

### Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings! We have had a bulletin break over the summer, and now it is time to start the cycle again as the new year approaches! I hope that you have had a wonderful summer.

#### Notes & Announcements

As I write this it is mid-August and we are about to enter into the High Holiday season. It falls 'early' this year, starting with Rosh Hashanah evening on Monday, Sept. 6, beginning just as the Labor Day weekend is ending.

#### Opening of the Building for Worship

The board decided that we will be having both online and in-person attendance for services starting with Rosh Hashanah evening. For safety, only those who are fully vaccinated may come into the building for services, and everyone worshipping in-person must wear masks while in the building. The opening is only for worship services at this time: meetings and social gatherings are not yet permitted, and no food or beverage will be served. Of course, the Security Committee and the board will continue to monitor the situation, and when possible, we look forward to opening more fully.

I am looking forward to seeing some of you in person soon. Though we will be masked, it will be a delight to be able to have others in the beautiful sanctuary, joining in our worship services, as we are accustomed to do in past. It has been lonely and strange to lead in an empty room; I miss having others there with me to form our kahal to pray. Though I have valued the online option, and the sense of community that it offered, it did not give me a sense of presence and connection as I led services (I find that it is difficult to watch the screen while praying, so I do not see or sense anyone other than our musical team – David Stern and Bob Morris – and technical wizards – Rich Katz and David Shapiro – who are in the room), which is why I will welcome so heartily the physical presence of those who are in the room.

#### Upcoming Events

Selichot service, jointly with B'nai Jacob, Saturday, 9/04/21, 8 PM. In-person at B'nai Jacob and online.

The Tashlikh (Casting) service will be conducted in the Sanctuary and will be livestreamed. No congregational event at the river. Shabbat Shuvah, Friday, 9/10/21, 5:30 PM.

The Yom Kippur Family Event will be a Joint presentation with B'nai Jacob, with both Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair, and will be on Zoom. No in-person option for this event.

The Yom Kippur Torah Study will be a Joint presentation with B'nai Jacob, with both Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair, and will be on Zoom. No in-person option for this event.

WVIRM Immigrant Welcome Week, Sept. 12-19. See the flyer on our Facebook page for the full list of events.

"Understanding the High Holidays" program for WVIRM Immigrant Welcome Week, Sunday, 9/19/21 at 4 PM, featuring Rabbis Urecki and Blair on ZOOM.

> Sukkot service, jointly with B'nai (Continued on page 6)

#### Machzorim (Prayer Books) for the Holidays

We will continue to provide Zoom access and Facebook Livestreaming of the services, as we have been, so that you can still participate and view the services without coming into the building.

To facilitate worship for the High Holidays, we are making arrangements so that if you plan to attend online, we will make the Machzorim for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur available to bor-



row. Simply call or email me (the rabbi) and we can arrange for you to pick up the books prior to the start of the holidays. Call my cell phone 304-989-4014 or email me at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com to let me know you would like to borrow books, and how many copies of each (the prayer books for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are separate volumes).

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## Holiday and Shabbat worship services

# From "Covid-19 Rules and Procedures for Reopening for Worship," which sets out the rules and procedures for those who choose to attend services in-person, and were adopted by the Temple Israel board of trustees Aug. 10, 2021: By way of overview, those Rules and Procedures provide that

"those congregants worshipping in-person in the Temple shall be fully vaccinated and masks shall be worn when in the Temple building. There will be no limit on the number of persons permitted to worship in the Sanctuary and no reservations are required. There will be no social distancing required, although worshippers may choose to social distance to the extent space permits. Our annual Rosh Hashanah Reception has been canceled since no food will be served in the Sanctuary or social hall to keep our congregants safe. If announced in advance, there may be an opportunity for those attending in-person to gather before or after the service on the Temple grounds or in the social hall and foyer. Please remember that our goals are to meet the needs of our congregants who want in-person worship and to keep everyone as safe as possible."

