

# Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXIX  
Bulletin No. 5

Covered Dish Dinner Jan. 10

January 2020  
Tevet / Shevat 5780

## From the Rabbi's Desk

Dear Temple Israel Congregants, Community members, and Friends,

Shalom, and Greetings!

I am writing you as we prepare for Hanukkah, though this Bulletin probably won't reach you till the end of the holiday. I am looking forward to the pleasure of seeing many of us gathered at the Hanukkah dinner on Dec. 29.

I pray your Festival of Lights will be/is/has been a time of joy, with divine light filling your world and enlightening every corner or your existence. May the spirit of renewal and the energy of re-invigoration permeate and enrich you and all around you.

Let me also wish you a happy and healthy secular new year! Not a religious holiday, and not officially on the Jewish or Israeli calendars – it is observed in Israel as “Sylvestre” under the heading, why not take advantage of any chance to celebrate? I hope it is a good day, leading into a wonderful year for all of us.

The only religious holiday to note in January is Asarah Be'Tevet, the fast of 10 Tevet, which falls on Jan. 7, commemorating the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar that led to the conquest and destruction of the first Temple in 586 BCE.

Our next holiday will be Tu Be'Shevat in February. We will hold our Four Worlds adult Seder on Sunday, Feb. 9 at 5:30 PM at Temple Israel, and it is open to the entire Jewish community. We are planning it now and it will likely be catered, so RSVPs will be due by Feb. 1, and there may be a cost of \$10 per person. Full information will be sent out shortly in a Reminder Announcements email.

## Looking back on December

December was busy, lots happened, and it all seemed to go well. In addition to our weekly Shabbat services and committee meetings, we had a number of special events.

Dec. 4 was the Introduction to Hebrew Level II class: we reviewed Eyn Keloheyenu and looked at Adon Olam. The next sessions will be Jan. 22 at 5 PM, then Feb. 12, March 11, April 29, and May 13.



Dec. 4 was the first class with the two rabbis: Rabbi Urecki and I held a conversation on December Dilemmas, and it was a fascinating, wide-ranging discussion, with lots of participation. It was wonderful, and we were so lucky that participants were willing to be open and vulnerable, and share their experiences – it was eye-opening how many different views there were. We will meet again on Jan. 22 at 6:30 PM at the Synagogue.

Dec. 6, we had a Shabbat service with Torah, a pulpit exchange (Rabbi Urecki spoke at the Temple), and a covered dish dinner. This was a lovely evening. We were glad to welcome many friends from the Synagogue, and enjoyed Rabbi Urecki's devar Torah. Dec. 7 was the second half of the pulpit exchange: I spoke at the Synagogue. Some Temple members attended and a very nice kiddush luncheon followed. I think everyone enjoyed the event. Our next pulpit exchange is scheduled for

Feb. 14-15.

Dec. 8 was a Charleston Death Café. There was a small group with a wonderful discussion. We will meet again Jan. 12 at 7 PM, then Feb. 2, March 8, April 5, and May 17.

Rabbi Urecki and I scheduled the first youth group meeting for post-B'nai Mitzvah youth. We planned a mitzvah project, an ethics discussion, a conversation about what comes next, and dinner. We are thinking of monthly meetings. If your youngster is interested, please contact Rabbi Urecki or me to add them to our contact list.

Dec. 21 was our re-scheduled “First Shabbat” Saturday morning service and Torah study (delayed due to the pulpit exchange the first weekend of the month).

Hanukkah began the evening of Dec. 22 (first Candle lit), continuing till sundown Dec. 30 (eight candles the evening of Dec. 29).

The congregational Hanukkah dinner was scheduled for Dec. 29, the last night of the holiday. I hope you were able to join us for this celebration.

## January Events

This month will also be full.

- Our Friday evening Shabbat service with covered dish dinner will be on Jan. 10 (NOT the 3rd) at 5:30 PM. The Torah for this week is Parashah Vayechi.
- “First Shabbat” Saturday morning service and Torah study will be on Jan. 11 at 10:30 for the service, Torah study starting around 11:15.
- Sunday, Jan. 12 will be our Charleston

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# Schedule of January worship services

IN THE EVENT OF  
SEVERE WEATHER  
Call the Temple  
at 304-342-  
5852 and follow  
the prompts to  
hear about any  
cancellations.

