making Prayer Real: Leading Jewish Spiritual Voices on Why Prayer is Difficult and What to Do About It — by Rabbi Mike Comins

*How To Fight Anti-Semitism ——— by Bari Weiss

Sisterhood – Gayle Twigger-Shaw

Sisterhood announces a new fundraiser: note cards displaying individual artworks seen throughout the Temple. These are beautiful to send as correspondence and suitable for framing. The cards are affordable and collectible. See the display in the Social Hall. Contact Caroline Ostand to purchase a set.

Social Action Committee - Tzedakah

Attached to this email is a flyer concerning the Adopt a Family program for this year. We thank Richard Hess and David MacAfee for taking the food collected over the High Holidays to the food pantry.

With Appreciation to All Who Help Enhance our Enjoyment of Shabbat & Holidays

Oneg Sponsors

If you wish to sponsor an Oneg in honor or memory of someone or an event, please be in touch with Judy Lundy, 304-744-4932 or jlundy43@gmail.com.

October 25th – Sponsored by Gloria Kelley & Alan Fleischmann in honor of all the “October babies”.

November 1st – Our Oneg and Bimah flowers this evening are given in loving memory of our sister, Beth Brown Morgan, who passed away on July 12, age 78, and also to honor our late parents and grandparents, Ruth and Lake Brown, Sr., and Goldie and Sam Mendelsohn; three generations of membership in the Temple, by Lauri and Brit Harwood and Evelyn and Lake Brown.

November 8th – in honor of our Veterans, and in memory of Ellis C. Amburgey, Sr. father of Judy Lundy.

November 22nd – David & Shelly Winowich, just because

Bimah Flower Sponsors

To sponsor flowers for a service or event please contact Betty Stern, 304-343-7375 or BettyS1318@aol.com.

October 25th – Gary and Ditty Markham in memory of the Armistead family - Lauren, Kristin, Patty and Ray

November 1st – Our Oneg and Bimah flowers this evening are given in loving memory of our sister, Beth Brown Morgan, who passed away on July 12, age 78, and also to honor our late parents and grandparents, Ruth and Lake Brown, Sr., and Goldie and Sam Mendelsohn; three generations of membership in the Temple, by Lauri and Brit Harwood and Evelyn and Lake Brown,

November 8th – Given by Judy Lundy and Nathan Jurin in memory of Celia Jurin.

November 29th – Given by Judy Lundy in memory of her father Elis Clay Amburgey, Sr.

Security Committee

The board and the security committee wish to thank the congregation for their cooperation and understanding as we implement the systems and new procedures that have been determined as best and in the interest of the wellbeing of our congregants and staff.

It is not complete as this is written: it is a work in progress: we have the system partially in place, and are working diligently to complete the implementation phase, but we are dependent on the speed with which the contractor can complete the work.

While we are in transition, and until we work out all the kinks and bumps, there are likely to be a few hiccups along the way. We appreciate your good will and understanding.

Please know that we are working to make the system both as unobtrusive as possible, and at the same time, as robust as possible to assure the safety and security of our members and visitors.

We are in the process of planning some training exercises for congregants, and will also be establishing and implementing new procedures for access. Once all is in place and working, it should be virtually as easy and convenient to access the building as it has been in past.

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns, please convey them to the committee chair, David Shapiro, or congregation president, Josh Barrett.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Friday, Nov 1st at 10 am, Interfaith Devotional service at Temple Israel, led by the Baha’I community of Charleston. In the Chapel.

Friday, Nov 1st at 5:30 pm. Shabbat service. Covered dish dinner following the service. Sponsored Oneg. NO RSVP required. Torah reading: Noah

Saturday, Nov 2nd at 10:30 am. First Shabbat morning abbreviated service, followed by a Torah study at ~11:15, with noshes. Torah reading: Noah

Friday, Nov 8th at 5:30 pm. Shabbat service, including observation of Krystallnacht, and honoring Veterans. Sponsored Oneg.

Friday, Nov 15th at 5:30 pm. Shabbat service. Torah reading: Vayera.

Friday, Nov 22nd at 5:30 pm. Shabbat service. Sponsored Oneg.

Friday, Nov 29th at 5:30 pm. Shabbat service. Lay-led; contact Judy Lundy to participate.

NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

Friday, Nov 1st @ 5:30 PM – Shabbat service. Catered dinner to follow – No RSVP required.
Saturday, Nov 2nd @ 10:30 AM – “First Shabbat” morning service and Torah study.
Sunday, Nov 3rd @ 2-5 PM – Social Action Committee Interfaith Climate Change Summit.
Friday, Nov 8th @ 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, with Krystallnacht observed and Veterans honored.
Saturday, Nov 9th @ 8-10 PM – SAFAM Concert.
Monday, Nov 11th @ 11:30-1:30 PM – Sisterhood Schmooze
Tuesday, Nov 12th @ 5:30 PM – Temple Board meeting
Wednesday, Nov 13th @ 5 PM – Intro to Hebrew Level 2
Wednesday, Nov 13th @ 6:30 PM – Two Rabbis “Judaism & ...” program @ Temple.
Sunday, Nov 17th @ 10 AM – Sisterhood Board meeting
Sunday, Nov 17th @ 5-6:30 PM – Global Day of Jewish Learning class.
Sunday, Nov 17th @ 7-8:30 PM – Charleston Death Café.
Friday, Nov 15th @ 5:30 PM – Shabbat service.
Friday, Nov 22nd @ 5:30 PM – Shabbat service.
Thursday, Nov 28th – Thanksgiving Day
Friday, Nov 29th @ 5:30 PM – Shabbat service (Lay led)

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions will be listed in the next bulletin

November Jahrzeits

November 1st

Max Frankenberger
Robert Herzbach
Celia Jurin
William F. Hoss
Seymour Kantor
Joseph Klee
Louis Goldfarb
Charles McHale
Floy M. Sessions
Eleanor "Ellie" Burka
Carl H. Lehman
Micheal M. "Mike" Margolis
Edwin Stabins
Madeline Erlich

November 8th

Joseph Gotlieb
Florine Marks Isaac
Susan Jubelirer Nesi
Sam Badner
Louis Cohen
Lilla Wolf
Barbara Brooks
Albert Schwabe
Ellis C. Amburgey, Sr.
Bernard Gottlieb
Jean Merz Klee
Sydney M. Kleeman

November 15th

Anna Barton
H.H. Wills

Louis Jordan
Esther Mendeloff
Edith Hartley Aaron
Frances W. Freedman
Nina Poppelsdorf
Sadie Shane
Edith Burnett

November 22nd

Minnie Hess
Morton A. Lewis
Harriet B. "Cissy" Abrams
Doris Kleeman Leopold
Reba Markstein Lindenberg
Jane Glaser
Bernard H. Jacobson
Carol Katz
Robert Albert
Reba Blustein Cohen

November 29th

Bob Baer
Maxine Stabins
Joanne Medeloff Misaqi
Mary Beth Chadwick
Fran Fahey
Frances B. Kay
Edward B. Cohen
Dr. Leonard M. Eckmann
Goldie Mendelsohn
Lavalie Bixby Hoss
Howard J. Klapper