#### Beginning with the Rosh Hashanah Morning service on Sept. 6, services may be attended in-person or online.

September		
Friday, Sept. 3	Shabbat service at 5:30 PM (virtual only)	
Saturday, Sept. 4	Selichot service with B'nai Jacob at 8:00 PM — in person at B'nai Jacob and online	
Monday, Sept. 6	Rosh Hashanah Eve service at 8:00 PM	
Tuesday, Sept. 7	Rosh Hashanah Morning service at 10:30 AM; Tas immediately follows at 12:00 PM	hlikh — <i>indoors, <u>not</u> at the river</i> —
Friday, Sept. 10	Shabbat Shuvah service at 5:30 PM	
Wednesday, Sept. 15	Yom Kippur Eve service (Kol Nidrei) at 8:00 PM	ICE
Thursday, Sept. 16	10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning service 12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon service 2:15 PM Family event (virtual only) 3:30 PM Torah study (virtual only) 5:00 PM Memorial <i>(Yizkor)</i> service 6:15 PM Concluding <i>(Ne'ilah)</i> service	Photo by Greg Proctor
Friday, Sept. 17	Shabbat service at 5:30 PM	
Monday, Sept. 20	Joint Sukkot Eve observance with B'nai Jacob at 8:00 PM. You can be present at either congregation or attend online.	
Friday, Sept. 24	Service for Shabbat and Simkhat Torah at 5:30 PM — pulpit exchange	
Saturday, Sept. 25	In-person at B'nai Jacob or online at 10:00 AM — pulpit exchange	
Tuesday, Sept. 28	Joint Simkhat Torah with B'nai Jacob at 5:30 PM — in-person at B'nai Jacob and online	
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#### OCTOBER

Friday, Oct. 1 Shabbat service with Torah at 5:30 PM—Parashah Bereshit

Saturday, Oct. 2 Temple Israel Torah study at 10:30 AM (virtual only — this isn't a service, but a study session)

Masthead photo: Detail, Ner Temid, from section "The Ark" in Temple Israel Art, researched and edited by Ellie Schaul, 2014, 2019. Artist: Milton Horn. Photo by Michael Keller. TEMPLE ISRAEL 2312 Kanawha Boulevard, East

Charleston, W.Va. 25311 (304) 342-5852 www.templeisraelwv.org <u>templeisraelwv@gmail.com</u> Francine Thalheimer, President Joseph M. Blair, Rabbi

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

## September yahrzeits

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

#### September 3rd

Simon H. Galperin Sr. (5) Rabbi I.B. Koller (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 10th

Priscilla Herzbach (12) Susan Ferrara Bostic (13) Peter Godfrey (14) Esther Price (14) Richard M. "Ricky" Pollack (15) Fred Burka (16) Gussie Kwass (16) Carol Marks (16) Joan F. Silverstein (16) Sylvia M. Kohn Gold (17) Hildegard Mellman (17)

#### September 17th

James Pickus (18) William R. Wood (18) Jacob H. Stern (19) Louis E. Walter (19) Ruth Goldfarb (20) Henrietta Kaufman (20) Louis Hallam (21) Margaret Short Lewis (21) Naomi Ruth Pickus (21) Philip Angel Sr. (23) Robert Weinberger (23) Nan Hertz (24) Jean Jubelirer (24)

#### September 24th

Abraham Greenberg (25) Sam Joseph Toovy (25) Rosa Levine (26) Dr. Gordon F. Phillips (27) Alfred H. Schaffner (27) Bernard Bergen (28) Richard O. Katz (28) Ellen Shapiro (28) Judy Walder (28)



Photo by Greg Proctor

Edna P. Hofmayer (29) Lawrence C. Kaufman Jr. (29) Etta Ruda (29) Kurt Feibelmann (30) Faye Kantor (Oct. 1)

Condolences are on p. 5

## September at a Glance

Beginning with Rosh Hashanah Eve on Sept. 6, most services are available inperson and online, but a few events are online only.

