

# Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXXI  
Bulletin No. 5

January 2022  
Tevet / Shevat 5782

## Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

I am writing this with the warming glow of the last lights of Hanukkah and the music of Nefesh Mountain in my thoughts. Hanukkah was a lovely holiday, and though it felt somewhat constrained, at the same time the community celebration we had was joyous: it was good to see so many people in person, from both the Temple and the Synagogue. It was a celebration that brought in light and lifted my heart, and I hope those who attended felt the same. Those who did not attend – I certainly understand that it was not comfortable or safe for everyone, but I also want to tell you that you were truly missed, and we are looking forward to a time when we will see you face to face – soon, we hope, IY"H.

The Jewish community came together again for the Nefesh Mountain concert – a Hanukkah-themed songfest sponsored by the Federated Jewish Charities of Charleston, B'nai Jacob Synagogue, and Temple Israel. We were able to accommodate many people because the decision was not only to permit some limited attendance in person, but to provide online access via Zoom. In that way, we were able to offer the music of this amazing group to the widest possible audience throughout the community.

The board determined last October that the Temple will be open for in-person worship services, with attendees required to be fully vaccinated and to wear a mask at all times in the building. The board also decided to go forward with both the Hanukkah celebration event and the Nefesh Mountain concert, so some loosening of

Above: [Fresco by Diego Rivera: Still Life and Blossoming Almond Trees, California, 1931](#). Commissioned by civic-minded philanthropist Rosalie Meyer Stern. The mural, painted in 1931, depicts Stern's grandchildren in the foreground. It is now located in the Stern Hall women's dormitory at the University of California, Berkeley. The blossoming of the almond has long been a symbol of Tu B'Shevat. *Public domain graphic from Wikimedia Commons.*

restrictions is happening. But still, local numbers are bouncing in and out of the "red" zone, so the situation is still quite fluid, and we will continue to monitor conditions. This means that the policies on admission may change (in either direction) – and if so, we'll let you know as they are adopted. Please watch for any announcements in that regard, and stay flexible.

### Notes and announcements

During December, the following took place:

Ongoing regular events: Zoom Check-ins on Mondays; Torah classes on Tuesdays;

Talmud classes on Thursdays; A Bissell Torah on Thursday afternoons, and Shabbat services each Friday evening. Periodic events: Two Charleston Rabbis; Temple Israel Torah study; "Let There Be Hanukkah Lights" candle lighting and celebration dinner for members of both Temple Israel and B'nai Jacob Synagogue; the follow-up program with Mazon; Nefesh Mountain concert with Havdalah; meetings of the Sisterhood and Temple boards; Jewish Literature on two Sunday afternoons; the Leora May Book Club with a pot luck dinner, and the Charleston Death Café.

(Continued on page 5)



## MLK Day is Jan. 17

**For information about MLK Day in West Virginia, visit**

<https://minorityaffairs.wv.gov/mlkcommission/>

**The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom (1963)**

Photo by Warren K. Leffler - This image is available from the United States Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs division under the digital ID ppmsca.03130

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:March\\_on\\_Washington\\_edit.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:March_on_Washington_edit.jpg)

## January worship services & Torah study

*Services are both online 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 review guidelines at [www.templeisraelwv.org](http://www.templeisraelwv.org)*

Friday, Dec. 31 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service with Torah reading – Parashah Vaera

Saturday, Jan. 1 at 10:30 AM Torah Study: Ex. 6:2-9:35. Not a service – online only

Friday, Jan. 7 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Friday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 PM at Shabbat service with Pulpit Exchange (Rabbi Urecki addresses Temple Israel Temple Israel)

Saturday, Jan. 15 at 10 AM at B'nai Jacob Shabbat Morning service with Pulpit Exchange B'nai Jacob (Rabbi Blair addresses B'nai Jacob) Parashah Beshalach

Friday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Friday, Jan. 28 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

### Message from the Temple president

## Temple building to reopen Jan. 10

Dear Members of the Temple Israel Congregation:

The Temple Israel Board of Trustees voted to re-open the Temple for meetings, events, and activities on Monday, Jan. 10 with in-house participation and on-line availability. More information will follow as our committee reviews on-line options for indoor events, meetings, and activities.