Friday, Jan. 3 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service (covered dish dinner moved to Jan. 10)

Friday, Jan. 10 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service (Parshah Vayechi) followed by covered dish dinner

Saturday, Jan. 11 "First Shabbat" (please note change in date) Saturday morning  
at 10:30 AM service followed by Torah Study (Vayechi)

Friday, Jan. 17 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Friday, Jan. 24 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service (Parshah Vaera)

Friday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

## 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.**

He may be reached by email at

[RabbiJoeB@gmail.com](mailto: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 infrequently and irregularly: the best contact is the cell

phone number shown above.

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 Rabbi Blair to arrange an appointment to meet. He 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.

## January at a glance

Wednesday, Jan. 1 – Temple office closed for New Year's

Friday, Jan. 3 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service (covered dish dinner moved to Jan. 10)

Friday, Jan. 10 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service with Torah portion Vayechi, followed by a covered dish dinner – please note the change in date

Saturday, Jan. 11 at 10:30 AM – "First Shabbat" Saturday morning service followed by Torah study (Vayechi) – please note the change in date

Sunday, Jan. 12 at 7 PM – Charleston Death Café

Monday, Jan. 13 – Sisterhood Schmooze 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 PM – Temple board meeting

Friday, Jan. 17 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service

Sunday, Jan. 19 at 10 AM – Combined Sisterhood board and general membership meeting, brunch and program. Cost of brunch is \$10.

Monday, Jan. 20 – Temple closed for MLK Day

Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 5 PM at the Temple – Introduction to Hebrew

Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 6:30 PM at the Synagogue – "Two Rabbis" class

Friday, Jan. 24 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service with Torah portion Vaera

Monday, Jan. 27 at 5:30 PM – Social Action Committee "Issues of Conscience" presentation LBGTQIA

Wednesday, Jan. 29 at 10 AM – OLLI course about Tu Be'Shavat

Friday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service

### Next month

Friday, Feb. 7 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service followed by a covered dish dinner

Saturday, Feb. 8 at 10:30 AM – "First Shabbat" Saturday morning service followed by Torah study (Beshalach)

Sunday, February 9 at 6 PM – HOLD THIS DATE for the Tu Be'Shevat Seder. RSVP by Feb. 1. More info to follow by email.

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

Joshua I. Barrett, *President*  
Joseph M. Blair, *Rabbi*

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

# January yahrzeits

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

## January 3rd

Coleman Jacobs (4)  
Sidney Marks (4)  
Dorothy Loeb (5)  
Jean T. Goldman (6)  
Anna Sloman (6)  
Harriet W. Margolis (7)  
Doris Margolis (8)  
Berle Radow (8)  
Brooks Smith (8)  
Ann Gilbert Toovy (8)  
Dovenor Eugene Jarrell (9)  
Anita Frankengerger (10)  
Regina Kimmel (10)

## January 10th

Dr. Richard Jubelirer (11)  
Janice Louise Amburgey (12)  
Samuel E. Galperin (12)  
Evelyn Mendelsohn Badner (13)  
Elsie Forb (13)  
Dr. A. Stanley Webster (14)  
Jane Frankengerger Greenwald (16)

## January 17th

Esther Stabins (18)  
Michael Tice (18)  
Mildred Fleischmann (19)  
Jinx Engel Harris (19)  
Frank Hudnall (19)  
Moses Meyer Lipton (19)  
Lottie Cohen Goshorn (20)  
Mark H. Schaul Sr. (20)  
Evelyn Brown Silverman (20)  
Marjorie Spigel Sockol (22)  
Stanley Szczepaniak (22)  
Frances S. Schaffner (23)  
Harry L. Wills (23)  
Rose Marks Stern (24)

## January 24th

Joyce Maldow Selinger (26)  
Louis Hartstein (27)  
Iris Pincus (27)  
William Osvath (28)  
Bertram Schaffner (29)  
Meyer Kwass (30)

Rose Edelman (31)  
Sarah Goldstein (31)  
Philip Barnett Hall (31)

## January 31st

Bessie Polan Brown (Feb. 1)  
Samuel Oppen (Feb. 1)  
Florence Jordan Silverstein (Feb. 1)  
Mary Selinger (Feb. 2)  
Herbert Frankengerger (Feb. 3)  
Ben Marks (Feb. 3)  
John A. Pianfetti (Feb. 3)  
Judith Pollack (Feb. 3)  
Esther Sloman (Feb. 3)  
Leora Osgood May (Feb. 4)  
Ruth Teichman (Feb. 5)  
John Warren (Feb. 5)  
Myron "Mike" Greenwald (Feb. 6)  
Leonard Ingraham (Feb. 6)  
Mary Weisberg (Feb. 6)  
Nat Jurin (Feb. 7)  
Harry Silverstein (Feb. 7)

## From the rabbi's desk—cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

Death Café at 7 PM.