- Friday, Sept. 3 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service (virtual only)
- Saturday, Sept. 4 at 8 PM Selichot service with B'nai Jacob – in-person at B'nai Jacob and online
- Monday, Sept. 6 Temple office closed in observance of Labor Day
- Monday, Sept. 6 at 8 PM Rosh Hashanah Eve
- Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 10:30 AM Rosh Hashanah Morning – Tashlikh

- indoors following the morning service at 12 noon: it will not be at the river. (Temple office closed.)
- Friday, Sept. 10 at 5:30 PM service for Shabbat Shuvah
- Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 8 PM Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidrei)
- Thursday, Sept. 16 Yom Kippur Day (Temple office closed)
- YK Morning service at 10:30 AM
- YK Afternoon service at 12:30 PM
- YK Family Event at 2:15 PM (virtual only)

- YK Torah Study at 3:30 PM (virtual only)
- YK Yizkor-Memorial service at 5 PM
- YK Ne'ilah-Concluding service at 6:15 PM
- Friday, Sept. 17 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service
- Sunday, Sept. 19 at 10:30 AM Sisterhood board meeting
- Monday, Sept. 20 at 5:30 PM Joint Sukkot Eve observance with B'nai Jacob. You can be present at either congregation or attend online.

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### September at a Glance—continued from p. 3

#### (Continued from page 3)

- Tuesday, Sept. 21—Temple office closed in observance of 1st day of Sukkot
- Friday, Sept. 24 at 5:30 PM service for Shabbat and Simkhat Torah – pulpit exchange
- Saturday, Sept. 25 at 10 AM in-person at B'nai Jacob and online – pulpit exchange

Monday, Sept. 27—Temple office closed in observance of 7th day of Sukkot and Simkhat Torah

- Tuesday, Sept. 28—Temple office closed in observance of Simkhat Torah
- Tuesday, Sept. 28 at 5:30 PM Joint Simkhat Torah (virtual only) with B'nai Jacob – in-person at B'nai Jacob and online

#### Next Month

Friday, Oct. 1 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service with Torah – Parashah Bereshit

Saturday, Oct. 2 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Torah study (virtual only—this isn't a service, but a study session)

## 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. This list includes those on our list from June forward:

> Gary Borstein Melissa Cadle George Castelle **Howard Cohen Robin Cohen** Jonathan Freedman Ed Goldberg Mary Hogue **Richard Holicker** Margie Hutt Mel Hutt Jon Kurland Dorothy Kurland Ann Kushner Gary Markham **Charlotte Miller** Stuart Miller Martha Minter & Family **Caroline Ostand** Hedy Poppelsdorf Linda Rubin **David Shapiro Kevin Smith & Family Bob Steinberg**

Linda Toborowsky
Barbara Braun Tweddle
Beth Steinberg Winter
Gary Winter
Natalie Winowich
Nick Winowich
All who are impacted by the Pandemic or
other illnesses

All affected by natural or man-made disasters

#### Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

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

Congratulations to the Weisberg Family on the marriage of Trish Weisberg to Dylan Erwin on May 22 at The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs. Rabbi Blair officiated at the couple's Ketubah-signing on May 21. Trish is the daughter of Liz and Louis Weisberg and recently graduated from Rice University with an MBA in Accounting, and is employed by Service Wire. Dylan is an Otolaryngology Resident at University of Texas Health San Antonio. The happy couple will make their home in that city.

Congratulations to the Wyner family on the marriage of Joshua Wyner to Molly Mendelson on July 9 in Aspinwall, Pa. Joshua is the son of Larry and Louida Wyner, and grandson of Adele Wyner of Shaker Heights, Ohio. Joshua is a second-year student at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Molly is a public-school special education teacher in Proctorville, Ohio. The happy couple will make their home in Barboursville.