Requirements to enter the Temple for meetings, events and Shabbat services are that you be fully vaccinated and masked at all times in the building. Masks and hand sanitizer are available as you enter the building. I would like to remind everyone to respect each worshipper's personal (social) space in the Temple during services and in meetings or events. Please be careful and safe.

Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vice President Gayle Twigger-Shaw.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Safe New Year 2022,

Francine Thalheimer  
Temple president

*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.*

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

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

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

### 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](mailto: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, when I try to avoid using devices that require me to type). 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](http://www.templeisraelwv.org)

**Visit the Temple website  
for updates and links to  
online resources**

# January yahrzeits

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

## January 7th

Doris Margolis (8)  
Berle Radow (8)  
Brooks Smith (8)  
Ann Gilbert Toovy (8)  
Dovenor Eugene Jarrell (9)  
Anita Frankenberger (10)  
Regina Kimmel (10)  
Judith Pollack (10)  
Dr. Richard Jubelirer (11)  
Janice Louise Amburgey (12)  
Samuel E. Galperin (12)  
Evelyn Mendelsohn Badner (13)  
Elsie Forb (13)  
Dr. A. Stanley Webster (14)

## January 14th

Jane Frankenberger Greenwald (16)  
John Burkhardt (17)  
Esther Stabins (18)  
Michael Tice (18)  
Jinx Engel Harris (19)  
Frank Hudnall (19)  
Moses Meyer Lipton (19)  
Lottie Cohen Goshorn (20)

Mark H. Schaul Sr. (20)  
Evelyn Brown Silverman (20)

## January 21st

Louise Parker (22)  
Marjorie Spigel Sockol (22)  
Stanley Szczepaniak (22)  
Frances S. Schaffner (23)  
Harry L. Wills (23)  
Rose Marks Stern (24)  
Terrie Rosenfeld (26)  
Joyce Maldow Selinger (26)  
Louis Hartstein (27)  
Iris Pincus (27)  
William Osvath (28)

## January 28th

Bertram Schaffner (29)  
Meyer Kwass (30)  
Rose Edelman (31)  
Philip Barnett Hall (31)  
Bessie Polan Brown (Feb. 1)  
Samuel Oppen (Feb. 1)  
Florence Jordan Silverstein (Feb. 1)  
Mary Selinger (Feb. 2)

Herbert Frankenberger (Feb. 3)  
Doris Lewis (Feb. 3)  
Ben Marks (Feb. 3)  
John A. Pianfetti (Feb. 3)  
Esther Sloman (Feb. 3)  
Leora Osgood May (Feb. 4)

***Sunday, Jan. 16, there will be an unveiling for Terrie Rosenfeld at 3 PM at the Temple cemetery.***

Photo by Greg Proctor



## January at a Glance

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

Friday, Dec. 31 at 5:30 PM – In-person and online Shabbat service with Torah reading – Parashah Vaera

Saturday, Jan. 1 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Torah Study: Ex. 6:2-9:35.  
Not a service – online only

Sunday, Jan. 2 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature

Monday, Jan. 3 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in

Tuesday, Jan. 4 at 10 AM – Torah Class

Thursday, Jan. 6 at 10 AM – Talmud Class

Thursday, Jan. 6 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah

Friday, Jan. 7 at noon at St. Marks UMC in downtown Charleston \*outdoors:  
12:00-12:15 PM: Interfaith Service of Unity and Reconciliation (masks and social distancing required)

Friday, Jan. 7 at 5:30 PM – In-person and online Shabbat service

Monday, Jan. 10 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in

Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 10 AM – Torah Class

Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 5:30 PM – Temple Israel Board Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 13 at 10 AM – Talmud Class

Thursday, Jan. 13 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah

Friday, Jan. 14 at 5:30 PM – In-person and online Shabbat service with Pulpit Exchange (Rabbi Urecki addresses Temple Israel)

