

Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXX
Bulletin No. 1

Complete High Holy Days schedule

September 2020
Elul 5780 / Tishri 5781

From the Rabbi's Desk

Shalom, and Greetings!

Calendar Note

I am writing this on the cusp of the start of the month of Elul in the Hebrew calendar. Rosh Chodesh for Elul is Aug 20 and 21. Elul marks the period leading up to the High Holy Days. This is traditionally a period of introspection and self-evaluation, what is called a cheshbon hanefesh, or accounting of the soul, in preparation for entering the Yamim Nor'a'im (days of awe).

We are instructed to self-examine and identify those things we have done for which we are sorry, and that we do not wish to repeat. As part of our effort at Teshuvah (repentance or return), we are to repair the injuries and damage that we have caused, seek to set things right (as much as we are able), ask for forgiveness from those we have wronged in any way, and prepare to do better.

The period of Elul is when we are called to this hard but very important work – it is the preparation for our entry into the holidays. It is also the preparatory effort we must make in anticipation of the even deeper level we are going to enter in this work, striving to identify how we have fallen short in relation to G-d (and our self), and to prepare to engage in Teshuvah for that, as well, during the days from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur, as we ready our self for a meaningful Day of Atonement, a fast that elevates the spirit and allows us to enter the coming year with hope and anticipation that we can and will do better.

There is a custom to blow the Shofar each day of Elul to help rouse us from our torpor and call us to action. This is also the time when we add Selichot (penitential)

prayers to our services, often including Psalm 27.

Rosh Hashanah will begin on the evening of Friday, Sept. 18, and Yom Kippur will begin the evening of Sunday, Sept. 27.

Status

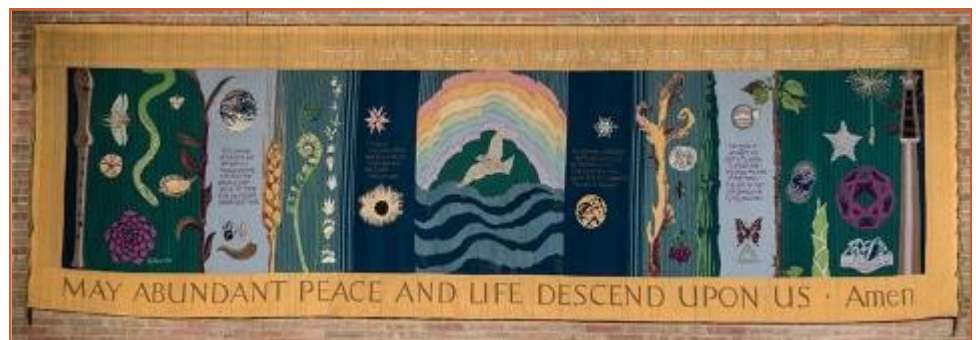
Given all that has happened, we have been fairly successful at adapting to the current situation; holding meetings online, and presenting services live over Zoom with a chance to gather as a community and socialize a bit. This is in no small measure due to the willingness of the leadership and members of the community to do what is needed to protect and care for each other. Kol Hakavod to all for your grace in adapting and coping with all the changes, challenges, and impositions that have come our way. And as always, thank you for your tolerance and forbearance as we experiment, try out new ways to do things, and make some mistakes along the way to figuring it out. We will work to continue to refine the process, making it incrementally better each week. Meantime, being able to see you on the screen and hear your voices is a wonderful feeling.

Services

I have already told you how much I look forward to seeing you all at the services. We make that happen 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 see and talk with each other. This 'social time' before the service is a joy. I hope you feel, as I do, 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 and remains a balm for my soul, and I hope for yours as well. Of course, if the time is not convenient, you can view the recorded version at your convenience sometime after the service concludes and the file is uploaded.

We have all been enjoying the music provided by David Stern and Bob Morris. Bob Morris will be away for a few Shabbatot, and we will be doing something different for each of those weeks. Rich Katz has offered his technical support and expertise to get us online and pro-

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The "Breath of Life" tapestry hanging in the Temple Israel Sanctuary is one of the Congregation's most important artworks. In celebration of the many treasured pieces on display in the Temple, Sisterhood commissioned a line of cards suitable for mailing or framing. There are only a few of the Tapestry cards left. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Caroline Ostand. *Photo by Michael Keller*

Schedule of September worship services

Rabbi Blair sends out emails regularly to keep the congregation up to date. Zoom links to online events are emailed to those on the Temple's mailing lists. If you aren't receiving these emails, please contact Rabbi Blair.

