

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

Shalom & greetings!

I am sitting in the rabbi's office in the Temple, looking over the list of all the events, meetings, activities, services, and classes planned, and pleased at the large number of things we are able to accomplish, even while continuing to observe social distancing. I am happy to say that we have been able to continue functioning in almost all ways despite the Pandemic causing us to close the building and stop meetings in person. Committee and Board meetings, Sisterhood meetings, classes, conversations and check ins - so much is going on. It is a testament to the vitality and vibrancy of our congregation and community. Kol Hakavod to all of you for adapting and coping with all the changes, challenges, and impositions that have come our way.

The only thing that is truly lacking (and which I certainly miss sorely) is the opportunity to see you in person – but until it is safe and prudent, we are limited to electronic communication. At the same time, we continue to work on ways to make that feel less distant and more natural. (I am still hoping to find a way to share food through Zoom. 😊)

To that end, this week we are beginning an experiment: trying out a new format for our Shabbat service, using Zoom, allowing congregants to enter the meeting room for the service starting at ~5 pm on Friday, enabling everyone to talk via zoom with each other. When we come to 5:30, we will mute everyone for the duration of the service, and David Stern, Bob Morris, and I will conduct the service in the sanctuary just as if everyone was there, and you will be able to watch and participate via zoom (I will be hoping to see you singing along on the screen!). We will also unmute everyone at the end of the service, so we have a chance to chat, and wish each other a Shabbat Shalom. Though it is an imperfect substitute for actually gathering, it is a step closer to being able to be together and socialize. We will continue to refine the process, making it better each week – until we can once again hold services in person.

Returning to the purpose of this email: the rest of this message covers planned events and activities of Temple Israel in the next few weeks for the month of July 2020, including current/updated Temple news, information, and a bit of what is going on to help keep us connected and informed. It is being sent in lieu of a bulletin. We are looking into producing some hard copy mailings as well; and we will return to producing a bulletin as soon as we can. We want to serve you in as many ways and as well as it is possible.

Please be in touch with the rabbi, the office, or members of the board if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions.

COVID-19 CONCERNS

No changes at this time.

Short story: the situation is unchanged from last month. 😞

No programs, events, meetings, or services are being held in the Temple, and access is extremely limited. This is how we are minimizing the possibility of transmission of infection to our vulnerable members.

The board members and I are all committed to proceeding with the highest level of caution, fully mindful of the health and wellbeing of all who may enter our building. None of us want to risk our own or anyone else's health or well-being.

We are exploring the best ways to assess when it is safe and prudent to begin the process of re-opening, what procedures need to be followed, how to measure if it is safe to continue, and how we would know if we need to back off and/or close down partially or fully again. This is a work in progress, and no one can give a date when we will be 'past' all the restrictions. Just know that we are doing the best we can and keeping your well-being in mind at all times, and trying to find ways to connect with and support you.

If you are having any difficulties getting groceries or medicine, feel a need to talk to someone, or have a pastoral concern, please feel free to call me (the rabbi) at 304-989-4014, or email at rabbijoeb@gmail.com. I am in the building for at least part of most days, and can always find time to talk to you. At this time, though I

would love to see you, I am erring on the side of caution and avoiding most in-person meetings. I hope you will stay safe and remain healthy.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Wednesday, July 1st, 3 PM, A Bissell Torah, online via Zoom. The Three Weeks

Friday, July 3rd, Independence Day (Observed).

Friday, July 3rd, 3:30 PM, Mocktails or Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 3rd, Virtual Friday Shabbat service. We will try a Zoom meeting format, with the service live. Look for the link in the links email sent out. 5 pm social gathering, 5:30 pm service. (Includes Independence Day observance)



Saturday, July 4th, Independence Day. Happy Fourth of July!



Saturday, July 4th, Torah Study, 10:30 AM. Torah Study. Parashat Chukat-Balak, Bam. (Num) 19:1-25:9, Micah 5:6-6:8. As we had been doing when we could meet in person, we will hold a Saturday morning session, and look at the Torah portion for this week. This is a shortened event – no service. We will jump into the Torah study right away. Please come ready to join our conversation. Zoom Link will be sent via email.

Monday, July 6th, Temple Israel Zoom Check In Meeting, 10 am.

Wednesday, July 8th, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Friday, July 10th, 3:30 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 10th, Virtual Friday Shabbat service. We will use a Zoom meeting format, with the service live. Watch for the link in the links email. 5 pm social gathering, 5:30 pm service.

Sunday, July 12th, 2 PM, Yiddish & Jewish Literature: Short Stories. A chance to read a classic or contemporary work of Jewish writing, gather, and have a free-ranging conversation about it. Jewish/Yiddish Literature course, reading short stories in English. Our first session will be on July 12th at 2 pm, and we will be looking at the classic story *Gimpel the Fool*. Our discussion will be led by Josh Barrett. If you contact me ahead of time, I will send you the link to the story.

Monday, July 13th, Temple Israel Zoom Check In Meeting, 10 am.