Saturday, Jan. 15 at 10 AM – B'nai Jacob Shabbat Morning service with Pulpit Exchange (Rabbi Blair addresses B'nai Jacob) Parashah Beshalach

Sunday, Jan. 16 at 10:30 AM – Temple Israel Sisterhood Board meeting

Sunday, Jan. 16 at 11:15 AM – Temple

*(Continued on page 4)*



## 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 end of November to the time of writing this bulletin article:

Melissa Cadle  
George Castelle  
Patricia Cohen Coniglio  
Jonathan Freedman  
Arnie Hartstein  
Richard Holicker  
Margie Hutt  
Mel Hutt  
Dorothy Kurland  
Ann Kushner  
David Kushner  
Roberta Lee Levine  
Laura Malloy  
Gary Markham  
Hedy Poppelsdorf  
Linda Rubin  
Olivia Sergot  
Barbara Braun Tweddle  
Natalie Winowich  
Nick Winowich  
Beth Steinberg Winter

All who are impacted by the Pandemic or other illnesses

All affected by natural or man-made disasters or violence

All others 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 anni-

versary or other life event worth celebrating! Among those we know who are/were to be acknowledged we include:

December: Marty Kommor, Cindy Feltzin, Ellie Schaul (MILESTONE), Ben Zacks, Beth Bloom, Joy Redmond, Ira Bloom, Steve Jubelirer, Barbara Braun & Allan Tweddle (MILESTONE), Cookie Glasser, John Sutter, Amy Bloom, Carol Pollock, David Feibelman, Harry Peck, Melissa Cadle, Marty Kanner, Sam Belsky, Ginny Kafka, Jackie Artz, Trigg Salsbery, Danita Nelhaus, Donna Grove, Gina Puzzuoli, Laura & Jace Goins, Dan Kurland, Steve Max (MILESTONE), Marion Baer, Arla Ralston & Roger Forman, Richard Spiegel, Phyllis & Harvey Sherman, Bruce Freeman, Nina Shinagel, Joy Klee-man, Fred Pollock, Yaakov Pushkin

January: Russ Emrick, Kristin Clendinning, Caroline Ostand, Barry Diznoff, Ken Silverstein, Elizabeth Kantor-Bright, David Kushner, Betty Diznoff, Sherri Reveal, Ken Rubin, Jerry Abshire, Sugar Rubin, Martin Pushkin, Nancy Boulianne, Rafe Godfrey, Frona Colker, Dorothy Kurland, Ellyn Goldberg, Miki Bloom, Ben Cohen, Tammy Nearman, Alvin Preiser, Carol Kim, Betty Caplan, Norman Marks, Richard Holicker, Sharon Rubin, Shelly Kanner, Cindy Armstrong, Cindy Persily, Tiana Hall, Hedy Poppelsdorf, Richard Gottlieb, Rita Nearman, David Shapiro, Nancy Newfeld, Arnie Hartstein, Beth Winter, Bryan Selbe

February: Barrie & Tod Kaufman, Phyllis Preiser Sherman, Ronni Cohen Spudich, Mike Pushkin, Carole Bloom, Julie Adams & Josh Barrett (MILESTONE), N. David Stern, Bob Aaron, Hal Selinger, Margot Jogwick, Elliot Urecki, Barrie Baer Kaufman

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.

## **January at a Glance, continued**

(Continued from page 3)

Israel Sisterhood General Membership Meeting and Program

Sunday, Jan. 16 (time TBA) – Charleston Jewish Film Festival, Park Place Cinemas (Free)

Sunday, Jan. 16 at 3 PM – Rosenfeld unveiling at the Temple cemetery

Monday, Jan. 17 – Temple office closed in observance of MLK Day

Monday, Jan. 17 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in

Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 10 AM – Torah Class

Wednesday, Jan. 19 (time TBA) – Leora May Book Club

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 10 AM – Talmud Class

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 6 PM – Two Charleston Rabbis