Shabbat services are scheduled every Friday at 5:30 PM.

For High Holy Days service times, please see the schedule below.

At press time, all events are via Zoom unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER

- Friday, Sept. 4 Shabbat service at 5:30 PM
- Saturday, Sept. 5 Torah study at 10:30 AM
- Friday, Sept. 11 Shabbat service at 5:30 PM
- Friday, Sept. 18 Rosh Hashanah Eve service at 7:30 PM
- Saturday, Sept. 19 Rosh Hashanah Morning service at 10:30 AM; Tashlikh service at 12:30 PM
- Friday, Sept. 25 Shabbat service for Shabbat Shuvah at 5:30 PM
- Sunday, Sept. 27 Yom Kippur Eve service (*Kol Nidrei*) at 7:30 PM
- Monday, Sept. 28 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning service
12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon service
2:30 PM Torah/text study
3:45 PM Family-friendly stories
5:00 PM Memorial (*Yizkor*) service
6:00 PM Concluding (*Ne'ilah*) service

Each Yom Kippur Day service will be 90 minutes or less; all other events will be 60 minutes or less.

OCTOBER

- Friday, Oct. 2 Shabbat service and Sukkot at 5:30 PM

We welcome new Temple members Gail Bellamy and Dan Kurland, who joined over the summer. Gail and Dan make their home in Charleston and are listed in the 2020-2021 Sisterhood yearbook.

Except where noted, photos by
Greg Proctor

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

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 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 for any reason.

You are invited to contact the Rabbi to arrange an appointment to talk. The rabbi will be happy to set a mutually convenient time to speak with you, so that he can offer you his full, undivided attention.

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

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

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

September yahrzeits

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

September 4th

Simon H. Galperin Sr. (5)
Stanley Silverstein (5)
Lena T. Burka (6)
Raymond A. Cohen (7)
Marion Lehman (8)
Charles Cohen (9)
Suzanne Silverstein Rice (9)
Anna Rodgin (9)
Herman G. Wells (9)
Max M. Goldfarb (10)

September 11th

Priscilla Herzbach (12)
Susan Ferrara Bostic (13)
Peter Godfrey (14)
Esther Price (14)
Fred Burka (16)
Gussie Kwass (16)
Carol Marks (16)
Joan F. Silverstein (16)
Sylvia M. Kohn Gold (17)
Hildegard Mellman (17)
James Pickus (18)
William R. Wood (18)

September 18th

Jacob H. Stern (19)
Louis E. Walter (19)
Ruth Goldfarb (20)
Henrietta Kaufman (20)
Margaret Short Lewis (21)
Naomi Ruth Pickus (21)
Philip Angel Sr. (23)
Robert Weinberger (23)
Nan Hertz (24)
Jean Jubelirer (24)
Abraham Greenberg (25)
Sam Joseph Toovy (25)

September 25th

Rosa Levine (26)
Dr. Gordon F. Phillips (27)
Richard M. "Ricky" Pollack (27)
Alfred H. Schaffner (27)
Bernard Bergen (28)
Richard O. Katz (28)
Ellen Shapiro (28)
Judy Walder (28)
Edna P. Hofmayer (29)



Lawrence C. Kaufman Jr. (29)
Etta Ruda (29)
Faye Kantor (Oct. 1)
Nat Spigel (Oct. 2)

Condolences are on p. 5

September at a Glance

All services, meetings, classes and events are virtual, via Zoom and/or conference call, until further notice. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about how to access conference calls and Zoom sessions, please let him know.

Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 10:30 AM –
Temple Israel Conference Call
check-in

Thursday, Sept. 3 at 3 PM – A Bissell
Torah: **CANCELED**

Friday, Sept. 4 at 5:30 PM – Live virtual
Shabbat service

Saturday, Sept. 5 at 10:30 AM – Torah
study. Parasha Ki Tavo, Deut.