Wednesday, July 15th, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Thursday, July 16th, A Bissell Torah, 3 pm, Ruth.

Friday, July 17th, 3:30 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 17th, Virtual Friday Shabbat service. We will use a Zoom meeting format, with the service live. Watch for the link in the links email. 5 pm social gathering, 5:30 pm service.

Monday, July 20th, Temple Israel Zoom Check In Meeting, 10 am.

Wednesday, July 15th, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Wednesday, July 22nd, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Thursday, July 23rd, A Bissell Torah, 3 pm, Esther.

Friday, July 24th, 3:30 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 24th, Virtual Friday Shabbat service. We will use a Zoom meeting format, with the service live. Watch for the link in the links email. 5 pm social gathering, 5:30 pm service.

Sunday, July 26th, 2 PM, Yiddish & Jewish Literature: Short Stories. A chance to read a classic or contemporary work of Jewish writing, gather, and have a free-ranging conversation about it. Jewish/Yiddish Literature course, reading short stories in English. Our discussion will be led by Josh Barrett. If you contact me ahead of time, I will send you the link to the story as it is available.

Monday, July 27th, Temple Israel Zoom Check In Meeting, 10 am.

Wednesday, July 29th, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Thursday, July 30th, A Bissell Torah, 3 pm, Magic Words.

Friday, July 31st, 3:30 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 31st, Virtual Friday Shabbat service. We will use a Zoom meeting format, with the service live. Watch for the link in the links email. 5 pm social gathering, 5:30 pm service.

TZEDAKAH (CHARITY)

Please be generous – needs continue to run especially high in light of the Corona Virus effects. Note Tzedakah opportunities: Manna Meal, Covenant House, Sojourner/YWCA, RCCR, Mazon, and all the other worthy causes in our community and beyond.

Other Notices

SISTERHOOD - BULB ORDERS

Still available. Contact Judy Lundy, jlundy43@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
Margie Hutt
Rabbi Israel Koller
Gary Markham
Bob Steinberg

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:

June: Pam Goldfarb, Steve Artz, Jack Goldfarb, Anne Kushner, Betty & David Stern, Sara & Brett Radow, Ditty & Gary Markham, David Thalheimer, Harriet & Don Deutsch, Beth & Gary Winter, Doug Fischer

July: Paul Ostand, Terrie and Bill Rosenfeld, Liz Weisberg (Milestone), Louis Weisberg

August: Dona Hall, Mary Rich Maloy (Milestone), Allan Tweddle, Sarah Gottlieb, Victor Bastron, Judy Lundy

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.

July 2020 Yahrzeits

July 3rd

Kenneth Godfrey (4)
Nathan P. Goldfarb (4)
Ernestine "Stinie" Goldman (4)
James Leon Wells (4)
Lake A. Brown Sr. (5)
Morris Freedman (5)
Bernard A. "Bud" Burka (6)
Evelyn Hopper (6)
John Henry Joseph Hoss (6)
Florence Kay Simms (6)
Joe L. Silverstein (7)
Frank A. Baer II (8)
Gertrude Warren (8)
Henry Hager (9)
Tommy Kaplan (9)
Stanley Loewenstein (9)
Nathan Kurtz (10)
Ruth Cohen Wasserman (10)

July 10th

Nuita Feibelman (11)
M. S. "Mel" Burka (12)
Sadie Nusbaum (12)
Beth Brown Morgan (12)
Sallee Deutsch (13)
Dorothy Hohenberg (14)
Shirley Shapiro (14)
Helen Silverstein (14)
Annilee Hallam Bloom (15)
Hyman Artz (16)
Sarah Badner (16)
Isaak Dumer (17)

July 17th

Roslyn Bloomberg (18)
Dolly Margolis (18)
Joseph Segall (18)
Nancy Engel DiTullo (20)
Maria Szczepaniak (20)
Philip Angel (22)
Mayme Lasky (22)
Paul L. Lambert (23)

July 24th

Ehaskel Bernashefsky (26)
Kenneth H. Fretwell (26)
Albert Israel (26)
Clara Kraus Kaufman (27)
Henry Rossin (27)
Harry Goldstein (28)
Anna Schumann Deutsch (29)
Troy David Fretwell (29)
Andy Hudnall (29)
Rose Miriam Rosenfeld (29)
Lee Small (30)
Jay L. Margolis Sr. (31)

July 31st

Florette Angel (Aug. 3)
Beatrice Kleeman (Aug. 3)
Ben Swarts (Aug. 3)
Carol Behr (Aug. 4)
Ike Rosenberg (Aug. 4)
Sarah Rosenfeld Zakin (Aug. 4)
Jack Tweddle (Aug. 5)
Dan Barrack (Aug. 6)

Meta Bornheim (Aug. 6)

Bee Gattlieb (Aug. 6)

David Gottlieb (Aug. 7)

Charles M. Rotgin Sr. (Aug. 7)

Henry Steinberg (Aug. 7)