Friday, Jan. 21 at 5:30 PM – In-person and online Shabbat service

Sunday, Jan. 23 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature

Sunday, Jan. 23 at 7:30 PM – Charleston Death Café

Monday, Jan. 24 at 10 AM – ZOOM Check-in

Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 10 AM – Torah Class

Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 1 PM – WVU OLLI course, Encounters with Midrash, taught by Rabbis Urecki and Blair (alternating, 2 sessions each)

Thursday, Jan. 27 at 10 AM – Talmud Class

Thursday, Jan. 27 at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah

Friday, Jan. 28 at 5:30 PM – In-person and online Shabbat service

Monday, Jan. 31 at 10 am – ZOOM Check-in



## Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

A calendar item in December was the Ta'anit Asarah B'Tevet (the fast of the 10th of Tevet), which commemorates the events in the year 425 BCE and after, when the armies of the Babylonian emperor Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem. Thirty months later—on 9 Tammuz—the city walls were breached, and on 9 Av of that year the Holy Temple was destroyed. The Jewish people were exiled to Babylonia for 70 years. The 10th of Tevet is observed as a day of fasting, mourning and repentance. The tradition is to refrain from food and drink from daybreak to nightfall, and to add Selichot (penitential prayers) and other supplements to the prayers. The fast ends at nightfall, or as soon as you see three medium-sized stars.

### January Calendar

The only calendar events in January (other than Shabbat) are Rosh Chodesh (New Month) for Shevat on Jan. 3, Shabbat Shirah (Sabbath of Song) with Parashah Beshalach on the Jan. 14-15, and Tu B'Shevat (15th of Shevat, the New Year for the Trees) Jan. 16-17.

### Highlights

January will feature many of our regular events. Here are a few highlights for the month. See "At a Glance" for individual dates.

Saturday, Jan. 1, at 10 AM – Temple Israel Torah Study.

Sunday, Jan. 2 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature. More feminist Jewish poetry.

Mondays at 10 AM – Zoom Check-in.

Tuesdays at 10 AM – Torah Class.

Thursdays at 10 AM – Talmud Class.

Thursdays at 4 PM – A Bissell Torah.

Fridays at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service.

The Temple Israel board of trustees will meet Jan. 11 at 5:30 PM.

On Shabbat Jan. 14 & 15 will be Pulpit Exchange.

Sunday, Jan. 16 at 10:30 AM – Sisterhood combined board and general membership meeting and program.

Sunday, Jan. 16, Charleston Jewish Film Festival at Park Place Cinemas.

Sunday, Jan. 16, unveiling for Terrie Rosenfeld at 3 PM at the Cemetery.

Leora May Book Club Wednesday, Jan. 19. Details TBA.

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 6 PM, Two Charleston Rabbis.

Sunday, Jan. 23 at 4 PM, Jewish Lit.

Sunday, Jan. 23 at 7:30 PM Charleston Death Café.

Tuesdays, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, & 15, 1-2:30 PM – WVU OLLI Course Encountering Midrash, taught by Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair (alternating sessions).

Temple Israel Torah study, Saturday, Feb. 5 at 10:30 AM.

### Prayerbooks

Please note: you have the option to borrow prayer books for our regular Shabbat services, if you wish. Again, contact the rabbi or Greg, and arrange to pick one up. The Siddur for Sabbath and Holidays is also available as a flip book for free from the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) – see the Temple website for the link.

### Temple projects and upgrades

Committees have been busy, and much has been accomplished. It has been wonderful and amazing to see all that is going on. Our lovely home has been receiving some TLC, keeping it as a beautiful, comfortable and welcoming place for the congregation and the community.

### Services: Opening the Zoom session and entry to the building

When in-person attendance at worship services is permitted, the board has chosen to permit those who meet the criteria established in the guidelines to attend. Please try to arrive during the time set for the doors to be unlocked to minimize wear and tear on those helping to keep us secure. Entry to the building is scheduled for 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 thirty minutes prior to services starting.

For a regular Shabbat or special evening service, the online Zoom session will open at 5 PM for a social time, and the service will commence at 5:30 PM.