- Introduction to Hebrew, Jan. 22 at 5 PM at the Temple.
- Two Rabbis class – Jan. 22 at 6:30 PM, at the Synagogue.
- Friday Shabbat service with Torah at 5:30 PM on Jan. 24, Parashah Vaera.
- I will be offering an OLLI course about Tu Be'Shevat on Jan. 29 at 10 AM.

## February Events

Looking ahead to major events and services:

Friday, Feb. 7 at 5:30 PM is a Shabbat service immediately followed by a covered dish dinner.

Saturday, Feb. 8 at 10:30 AM is the "First Shabbat" morning service, with Torah Study starting around 11:15. Refreshments provided.

Hold the date: Sunday, Feb. 9, at 6 PM will be the Tu Be'Shevat Seder. RSVP by Feb. 1. (More information to be sent out by email.)

## Educational Events

I have asked for interest level in three educational options. (1) Chai Mitzvah (monthly text study and discussion); (2) Making Prayer Real (a prayer curriculum focusing on meanings of the liturgy); and (3) Informal Discussions & Dialogues

(periodic events that would each focus on a topic for discussion and study). This is the third (and last) month I am asking you to let me know your level of interest in these options. If there is enough interest, I will offer one or more of them. Please let me know what you would like to see offered.

I hope you will participate in many of our services and activities, and take advantage of whatever may be of interest to you from among all that is available.

Shalom, and many blessings,  
B'virkat shalom,

Joe  
Rabbi Joe Blair



## 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

Margie Hutt

Debra Levine

Rabbi Israel Koller

Gary Markham

June Warhoftig

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

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

To those who reached or will reach milestones in the past month or this one, 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:

December: David Feibelman, Cookie Glasser, Melissa Cadle, Jeff Bright, Jackie Artz, Steve Jubelirer, and Marion Baer.

January: Caroline Ostand, Terrie Rosenfeld, Richard Gottlieb, David Shapiro, Beth Winter.

If you have a milestone event of any kind, 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.

### Social Action Corner

## Continuing dialogue on climate change; Issues of Conscience schedule set through June; Tu Be'Shevat Seder in February

December's Social Action Committee meeting focused on several matters, not the least being a full debriefing of November's Interfaith Climate Change Forum, which was reported on in the December Bulletin.

By many accounts, which included significant and diverse comments from attendees, presenters, and planners, the forum seemed a highly successful, well organized and exciting event that brought credit to and respect for our Temple's community efforts. We agreed that some committee members will continue to have a "seat at the many tables" that will continue the interfaith and organizational dialogues within West Virginia and beyond.

We will also be considering steps our Temple could implement in consultation with other faith communities. This might include minimizing use of plastics, controlling temperatures, ensuring full LED lighting in all outlets, evaluating use of pesticides – in the garden, grounds and housekeeping – and comprehensive recycling programs, as well as other energy saving options previously discussed with the Temple board.

SAC members will assist with Tu Be'Shevat, providing traditional fruits, nuts and desserts, in coordination with Rabbi Blair as he leads the Seder on Feb. 9.

Ann Fishkin also reported on another successful Adopt-a-Family project, noted below.

Lastly, we determined the Social Action Committee Issues of Conscience Presentations for the remainder of FY 2019-20:

- 1/27/20 – LBGTQIA (Cookie Glasser)
- 2/24/20 - Gun Control (Tiana Hall)
- 3/23/20 - Women's Health (Rachel Dash)
- 4/27/20 - Voting Rights (Marsha Albert)
- 5/18/20 - Immigration (Anne Fishkin & Dona Hall)
- 6/05/20 - Issues of Conscience Pot Luck Round Tables
- 6/22/20 - To be determined

Please note that we invite and welcome all Temple Members and friends to participate in any of these presentations which take place at 5:30 PM on the des-

ignated dates. We are an inclusive committee, appreciate and would love to share in your thoughts on these critical Issues of Conscience.