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, Ronni & David Spudich, Carolyn & Paul Ostand, Draza Peck, Stuart May, Missy Rubin, Jack Goldfarb (milestone), Ann Kushner, Fred Lovitch, Betty & David Stern, Heike Perez, Ditty & Gary Markham, Sarah & Brett Radow, David Thalheimer, Chava Urecki, Harriet & Don Deutsch, Randy Masinter, Doug Fisher, Beth & Gary Winter, Bill Kroesser (milestone)

July: Paul Ostand, Lee Forb, Liz Weisberg, Louis Weisberg, Carolyn Atkinson, Rose Marie Riter, Dona Hall (milestone), Ellie & Mark Schaul, Michael Victorson, Gary Borstein, Liz & Louis Weisberg, Marilyn & Rabbi Victor Urecki, Jean & Elliot Urecki

August: Zion Godfrey, Robin Perez, Rick Sadolf, Kim & Bob Aaron, Fran & David Thalheimer, Sue & Ron Eisinger, Rabbi Victor Urecki, Bob Waterstone, Mary Rich Maloy, Michael Earnest, Lynn Meyer, Zahava Urecki, Elizabeth & Jeff Bright (milestone), Lillian Blair (milestone), Allan Tweddle, Janet Victorson, Teresa Masinter, Victor Bastron, Sarah Gottlieb, Jennifer Mize, Judy Lundy, David Leven, Sharon & Steven Jubelirer, Mary Hogue

(Continued on page 5)

## Sisterhood Message The wisdom of Barbra: "Give until it feels good!"

Of equal importance, in our quiet moments, we need to reflect on the past year-and-a-half that each of us has endured and very quietly reconcile within your own mind that you and your loved ones and your friends survived a pandemic. While so many did not fare so well, being vaccinated and paying attention to health guidelines has served us well and should continue to be observed.

It is no secret that our congregation is shrinking in numbers as is our Sisterhood.

West Virginia and Charleston have lost population, and that affects all of us.

It leads me to my point as we welcome in a new year. I am reaching out and asking all of you or some of you to do as much as you can to enhance our growth and survival through your volunteering and active involvement in the many tasks that need some of your time and attention.

In 2010 I had the unbelievable joy of meeting my idol, Barbra Streisand. To put it mildly, I'm not quite over it yet. That phenomenon enabled me to meet Barbra at her home in Malibu, Calif. Essentially, it was a fundraiser for the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center at the Smidt Heart Institute of the world-renowned Cedars Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. For the entire three hours and five minutes that I was in her home, I was awestruck by Barbra's warmth and kindness: for sure, she was an absolute mensch.

When it was her time to welcome the forty-some people who were there, including me, she discussed the advances made in understanding women's heart health, and she said something that I want to share with you.

When we think in terms of giving money you have often heard the expression give until it hurts, while Barbra had a different approach, when she said, "Give until it feels good!"

Reflecting on other thoughts that I have shared in this column, I would like to borrow that thought when I ask you to get involved with Sisterhood and other Temple activities to the absolute extent that you can, and to please give of your time, energy and your willingness, so that you will feel good about becoming more involved.

At this time in my life, I am blessed in so many ways with good health and an unfailing drive to work and bring the joys and comfort of family and friends into daily activities.

> Millie Snyder, Sisterhood President

## In the Congregation, continued

(Continued from page 4)

September: Jackie & Steve Artz, Ladonna Kushner, Josh Barrett, Rich Katz, Ron Eisinger, Gary Sheff, Brian Glasser, Jace Goins, Julie Adams, Ed Goldberg, Gail Bellamy, Bill Rosenfeld, Lynn & Steve Meyer, Lynn Gattlieb, Roberta Lee Levine, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Sigal Kuhn, Terry Pickett, Don Deutsch

October: Mary Hart, Richard Hess, Ina Angel, Nick Winowich, Doris & Jack Goldfarb, Gary Winter, Nancy & Ray Dodson, Joy & Ken Kleeman, Millie Snyder, Alan Fleischmann, Debbie Sonis, Gloria Kelley, Anne Fishkin & Bill Kroesser, Nancy Morton

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):

[Deaths that have occurred since the last

bulletin.]

Temple Israel offers our deep condolences to the family of Norma Winter, including Beth and Gary Winter, who died on June 25. May her memory be a blessing, and may those who mourn her be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel offers our deep condolences to the family of Lois Phillips Coleman who died July 7. May her memory be a blessing, and may those who mourn her be comforted from heaven.

Temple Israel offers condolences to Judy Lundy on the death of her cousin, Terry Smith Lacy, who died earlier this summer. May her memory be a blessing, and may those who mourn her be comforted from heaven.

Please return your Yizkor-Memorial list to the Temple office no later than Sept. 3. Forms were mailed out in mid-August. Only names you submit will be read at the Yizkor-Memorial service on Thursday, Sept. 16.

## Scheduling Onegs for 2021-2022

Hello, everyone! We will soon have the opportunity to return to in-person Shabbat services on Friday evenings at Temple Israel.

However, at present, there will be no food provided by or for worshippers in the Sanctuary or at any social activity before or after the service. This is to protect and keep our congregants safe.

Therefore, our enjoyment of Friday evening Onegs won't begin until a later date. Please watch for a message as to when you can contact me to reserve a special date for an Oneg.

Judy Lundy, Oneg chair

Please recycle.





## Sisterhood notecards are a great way to stay in touch and show your support for local service projects

Consider sending a touch of Temple to your friends and family with Temple Israel Sisterhood notecards! Wish them L'Shanah tovah, Mazel Tov, or that you're simply thinking of them.

- Have a pack of 3 cards for \$10 sent to your home.
- Money raised from card sales will be used for Sisterhood's local projects. Postage included.

Please send your check for \$10, payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood, to us at 2312 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston WV 25311. As soon as we receive your order and your check, you will receive a touch of Temple Israel Sisterhood – in our notecards – from us!

Call Caroline Ostand to place order or if you have questions. Thanks for your support!

Chapel Ark. Photo by Thorney Leiberman.

## Tzedakah

Please be generous – needs continue to run especially high in light of the Corona Virus Pandemic effects. Note the many Tzedakah opportunities that we have supported over the years: Manna Meal, Covenant House, Sojourner's Shelter/YWCA, RCCR, Mazon, AJWS, HIAS, and all the other worthy causes in our community and beyond. Please also remember current needs of many due to natural disasters, such as the ones that recently struck Haiti.

Rabbi Blair

## Rabbi's Message, continued

#### (Continued from page 1)

Jacob. Monday, 9/20/21, 5:30 PM. Combined service with Rabbi Blair online and Rabbi Urecki at B'nai Jacob. Begins with a Conservative-style Minchah service at 5:30 PM, immediately followed by a Reform-style Sukkot Festival service. You can be present at either congregation (within the guidelines), or participate online.

Shabbat & Simchat Torah Service with Pulpit Exchange, jointly with B'nai Jacob, featuring a focus on Hunger/ Mazon. Friday, 9/24/21, 5:30 PM. Rabbi Urecki will deliver the Devar Torah online via Zoom. In-person at Temple Israel and online. Shabbat morning service at B'nai Jacob with Pulpit Exchange, jointly with Temple Israel. Saturday, 9/25/21, 10 AM. Rabbi Blair will deliver the Devar Torah online via Zoom. In-person at B'nai Jacob and online.

Simchat Torah service, jointly with B'nai Jacob, Tuesday, 9/28/21, 5:30 PM. Inperson at B'nai Jacob and online.

#### Looking Ahead

Shabbat service with Torah, Friday, 10/1/21, 5:30 PM. Parashah Bereshit.

Temple Israel Torah Study, Saturday, 10/2/21, 10:30 AM.

#### **Building Projects**

I am happy to tell you that the project to permanently install the audio-video equipment in the Sanctuary in a manner that won't pose limitations or concerns in regard to having congregants in the room is almost complete, with only a few adjustments yet to make. We are close to relocating our soloist, Bob Morris, away from the Torah reading table, and that should happen before the High Holidays.

The refurbishment of the Ark in the Sanctuary and the work on the Torah scrolls have been completed. Sofer Neil Yerman did a fabulous job.

In addition to the above, several other maintenance and repair projects have been underway. Many committees and the Temple board have been working hard to ready our building for the return of congregants, and it really shows! I think you will be pleased with their work.

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## Rabbi's Message, continued

#### (Continued from page 6)

#### Covid-19 Concerns

By the time you read this, you should have received the letter and the "COVID-19 Rules and Procedures for Reopening for Worship" mailed out by Temple president Francine Thalheimer, concerning the Temple board's adoption of those Rules, which govern the reopening of the building to in-person service attendance. Although summarized in that letter and in this article, you are urged to read the Rules carefully if you want to attend services in-person.

This is a carefully considered approach. It allows for in-person worship by those who are vaccinated and who wish to do so, while also recognizing that not everyone will make this choice which is the reason for the permanent installation of the audio-video equipment to provide high quality streaming access to services. It is the intention of the Temple board to continue this access so that anyone who is unable or chooses not to attend in-person for any reason can still participate in the services. We have greatly enjoyed having people from far and near joining us online, and we want to continue to make that possible.

The Rules recently adopted amend the prior policy, but only in regard to worship services. All other events, gatherings, classes, and programs are still governed by the policy adopted previously, which directs that we monitor conditions for the triggers that either open or limit access, depending on the situation at the time. When those triggers are tripped, we will open the building for additional uses, so long as the situation does not worsen and indicate a further closure. We continue to be cautious, erring on the side of the safety and well-being of all, while moving toward more access as it is deemed advisable. But this also allows us to remain flexible as conditions improve, worsen, or change. Please know that the board and congregational leaders are working to-

### Contacting the Rabbi

If you feel you would like to talk, have any pastoral concerns, know of someone who needs pastoral support, have a suggestion to improve or a concern about our community, or just want to chat, please feel free to call me (the rabbi) at 304-989-4014, or email me at *RabbiJoeB@gmail.com* 

I am available Sunday through Thursday most of the day, and Friday until 3 PM. I am in the building for at least part of most days and I read email and texts quite regularly (Shabbat and holidays excepted). In an emergency, please phone me, and if you leave a message, please express the urgent nature of the call.

Rabbi Blair

ward a return to our accustomed activities, to the maximum degree possible, as it is deemed safe and prudent.

#### Services: Opening of The Zoom Session, Entry to the Building

There will be no in-person option for services through Sept. 5. Starting with the eve of Rosh Hashanah on Sept. 6, in-person attendance at worship services will be permitted for those who meet the criteria established in the Rules. They may enter the building no more than 15 minutes prior to a scheduled service start time; the doors will be unlocked at that time, and locked again fifteen minutes after the scheduled start time. After that point, please press the Intercom button and wait for a response.

The online Zoom session of services will continue to be opened for social time 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the service.

For a regular Shabbat or special evening service taking place after Sept. 5, the online Zoom session will open at 5 PM, entry to the building will begin at 5:15, and the service will commence at 5:30.

For the High Holy Days, the evening services are scheduled for 8 PM; entry to the building will begin at 7:45, and the online Zoom session will open at 7:30.

Please see elsewhere in the bulletin for the times of other than evening services for the holidays, and adjust the times, accordingly.

Until the triggers in the policy indicate otherwise, all other events, programs, classes, and meetings will be online (not inperson in the building); any events at other locations may have different policies applied (such as meetings of the Leora May Book Club or Sisterhood). For information on how to access online events, please see the weekly LINKS Email for how to connect via Zoom.

#### Support

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), members of the board or committee members if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions. We are here for you.

Anticipating that this bulletin will arrive in your hands shortly before the start of our holy days, I want to offer you my very warmest wishes for the coming year. May it be a year of joy, health, prosperity, love, and blessings for you and for your loved ones. May we all be safe, and come to be free to do as we like, without fear or hindrance. May the world be made more godly, with peace and justice prevailing. May we be goaded to act in accordance with our best selves, and live to see the results of our efforts and the fulfillment of our hopes. May it come about soon. And we say, Amen.

I look forward to seeing you online, and soon perhaps, in-person.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace),

*Joe* Rabbi Joe Blair