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.

### Blessings and salutations

I hope that your Hanukkah was filled with joy and spiritual nourishment this year, and that the light from the lamps of Hanukkah will spread and brighten and enlighten the world around us. May we all be filled by that light with warmth and awareness, and the feeling that each of us is a precious soul in the marvel of Creation. May we be graced with a year of plenty, of health and happiness, joy and blessing, love and peace, and may we share that with all around us – those we love, our friends and neighbors, the members of our communities, and all throughout the world.

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

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace),

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

[RabbiJoeB@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiJoeB@gmail.com)

Temple office email address

[templeisraelwv@gmail.com](mailto:templeisraelwv@gmail.com)



**Social Action Committee****Thanks for a successful 2021 Adopt-a-Family project****Thanks from the project coordinators**

We wanted to let you know that the Adopt-a-Family project has been completed. Dona and her daughter Tiana met with Ditty at her home on Sunday afternoon to wrap the adult gifts, and then Ditty took the seven huge bags to Covenant House on Monday afternoon.

In addition, we were able to purchase a \$200 gift card from Kroger, and a \$50 gift card from Ulta Beauty for the mother to buy the cosmetics that she had asked for. The shoppers' receipts have been submitted for reimbursement and we will know in January if we have any money left over. Former Adopt a Family chairperson Anne Fishkin usually bought hats and gloves for Manna Meal clients with any leftover funds.

We are pleased that we were able to

fulfill every wish on the family's list with the purchases of gifts using the \$1200-plus in monetary donations, as well as the gifts that were purchased and donated. Thank you for letting us be a part of this heartwarming activity.

*Ditty Markham and Dona Hall,  
Co-chairs of the 2021  
Adopt-a-Family project*

**Thanks from the Social Action Committee**

Ditty and Dona: Thank you both so much for your magnificent work of love and generosity. Wow! And thank you for representing our congregation in such a wonderful way. Thanks so much Tiana for volunteering as well.

The Committee would like to thank

members of the congregation who donated funds and/or gifts for the 2021 Adopt-a-Family project:

Marsha Albert  
Marion Baer  
Karen & Rabbi Joe Blair  
Rachel Dash  
Harriet Deutsch  
Tudi & Lee Forb  
Cookie Glasser  
Dona Hall  
Richard Hess  
Joy & Ken Kleeman  
Judy Lundy  
Mary Rich Maloy  
Julie Margolis  
Ditty and Gary Markham  
Ellie & Mark Schaul  
Amy & David Shapiro  
Fran & David Thalheimer

**Critical issues: WRJ training and advocacy opportunities**

*From Fran Thalheimer, Chair,  
Temple Israel Sisterhood's Critical  
Issues Committee*

**Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ)  
Training sessions on the web**

**Impromptu Speaking: Public Speaking Training, Jan. 6 at 12 PM.** Join WRJ for the first of two public speaking training sessions with Helen Gottstein, a public speaking expert. The second training is scheduled for Jan. 20.

**Voting and Reproductive Rights Webinar Jan. 12 at 7 PM.** The ability to protect and expand everyone's right to reproductive care rests on the right to vote. Learn more about the interconnectedness of these two issues and what we, as Jewish women, can do to make an impact.

For more info on these programs and

to access Zoom links, please contact Fran Thalheimer [fot51@aol.com](mailto:fot51@aol.com)

**Contact our WV Senators to protect abortion access**

While the Supreme Court has allowed legal challenges to continue, it is unacceptable that the Court has allowed Texas' unconstitutional abortion ban, SB 8, to remain in effect.

Our Jewish tradition, which prioritizes individual dignity and views abortion as essential health care, inspires our fight for abortion access.

Urge our Senators, Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito, to put a stop to state attacks on abortion access and pass the Women's Health Protection Act. Visit the following link from the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC),

<https://RAC.org/WHPA>

You can also contact our Senators by writing to them at their offices in Washington, DC, by visiting their websites and leaving a message, by email, or by telephone:

Hon. Joe Manchin  
306 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510  
[manchin.senate.gov](mailto:manchin.senate.gov)  
(202)224.3954

Hon. Shelley Moore Capito  
172 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510  
[capito.senate.gov](mailto:capito.senate.gov)  
(202) 224.6472

**New in  
our  
library!**

*The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women  
Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos*, by Judy Batalion.