25:1-29:8

Sunday, Sept. 6 at 7:30 PM – Charleston
Death Café

Monday, Sept. 7 at 10 AM – Temple
Israel Zoom check-in

Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 5:30 PM – Temple
board meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 10:30 AM –
Temple Israel conference call
check-in

Thursday, Sept. 10 at 3 PM – A Bissell
Torah

Friday, Sept. 11 at 5:30 PM – Live virtual
Shabbat service

Sunday, Sept. 13 at 2 PM – Yiddish/

Hebrew Literature in
Translation

Monday, Sept. 14 at 10 AM – Temple
Israel Zoom check-in meeting

Monday, Sept. 14 – Sisterhood
Schmooze 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 10:30 AM –
Temple Israel Conference Call
check-in

Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Leora May Book
Group

**Friday, Sept. 18 at 7:30 PM – Live
Virtual Shabbat and Rosh
Hashanah Eve service**

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September at a Glance— cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

Saturday, Sept. 19 at 10:30 AM – Live Virtual Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah Morning service

Sunday, Sept. 20 at 10 AM – Sisterhood combined board and general membership meeting

Monday, Sept. 21 at 10 AM – Temple Israel Zoom check-in meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Conference Call check-in

Friday, Sept. 25 at 5:30 PM – Live virtual Shabbat service

Sunday, Sept. 27 at 7:30 PM – Live and virtual Yom Kippur Eve service (Kol Nidrei)

Monday, Sept. 28 – Yom Kippur Day – all services live and virtual

10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning service

12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon service

2:30 PM Torah/text study

3:45 PM Family-friendly stories

5:00 PM Memorial (Yizkor) service

6:00 PM Concluding (Ne'ilah) service

Next month

Friday, Oct. 2 at 5:30 PM – Live virtual Shabbat service and Sukkot

Sunday, Oct. 4 at 10 AM – Sisterhood board meeting

Friday, Oct. 9 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service

Sunday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 PM – Charleston Death Café

Monday, Oct. 12 – Sisterhood Schmooze 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

From the Rabbi's Desk, continued from p. 1

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duce a smooth and visually pleasing service. We are training additional congre-

gants to operate the equipment in anticipation of those times that Rich is unavailable, and we will be acquiring some of the equipment needed, in anticipation of the time that Rich will need his equipment back for work use.

We have been researching and deciding how best to present High Holiday services. The result is that we will be using the live Zoom presentation (same as for Shabbat services), but will trim the length of services somewhat. After long and hard consideration, some things that we would normally include will not be possible this year; we are working hard to keep the essence of the services and offer the best possible Holiday experience in the circumstances.

Here is the plan for times for services for the High Holidays. Each service will be 90 minutes or less, all other events 60 minutes or less. All services will be Virtual (Online) to protect the health and safety of all members of our community. Links to access the services will be sent out in a separate LINKS Email.

For a complete listing of High Holiday services, please see "September at a Glance."

As always, 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 (Greg), or members of the board if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions.

Covid-19 Concerns

The short story: the situation is unchanged from last month ☹️. Stay safe.

Please Contact the Rabbi

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 (Saturdays excepted), and can always find time to talk to you. I read email regularly (except on Shabbat); you can call me, and if it is an emergency on Shabbat leave me a message telling me that it is

urgent – I will call back as soon as I can. At this time, though I would love to see you, in light of the Covid-19 case load numbers increasing, I am erring on the side of caution and avoiding in-person meetings.

I close by offering you wishes for a Shanah Tovah Umetuekah – a good and sweet year, full of blessings, joys, health, and love.

B'virkat shalom,

Joe
Rabbi Joe Blair

For dates and times of Rabbi Blair's conference calls, Zoom sessions, online services and classes, please see "September at a Glance." Rabbi Blair sends out emails weekly to provide access information about these events. If you aren't receiving Rabbi's emails, but would like to, please let him know.

In the Congregation

Tzedakah (Charity)

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

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:

Kim Aaron
Lois Coleman
Don Deutsch

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Sisterhood Message

A new year in the lives of those we cherish: please stay safe

Dear Members of Temple Israel Sisterhood,

As we wait, but not necessarily patiently, the virus continues to wreak havoc in so many parts of our country, with some kindnesses being shown where guidelines are followed.

In your own life and the lives of those you cherish, follow the recommended guidelines so at the other end we will be able to rejoice and look back at a sad time.

The powers that be at our own B'nai Israel are clearly exercising every precaution and our traditions are being observed differently.

The Sisterhood executive committee agreed to placing a Happy New Year greeting in the Ladies Auxiliary Yearbook and

Calendar of B'nai Jacob as a warm gesture indicating our desire to strengthen our mutual intentions to support one another.

While plans and quality thoughts are in pencil form, we are all sitting in a hold, wait, and see position.

With a touch of humor, I told someone if this lifestyle continues into two years, this will be the most unusual Sisterhood presidency on record.

As I return to my most active lifestyle, thank you all for thinking of me during my recent back surgery.