*Cookie Glasser and Rachel Dash,  
Co-chairs*

## Appreciating donors to successful 2019 Adopt A Family

A big thank you to everyone who so generously donated to Temple Israel's 2019 Adopt a Family: Juanita and her four children: Madison, Abigail, Christopher and Chase.

Your donations created a fund of more than \$900. These funds provided very generously for Juanita and her family.

The Temple Adopt a Family Fund also contributed \$100 to Covenant House for their social workers to buy items for a few of the other program children who had received little.

We appreciate our many kind con-

*(Continued on page 5)*



**Sisterhood Message****Sisterhood meeting, brunch and program Jan. 19, to feature local author's new studies on educator Booker T. Washington**

The combined Sisterhood board and general membership meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 19 at 10 AM. It will be followed by brunch – cost is \$10 – and a program featuring Del. Larry L. Rowe (D-Kanawha, 36) at approximately 11 o'clock.

In addition to working in his law practice and serving as a West Virginia legislator, Rowe is the author of local histories. His study of the early nineteenth century salt industry and its use of enslaved workers in the Malden area of what is now West Virginia, *Virginia Slavery and King Salt in Booker T. Washington's Boyhood Home*, was published by Old Malden Press in 2019, and will be followed in 2020 by *Booker T. Washington's Boyhood American Dream: The Climb of the Black Middle Class Up from Slavery*.

The program is coordinated by Marsha Albert. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Don't forget to order Uniongrams—the list is on the inside back page of this Bulletin!

Gayle Twigger-Shaw  
President

**Booker T. Washington in West Virginia**

After emancipation Jane [Washington's mother] took her family to West Virginia to join her husband Washington Ferguson, who had escaped from slavery during the war and settled there. Booker began to painstakingly teach himself to read and attended school for the first time.



At school, Booker was asked for a surname for registration. He took the family name of Washington, after his stepfather. Still later he learned from his mother that she had originally given him the name "Booker Taliaferro" at the time of his birth, but his second name was not used by the master. Upon learning of his original name, Washington immediately readopted it as his own, and became known as Booker Taliaferro Washington for the rest of his life.

From Wikipedia

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Booker\\_T.\\_Washington#Early\\_life](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Booker_T._Washington#Early_life)

By Harris & Ewing - <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/hec.16114>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9810903>

**Social Action—cont'd**

(Continued from page 4)

tributors to Temple Israel's Adopt a Family effort (donor names not published on the website). Sue Eisinger, Anne Fishkin, Dona and Tiana Hall, Ann Kushner, Judy Lundy, Caroline Ostand and Betty Stern participated in the shopping and/or wrapping of gifts.

Anne Fishkin

**Thanks for making services even more special****Oneg Shabbat receptions**

Dec. 13 – Given by Roberta Lee Levine and Richard Hess, in memory of Rocky

**Flowers on the bimah**

Dec. 27 – Given by Margot Jogwick, in honor of Marion Baer

If you would like to sponsor an Oneg, call Judy Lundy at 304-744-4932 or email her at [jlundy43@gmail.com](mailto:jlundy43@gmail.com) to see if the date you want is available. You can provide desserts and/or snacks for the Oneg on your own, or you can make a \$35 donation and the Oneg team will do the shopping. Please make your check payable to Temple Israel.

Sisterhood arranges for flowers on the bimah for Shabbat services. You can sponsor them with a \$35 donation. Call Betty Stern at 304-343-7375 or email her at [BettyS1318@aol.com](mailto:BettyS1318@aol.com) to find out if the date you want is available. Please make check payable to Sisterhood.



## Our Thoughtful Contributors

*Donor names aren't published on the website.*



*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 or Garden should be made payable to Temple Israel.

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

***Deadline for the February Bulletin is Friday, Jan. 15th***

### ***REMINDER: Let us know when you move, change or delete a phone number, or change your email address***

If you are planning a move, changing your phone number (or deleting a number, such as a landline) or if you have a new email address, please contact the Temple office as soon as you have your new contact info. We have no other way of obtaining this information, except from you.

The deadline for changes to your contact info in the Sisterhood yearbook must be received no later than August 1st to be listed in the 2020-2021 edition.

Please email your new contact info to the Temple office at [templeisraelwv@gmail.com](mailto:templeisraelwv@gmail.com)

Our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Israel-Charleston-WV-2550469431660054/>



***Hold the date: Sunday, Feb. 9, at 6 PM will be the Tu Be'Shevat Seder.***



***RSVP by Feb. 1. (More information to be sent out by email.)***