A New York Times and Washington Post (and others) bestseller, the work highlights an important story of the Second World War, bringing into focus the

accomplishments of brave women resistance fighters. The book has already optioned by Steven Spielberg for a major motion picture.

*Mary Rich Maloy, Library chair*

## Sisterhood Message

# Enthusiasm and excitement is thrilling

Dear Sisters of Temple Israel Sisterhood:

I hope you share my enthusiasm and excitement with how great our combined Hanukkah dinner was. The execution of all the details was perfect and every one of us should be thrilled with the efforts of Shelly and David Winowich. Their choice of a caterer was outstanding — the food was delicious and it all went so well.

Among the things that are going well the Helen F. Thalheimer Care Committee continues to amaze and do more than their job by giving out 22 gift bags to acknowledge the celebration of Hanukkah.

I received several acknowledgments and each one that reached out to say thank you was genuinely grateful.

We are continuing to meet virtually and the enthusiasm from our board and committee members thrills me and as we soon will turn the calendar to a brand-new year 2022. With everyone's thanks and commitment, we have kept Sisterhood viable and there are many players to make this possible.

There are people who are anti-vaxxers, contributing to the large number of hospitalizations, and so as a part of my message if you haven't received your vaccines or your booster, please do so. With everything in the news on daily basis, it makes sense to me to mention this in this column.

I write this just a day before the musical event that will be happening at Temple on Saturday night (the Nefesh Mountain concert, sponsored by the Temple, B'nai Jacob Synagogue and Jewish Federated Charities of Charleston), beginning with a Havdalah service led by members of the band. I hope many of you were able to attend in person or online.

Sisterhood continues to hold events for Sojourner's Shelter at the YWCA of Charleston, and thanks of course go to Caroline Ostand, who heads that endeavor. (Please see the inset for another of Caroline's projects.)

If you haven't purchased Temple Israel gift cards, I encourage you to do so and contact Caroline to make that happen they are beautiful and deserve to be used up and may I also add that it is a nice fundraiser for Sisterhood.

You'll be reading this message in the new year and as always, I wish you good health happiness and the beginnings of what I pray will be a very good year.

Smiling from behind my face mask,

*Millie Snyder,*

*Sisterhood President*

Sunday, Jan. 16 at 10:30 AM — Sisterhood combined board and general membership meeting and program.

## Backpacks

Caroline Ostand is collecting items to include in backpacks that will be given to foster children. Please contact her to find out what she is looking for and how you can contribute.



*The Helen F. Thalheimer Care Committee of Temple Israel Sisterhood remembered many Temple members at Hanukkah. Thanks to those who helped make this happen: Lynn Gattlieb, Judy Lundy, Mary Rich Maloy, Betty Stern, and Beth Winter.*

## Tzedakah (Charity)

Please continue to be generous in your giving — 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, Jewish Federated Charities of Charleston, JNF, and all the other worthy causes in our community and beyond, new and old.

*Rabbi Joe Blair*

# Shabbat Flowers on the bimah—sponsorships available

*Have you reserved your date(s)?*

As we open a new calendar year, you may wish to brighten the Bimah with flowers in celebration of a happy occasion or in memory of a loved one.

Signing up early assures you the date you desire. Flowers sponsorship may be secured with a \$40 donation to Sisterhood. Please make your check payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood and mail it to the Temple.

Please contact Betty Stern before you send your check, to make sure the date(s) you would like to sponsor flowers are available.

## Thanks to recent sponsors

Oct. 29 — Given by Judy Lundy, in memory of Celia Jurin, great-great-grandmother of Nathan Jurin

Nov. 12 — Given by Judy Lundy, in memory of her father, Ellis Clay Amburgey Sr.