Smiling from behind my face mask,

Millie Snyder,
President

In the Congregation, continued from p. 4

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Jonathan Freedman
Margie Hutt
Rabbi Israel Koller
Peggy Koller
Gary Markham
Millie Snyder
Bob Steinberg
Rabbi Victor Urecki

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:

August: Mary Rich Maloy (Milestone), Allan Tweddle, Sarah Gottlieb, Victor Bastron, Judy Lundy, Kim & Bob Aaron, Fran & David Thalheimer, Leah Earnest,

September: Ladonna Kushner, Josh Barrett, Bill Rosenfeld, Lynne Gattleib, Roberta Lee Levine, Gayle Twigger-Shaw

October: Doris & Jack Goldfarb, Gary Winter, Millie Snyder, Alan Fleischmann, Gloria Kelley

Mazal tov to Jill Epstein who was moved from contractor to full employee status.

Marlo Weisberg was recently graduated

from Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business with a BBA degree in accounting. She will continue at Cox to earn a MS degree in Accounting.

Trish Weisberg and Dylan Erwin have announced their plans to marry in May 2021.

Marlo and Trish are the daughters of Liz and Louis Weisberg. Temple Israel wishes the family mazel tov on these simchas.

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.

Baruch Dayan Haemet (Condolences)

Temple Israel sends condolences to the entire Weisberg family on the recent loss of Gilbert Weisberg. May his memory be a blessing and may the mourners be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel sends condolences to the Shapiro family on the recent loss of Heidi Weintraub Strassler. May her memory be a blessing, and the mourners be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel sends condolences to the Tweddle family on their recent loss of Karel Ladislav Ruml. May his memory be a blessing, and the mourners be comforted from heaven.

Library Committee Report

The Temple's Library Committee met numerous times during the past year. We discussed options for our library with a synagogue library expert and a New York-based used-book-seller specializing in Jewish books.

In the summer of 2019, to prepare for the new carpet and chairs installed in conjunction with the Sanctuary renovation, the library's books were relocated and all shelves cleaned and treated. The Committee members, with Rabbi Blair's valuable input, returned the most classic, relevant and current books to the shelves in more accessible categories. Several new books have been added to the library by either purchase or donation.

Once the building is reopened, the Library Committee will resume adding books and planning an event encouraging use of our excellent collection.

Mary Rich Maloy, Chair





Prayer books for Shabbat and for the High Holidays

To make it easier and more convenient for our members to follow and participate in our services, we are offering to lend out copies of Shabbat and High Holy Day prayer books during the current situation.

If you would like to borrow a copy, please be in touch with Rabbi Blair or the office to arrange to pick up a copy at the Temple. You can call to let us know you are on the way to pick them up, and we will place the book(s) on the bench in the front – no need to enter the building!

If you want to borrow books, but cannot pick them up, let us know. We have a few people who have volunteered to drop off books to those in this situation; but please don't delay because the offer to drop off books is only available for a limited time.

Call (304) 342-5852 or email the office at templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Or (304) 989-4014 for Rabbi Blair, or email Rabbi Blair at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

Yizkor list deadline is Sept. 14

Please send your names for Yizkor to the office no later than Sept. 14 to be sure they will be included in the list on Yom Kippur. You can email your list to templeisraelwv@gmail.com or you can mail it to Temple Israel, 2312 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston WV 25311.

A convenient form for your Yizkor list is included in this Bulletin. Only names you submit will be read at the Yizkor service on Monday, Sept. 28.

All services, meetings, classes and events are virtual, via Zoom and/or conference call, until further notice. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about how to access conference calls and Zoom sessions, please let him know.

Our Thoughtful Contributors

♦
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 should be made payable to Temple Israel.

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

TEMPLE ISRAEL Yom Kippur Memorial Service

Please list the names of the person(s) you wish to have remembered during Temple Israel's Yom Kippur Yizkor-Memorial service on Monday, Sept. 28, 2020.

Only the names of deceased relatives and friends which you list on this form will be read at the service.

Please return this form to **Temple Israel, 2312 Kanawha Blvd., E., Charleston WV 25311**, no later than Monday, Sept. 14, 2020 Please call the Temple office at 3(04) 342-5852 if you have any questions. You can email your list to templeisraelwv@gmail.com

NAMES to be remembered at Yom Kippur Memorial Service:

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

Submitted by

NAME	
ADDRESS	
DAYTIME PHONE	

