

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

Shalom & greetings!

I am preparing this reminder/bulletin email for the second half of July. As I do, I hope that it will be the last one in this format, and that we will return to our accustomed printed format Bulletin for August and beyond (though August will be a short version, as bulletins are sent covering the entire summer, and not each month).

We have so far adapted to the current situation, with meetings online, and services presented live over Zoom. Let me say again, it is a testament to the vitality and vibrancy of our congregation and community that you have rolled with the punches and kept on going. Kol Hakavod to all of you for adapting and coping with all the changes, challenges, and impositions that have come our way, and thank you for your tolerance and forbearance as we experimented, tried out new ways to do things, and made some mistakes on the way to figuring it out. I have to admit that it has been a challenge; I only hope that we (read here I) have been improving and getting closer to being able to provide what you need. We will work to continue to refine the process, making it better each week – until we can once again hold services in person.

I told you how much I missed seeing you all (and I think you missed seeing each other). We addressed that, as much as I think we can, by using Zoom for our Shabbat services, and 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. This 'social time' before (and potentially after) the service is beautiful. I can hear and see all of you (or at least the little square images of you that Zoom provides) – and that means so much! I feel that we are able to gather and connect in this way, much as we did before and after our Shabbat services in past. It is a balm for my soul, and I hope for yours as well. I hope many of you will join us for this live service. Of course, if the time is not convenient, you can view the recorded version at your convenience sometime after the service concludes (and it is uploaded).

We have been enjoying the music provided by David Stern and Bob Morris, and supported by the technical expertise of Rich Katz. We will be training additional congregants to operate the equipment in anticipation of those times that Rich is unavailable. Please wish whoever takes this on well, and understand that they are volunteers taking on a very complex task, so please overlook any glitches that may occur.

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 second half of 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 sent in lieu of a bulletin. We are looking into producing a bulletin again 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 me (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. The short story: the situation is unchanged from last month. 😞

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, in light of the case load increasing, I am erring on the side of caution and avoiding in-person meetings. I hope you will stay safe and remain healthy.

Please note: the access information/LINKS for events are sent in a separate email. Please consult that message to connect.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Wednesday, July 15th, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am. This call will end early to allow anyone who is planning to attend the Memorial service for Gil Weisberg.

Wednesday, July 15th, the Leora May Book Group will meet at 7 pm via Zoom.

Thursday, July 16th, A Bissell Torah, 3 pm, Ruth (this is likely to be the first of several conversations about this book of the Tanakh – how many will depend on interest of those participating).

Friday, July 17th, 3:30-4:00 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 17th, LIVE Virtual Friday Shabbat service, including a brief Torah reading. 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 22nd, Temple Israel Conference Call Check in Meeting, 10:30 am.

Wednesday, July 22nd, Hebrew Level II class, 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, July 22nd, Two Rabbis program (if Rabbi Urecki is available), 6:30 pm.

Thursday, July 23rd, A Bissell Torah, 3 pm, Ruth (Cont'd.)

Friday, July 24th, 3:30 – 4:00 PM, Mocktails, Cocktails, & Prayers. An informal gathering to wind down the week, in preparation for Shabbat.

Friday, July 24th, LIVE 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 have contacted me ahead of time, I will send you the link to the story as it is available. We are anticipating that this will be the story Bontzhe Shveig (the Silent).

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.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, August 2nd, Charleston Death Café, 7:30 – 9:00 pm, on Zoom.

Saturday, August 8th, Torah Study, 10:30 – 11:30 am on Zoom. Parashah Eikev, Deut. 7:12-11:25, Haftarah Isaiah 49:14-51:3.

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

The annual Congregational meeting will take place on TUESDAY, August 18th. Please watch for information about it and plan to attend via Zoom.

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
Peggy Koller
Gary Markham
Bob Steinberg

Baruch Dayan Haemet (Condolences)

Temple Israel extends our condolences to Liz and Louis Weisberg, and Trish (Dylan) and Marlo, whose father/grandfather Gilbert Weisberg died on July 12th. The private funeral was on July 14th online; private memorial and prayer services were also online. May the family be comforted from heaven, and may his memory be a blessing.

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 (milestone), David Thalheimer, Harriet & Don Deutsch, Beth & Gary Winter, Doug Fischer

July: Paul Ostand, Tom Susman, Lee Forb, Terrie and Bill Rosenfeld, Liz Weisberg (Milestone), Louis Weisberg, Dona Hall

August: 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.

Yahrzeit List (by Week Read)

[Final correct full list - all names included - JB]

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

Ehaschel 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)

Shalom,

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair