



Temple Israel Bulletin

First candle of Hanukkah is Sunday evening, November 28th

Volume LXXXI
Bulletin No. 3

November 2021
Cheshvan / Kislev 5782

Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

I had thought that with the conclusion of the High Holy Days season things might slow down, but it turns out I was completely mistaken! Though it is a time without holidays, there are lots of events, programs, meetings, discussions, and classes to include in our plans, and much news. So here we go!

Opening the building for worship

You should have received an email from Temple president Fran Thalheimer, letting you know that the Temple board determined that we will be open for in-person worship services (starting Oct. 22). Attendees are required to be fully vaccinated and wear a mask at all times while in the building. At this point, no other events are permitted in the building, entry is restricted to essential personnel, and no food or drink is to be served. Of course, the situation may change – in either direction – and if so, we will let you know as soon as it does.

Announcements

Due to the pandemic and the policy adopted, we are still having no events other than religious services in the Temple Israel building. As I write this it is mid-October, what is called Mar-Cheshvan on the Jewish calendar.

The week of Oct. 17 we started to return to a more 'normal' schedule.

The Sisterhood board and general

membership meeting included a program with Donna Hamra of WVIRM. The Charleston Jewish Federated Advanced Gifts Event was held, Rabbi Urecki re-started his Torah and Talmud classes on Tuesday and Thursday mornings respectively, at 10 AM. The Leora May Book Club met, virtual committee meetings continued – including the Ritual Committee and the Security Committee – and Rabbi Blair offered a series of two OLLI Classes on Jewish End of Life Rites and Rituals. Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair offered a Two Charleston Rabbis session with Mazon on Oct. 27.

November opens with the return of many of our past regular events, though times may have changed – please read carefully!

Monday, Nov. 1st we will have our first reg-

ular Zoom Check-In, 10-10:45 AM.

WV Council of Churches "Dismantling Racism" event Nov. 3, 4:30 PM.

Shabbat service on Friday, Nov. 5, including a Torah reading from Parashah Toldot (Genesis 25:19-28:9), and follow that up on Saturday morning with a Temple Israel Torah Study, 10:30-11:15 AM.

The Jewish Literature group resumes Nov. 7 then again Nov. 21, both 4-4:45 PM.

Also on the evening of Nov. 7, we resume our (roughly) monthly Charleston Death Café, 7:30-8:30 PM.

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November worship services & Torah study

Services are both virtual and in-person, unless the Temple board changes the attendance policy. Saturday morning Torah study isn't a service, so it is Zoom-only. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about Zoom sessions, please let him know.

Shabbat services are scheduled every Friday at 5:30 PM. Pre-service Shabbat ONLINE social begins at 5 PM. Please see the letter from Fran Thalheimer (below) for guidelines.

Friday, Nov. 5 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service with Torah. Parashah Toldot.

Saturday, Nov. 6 at 10:30 AM Torah study. Parashah Toldot: Gen. 25:19-28:9. Haftarah is Malachi 1:1-2:7. (Online only.)

Friday, Nov. 12 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service. Includes Veterans Day and Kristallnacht.

Friday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service at Temple Israel. Pulpit exchange.

Saturday, Nov. 20 at 10 AM Shabbat service **at B'nai Jacob**. Pulpit exchange.

Friday, Nov. 26 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service. Not in-person. ONLINE ONLY.

In-person Shabbat services available in accordance with attendance policy

The Temple Israel board of trustees voted to resume in-person attendance at Shabbat worship services, starting Oct. 22. Temple Israel will also continue online access to Shabbat services via Zoom and Facebook.

Remember to check Rabbi Blair's Temple Israel Reminder LINKS email twice weekly to access the Zoom link for Shabbat services.

All Shabbat Services Zoom sessions will open 30 minutes prior to the start time.

For in-person worship services at Temple Israel, the doors will open 15 minutes prior to the service start time and lock 15 minutes after the service start time. Requirements for in-person attendance include being fully vaccinated and wearing a mask at all times in the Temple. Hand sanitizer and masks are available as you enter the Temple.

I would like to remind everyone to respect each worshipper's personal (social) space in the Temple's Sanctuary. Covid data indicates that rates of infection are still high in Charleston and that the number of active coronavirus cases are now over 10,000 in West Virginia. Please be careful and safe.

Respectfully,

Francine Thalheimer

Temple president

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



www.templeisraelwv.org

Visit the Temple website for updates and links to online resources

If you move, change your email address or change your phone number, please let the Temple office know about it, so that we are always able to stay in touch. Thank you.

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templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Francine Thalheimer, *President*
Joseph M. Blair, *Rabbi*

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

November yahrzeits

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



November 5th

Charles McHale (6)
Floy M. Sessions (6)
Eleanor "Ellie" Burka (7)
Louis Jordan (7)
Carl H. Lehman (7)
Michael M. "Mike" Margolis (7)
Edwin Stabins (7)
Joseph Gotlieb (10)
Florine Marks Isaac (10)
Susan Jubelirer Nesi (10)
Sam Badner (11)

Louis Cohen (11)
Lilla Wolf (11)
Barbara Brooks (12)
Albert Schwabe (12)

November 12th

Ellis C. Amburgey Sr. (14)
Bernard Gottlieb (14)
Jean Merz Klee (14)
Sydney M. Kleeman (15)
Anna Barton (19)
Franc Stern (19)

November 19th

H. H. Wills (20)
Esther Mendeloff (21)
Bernard Mordecai Weinstein (21)
Edith Hartley Aaron (22)
Frances W. Freedman (22)
Nina Poppelsdorf (22)
Sadie Shane (22)
Edith Burnett (24)
Cecile Rossin (25)
Minnie Hess (26)
Morton A. Lewis (26)

November 26th

Harriet B. "Cissy" Abrams (27)
Jearoll Casto (27)
Doris Kleeman Leopold (27)
Reba Markstein Lindenberg (27)
Jane R. Glaser (28)
Bernard H. Jacobson (28)
Carol Katz (28)
Robert "Bob" Albert (29)
Reba Blustein Cohen (29)
Bob Baer (30)
Maxine Stabins (30)
Joanne Mendeloff Misaqi (Dec. 1)

Condolences are on p. 7

November at a Glance

Services are both virtual and in-person, unless the Temple board changes the policy. All meetings, classes, programs, and events are virtual with one exception, via Zoom until further notice. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about these sessions, please let him know.*

Monday, Nov. 1 at 10 AM – Zoom check-in

Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 4 PM – WV Council of Churches "Dismantling Racism" program

Friday, Nov. 5 at *St. Marks UMC in downtown Charleston *outdoors: 12-12:15 PM: Interfaith Service of Unity and Reconciliation (masks and social distancing required)

Friday, Nov. 5 at 5:30 PM – LIVE and Virtual

Shabbat service with Torah reading – Parashah Toldot

Saturday, Nov. 6 at 10:30 AM – Torah study. Parashah for that week is Toldot Gen. 25:19-28:9. The Haftarah is Malachi 1:1-2:7.

Sunday, Nov. 7 – Daylight Saving Time ends

Sunday, Nov. 7 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature

Monday, Nov. 8 at 11 AM – Zoom check-in (please note change in time this week only)

Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 5:30 PM – Temple board meeting

Thursday, Nov. 11 at 4 PM – A Bissel Torah

Friday, Nov. 12 at 5:30 PM – LIVE and Virtual Shabbat service. Includes

Veterans Day and Kristallnacht commemorations.

Sunday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 AM – Sisterhood board meeting

Sunday, Nov. 14 at 2 PM – Gabbai (Torah helper) training. In-person.

Monday, Nov. 15 at 10 AM – Zoom check-in

Wednesday, Nov. 17 Time TBA – Leora May Book Club

Thursday, Nov. 18 at 4 PM – A Bissel Torah

Friday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 PM – LIVE and Virtual Shabbat service. Includes Pulpit Exchange.

Saturday, Nov. 20 at 10 AM – B'nai Jacob

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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 the middle of August to the time of writing this bulletin:

George Castelle
 Patricia Cohen Coniglio
 Harriet Deutsch and family
 Jamie Dreifus
 Jonathan Freedman
 Arnie Hartstein
 Mary Hogue
 Margie Hutt
 Mel Hutt
 Dorothy Kurland and family
 Ann Kushner
 Roberta Lee Levine
 Laura Malloy
 Gary Markham
 Hedy Poppelsdorf
 Linda Rubin
 Kevin Smith & Family
 Olivia Sergot
 Barbara Braun Tweddle
 Natalie Winowich
 Nick Winowich
 Joanna Goldberg Zimmelman
 All who are impacted by the Pandemic or other illnesses

All affected by natural or man-made disasters or violence

All in need of prayers for healing and wholeness

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:

October: Mary Hart, Richard Hess, Jodi Katz (MILESTONE), Ina Angel, Ladonna and David Kushner, Julie Schaul, Nick Winowich, Doris & Jack Goldfarb, Gary Winter, Nancy & Ray Dodson, Marlo Weisberg, Joy & Ken Kleeman, Millie Snyder, Alan Fleischmann, Debbie Sonis, Gloria Kelley, Anne Fishkin & Bill Kroesser (MILESTONE), Nancy Morton

November: Ken Kleeman, Jean Urecki, Roger Forman, Natalie Cowley, Jennifer Stern, Mark Schaul, Natalie Winowich, Marilyn Urecki, Marc Slotnick, David Pushkin, Betty Stern, Jill Epstein, Gregg Stern, Linda Toborowski, Steve Meyer, Patrick Smolder, Anne Fishkin, Kim Aaron (MILESTONE), Judy Watkins-Rimmey, Avrah Urecki Leven, Kathie Kommor, Ellen Slotnick

December: Marty Kommor, Ellie Schaul (MILESTONE), Ben Zacks, Beth Emrick, Ira Bloom, Steve Jubelirer, Barbara Braun & Allan Tweddle (MILESTONE), Cookie Glass-

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November at a Glance—continued

(Continued from page 3)

Shabbat morning service.
Includes Pulpit Exchange.

Sunday, Nov. 21 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature

Sunday, Nov. 21 at 7:30 PM – Charleston Death Café

Monday, Nov. 22 at 10 AM – Zoom check-in

Wednesday – Friday, Nov. 24-26 – Thanksgiving holiday, office closed, no scheduled programs

Friday, Nov. 26 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service. ONLINE ONLY.



Sunday, Nov. 28 in the evening – First Candle of Hanukkah

Monday, Nov. 29 at 10 AM – Zoom check-in

Next Month

Thursday, Dec. 2 at 4 PM – A Bissel Torah

Thursday, Dec. 2 at 6:30 PM – Two Charleston Rabbis discussion

Friday, Dec. 3 at *St. Marks UMC in downtown Charleston
 *outdoors: 12-12:15 PM:
 Interfaith Service of Unity and Reconciliation (masks and social distancing required)

Friday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 PM – LIVE and Virtual Shabbat service with Torah and Hanukkah observance

Saturday, Dec. 4 at 10:30 AM - Torah study. Parashah for that week is Miketz Gen. 44:1-44:17; Num. 7:42-47, The Haftarah is Zechariah 2:14-4:7. Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Chanukah.

Sunday, Dec. 5 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature

Sunday, Dec. 5 – Eighth candle of Hanukkah



Sisterhood Message

What touches us can be just what someone needs to make it through the rough spots—shared experience can inspire hope

Dear Friends:

Over the years of my life and from a professional point of view, I have always enjoyed clichés and a number of sayings, which for some reason have always touched me deeply while giving me a sense of inspiration.

Whenever that occurred, I tried to pass it on in the many meetings I conducted as a motivational speaker when I was franchisee of Weight Watchers for the 68 counties that were my domain. Here are a few of the ones that always made me think:

“Never criticize your neighbor until you have walked a mile in their shoes.”

“You are what you eat.”

“Taking things for granted gets everyone in trouble.”

“Love like you mean it.”

And to add just a few more:

“If at first you don’t succeed, hide all the evidence that you ever tried.”

“We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced.”

“Gossip is the art of saying nothing in a way that leaves practically nothing unsaid.”

“Horse sense is a good judgment which keeps horses from betting on people.”

Perhaps some of these little tidbits may bring a smile to your face or perhaps create an idea in your mind— or quite possibly do nothing of the kind.

In these days and times of such high numbers concerning the dangers of Covid-19 and the necessity to meet virtually — for how much longer no one is really sure — I thought sending you some of these little thoughts, quotes, and sayings would brighten your day.

Smiling from behind my face mask,

Millie Snyder,
Sisterhood President

Social Action Corner

Adopt-A-Family: Helping the needy have happier holidays—please join the Social Action Committee in providing for our 2021 family

The Social Action Committee seeks your support for our Covenant House 2021 Adopt-A-Family. You can contribute by writing a check, donating a Kroger gift card, or purchasing one of the gifts listed below.

Make your check payable to Temple Israel and write “Adopt-A-Family” on the memo line, and get it to the Temple office no later than Wednesday, Dec. 1 (same deadline for gift cards).

The committee will use funds raised to purchase clothing, special-request gifts, or gift cards for shoes or food.

If you prefer to buy a gift(s) for a family member(s) from the info below, please bring your unwrapped gift to Temple. Please call ahead to make sure someone will be available to receive your donation.

Temple Israel’s 2021 Adopt-A-Family: Nicole and her partner George (both age 26) and her 3 children: George 7, Zachary 5, and Liam 3.

- The mother, Nicole, likes rose-color jewelry, and Primitive Home decorations, and dark-color bath towels.
- George would like any family games, and his shoe prefer-

ence is Adidas or Jordans.

- The child George would like a twin Spider-Man Bed-N-Bag Set, P.J.’s, a Bowling Set, Hot Wheels track and cars, Basketball/baseball set for stocking stuffers.
- Zachary would like P.J.’s, a Firetruck, a twin Minion Bed-N-Bag Set, any toys that talk and Paw Patrol items.
- Liam wants any Blippi-type items: toys, balls, riding toys, Hot Wheel cars, and toys that talk.

Covenant House asks that all gifts for the children be left unwrapped. On Dec. 5, the committee will wrap gifts for Nicole and George, and deliver all gifts to Covenant House the next day.

If you purchase a gift, please ask the store to print a gift receipt and pin it to your item, so the family can exchange an item more easily.

Thanks to the many congregants who’ve supported this project over the years!

Dona Hall & Ditty Markham





Photo courtesy Nefesh Mountain

NEXT MONTH

"Peace, understanding, and acceptance with musical muscle—a master class in string music"

Folk—Bluegrass— Americana: Jewish- themed string band Nefesh Mountain in concert Dec. 11 at Temple Israel

Temple Israel, Congregation B'nai Jacob and Federated Jewish Charities of Charleston are thrilled to present the acclaimed Nefesh Mountain for a concert at Temple Israel on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Nefesh Mountain has been hailed as one of today's formative boundary-pushing folk-bluegrass-Americana bands. They're among the first to truly give voice and openly represent Jewish American culture, tradition, values and spirituality in the world of American roots music.

Rolling Stone Magazine described them perfectly: "A master class in string music. Nefesh Mountain preaches peace, understanding, and acceptance with musical muscle." Their wonderful Jewish-themed songwriting and terrific singing and playing have been dazzling audiences around the country. Come to the Temple on Dec. 11 and see why!

Learn more about Nefesh Mountain at <https://www.nefeshmountain.com/>

Our Thoughtful Contributors

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. Please write separate checks for each donation. Please pay dues with a separate check.

Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

The Zoom Check-In on Nov. 8 will be 11-11:45 AM, a change in time for this week only, returning to the usual time of 10 AM the following week.

The Temple Board will meet Nov. 9.

On Nov. 11 we restart our weekly A Bissell Torah sessions 4-4:45 PM.

The Sisterhood board will meet Sunday, Nov. 14, 10:30 AM.

Also on Nov. 14, we will hold a Gabbai (Torah helper) training at 2 PM. In-person.

The secular holiday of Thanksgiving falls on Thursday, Nov. 25. The office will

be closed Wednesday through Friday.

The monthly (more or less) Two Charleston Rabbis series will be Dec. 2, then again on Jan. 20, 6:30-7:30 PM both dates.

Of course, we have Shabbat services each Friday, 5:30-6:30 PM.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Dec. 11, when we have the Nefesh Mountain concert and, prior to the show, Havdalah (the first of the year) at 6:30 PM!

Prayer Books

You are welcome to borrow Shabbat prayer books. Contact me, or Greg in the office, and we can arrange for you to pick one up. Call my cell phone (304) 989-4014

or the Temple office (304) 342-5852. Or you can email us at the addresses at the end of this article.

The Siddur for Sabbath and Holidays is also available from the CCAR as a flip book for free. Please go to the Temple website for the links to the CCAR website.

Temple building projects and upgrades

Committees have been busy and a lot has been accomplished. It was really quite amazing to listen to all the projects reported at the October board meeting. Multiple maintenance and repair projects have been completed or are underway. I am delighted, and expect that you will be pleased as well, to see all the love and care being lavished on this beautiful facility.

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Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 6)

Services: opening of the Zoom session, entry to the building

For a regular Shabbat or special evening service, the online Zoom session will open at 5 PM for a social time, in-person entry to the building will begin at 5:15, and the service will commence at 5:30 PM. Doors will be locked at 5:45; you will need to press the intercom and await someone coming to open the door after that time. No food or drink will be served.

Until the triggers in the policy indicate otherwise, all other events, programs, classes, and meetings will be online (not in-person in the building); any events at other locations may have different policies applied (such as meetings of the Leora May Book Club).

For information on how to access online events, please see the twice weekly Reminder 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), the house coordinator (David McAfee), members of the board, or committee members if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions. We are here for you.

Tzedakah (charity)

Please be generous – needs continue to run especially high in light of the Corona Virus Pandemic effects, natural and man-made disasters, and the effects of war, oppression, and violence. Note the many Tzedakah opportunities that we have supported over the years: Manna Meal, Covenant House, Sojourner's Shelter, RCCR, Mazon, AJWS, HIAS, Charleston Federated, JNF, and all the other worthy causes in our community

and beyond.

Blessings & Salutations

I wish you much joy and many blessings, and hope that your year of 5782 will be filled with joy, health, prosperity, love, and blessings for you and for your loved ones. May we all be safe, and may the world be made more godly, with peace and justice prevailing. Amen.

I look forward to seeing you, online or in-person.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace),

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

Temple office email address

templeisraelwv@gmail.com

News from around the Jewish world

The Religious Action Center (RAC) and the Reform Movement are working on Voting Rights issues. There are several events they are engaged in, and would like for you to participate. Please contact Fran Thalheimer, or visit the RAC website for information <https://rac.org/>

JWA's online celebration on Nov. 4 will note the history, achievements, and leadership of Jewish women in honor of 25th anniversary of the Jewish Women's Archive. Ask Rabbi Blair for the link to register.

Limmud North America is sponsoring the Global Day of Jewish Learning on Nov. 7. Ask Rabbi Blair and he will send you a link to learn more.

The ADL (Anti-Defamation League) "Never Is Now" Annual Summit on Antisemitism and Hate will be held Nov. 7-9. Ask Rabbi Blair for a link to learn more or to register.

In the Congregation, continued

(Continued from page 4)

er, Amy Bloom, Carol Pollock, David Feibelman, Melissa Cadle, Marty Kanner, Sam Belsky, Jackie Artz, Danita Nelhaus, Laura & Jace Goins, Dan Kurland, Steve Max, Marion Baer, Arla Ralston & Roger Forman, Phyllis & Harvey Sherman, Joy Kleeman, Fred Pollock

Belated notice: Mazal tov to Mary Rich Maloy, and all best wishes and felicitations to Bette Maloy and Katy Renfro who were married on Sept. 25 in Atlanta.

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 offers our condolences to the family of Dorothy Kurland on the recent passing of Jon Kurland. Jon was an active member of the Charleston Jewish

community, involved in many things, and is already dearly missed. May those who mourn be comforted from heaven, and may the memories be for blessings.

Temple Israel extends our deepest condolences to the family of Don Deutsch who died on Oct. 12 in Charleston. The graveside family service took place on Oct. 14 at the Temple Cemetery. May Harriet, their son Jack and daughter-in-law Lori, daughter-in-law Patty, grandchildren Adam, Leisa, and Ali, and great-grandson Dylan, and sister-in-law Florette, all of their family, and all the other mourners be comforted from Heaven, and may the memories be for blessings.

Temple Israel extends our deepest condolences to the family of Thomas C. Bachman who died on Sept. 29 [23 Tishrei 5782], in particular his wife Gail. A private funeral took place in Norfolk, Va. on Oct. 4. May the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory be a blessing.

