

Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

In mid-September as I write this, it is two days before Leil Selichot, deep in the run-up to the High Holy Days. Preparations are furiously in progress, plans being finalized, events being organized, music being practiced, sermons being scribbled all in hopes of offering you the best possible, most uplifting and meaningful High Holy Days observance possible! It is a hectic time, but one we enter into gladly in anticipation of sharing the holidays with you. When you receive this issue of the Bulletin, we should already be deep into the Holidays, having just completed Rosh Hashanah, and looking forward to Yom Kippur and Sukkot.

Calendar & Survey

As you may remember, multiple events went on "summer break" in August. As I am trying to lay out the calendar for the coming year, I would appreciate your input on scheduling, and on frequency of these events. Please take a few minutes, and respond to the emails I will be sending out shortly. I hope to have your responses by the end of the holiday period (Oct. 16), and will announce the plans for when the programs will take place, based on your input, in the next bulletin.

Please tell me:

- your preferred day of the week (Sun-Fri),
- times of day (mornings, afternoons, evenings),
- and frequency of meetings (quarterly, monthly, twice a month, weekly).
 Thank you very much!

I am asking in regard to these events. Please respond for each one you would like to have available.

- Zoom Check-in (previously weekly on Mondays at 10 AM)
- A Bissell Torah (previously weekly on Thursdays at 4 PM)
- Charleston Death Café (previously monthly on Sundays at 7:30 PM)
- Jewish Literature (previously twicemonthly on Sundays at 4 PM)
- Havdalah service (previously quarterly on Saturdays at around 7 PM)
- Two Charleston Rabbis Discussions (previously monthly on Wednesday or Thursday evenings at 6 PM)

Other events will be planned and announced elsewhere. These will include committee meetings, Sisterhood activities, Leora May Book Club meetings, and so on. Already included on the calendar are Shabbat services, weekly on Friday evenings at 5:30 PM; Torah study, monthly on Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM, and specific holiday events through the year.

Congregational support and contacting the Rabbi

If you feel you would like to talk, have any pastoral concerns, know of someone who needs pastoral or rabbinic support or assistance, have a suggestion to improve what we are doing, 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 much of the day, and Friday generally until 3 PM. I am in the building for at least part of most days and I read email

Moving in...



Ann Kushner putting up the mezuzah in her new home.

Photo by Judy Lundy

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 urgency of the call and the nature of the need in the message.

A Note of Thanks

I want to express thanks personally, and on behalf of Karen. We were touched by the many kind messages and inquiries concerning her surgery in August. I am happy to be able to report that her knee replacement seems to

(Continued on page 7)

Founded 1873—Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

Holiday and Shabbat worship services & Torah study

Religious services will be available for both in-person and online participation. Torah study sessions are available on Zoom only.

| SHABBAT, YOM KIPPUR, SUKKOT, & SIMCHAT TORAH | | |
|--|--|--|
| Oct. 4 | Yom Kippur Eve service—Kol Nidrei at 7:30 PM | |
| Oct. 5 | 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning service | |
| | 12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon service | |
| | 3:00 PM Torah/Text study—Zoom only | |
| | 5:15 PM Memorial (Yizkor) service | |
| | 6:00 PM Concluding (Ne'ilah) service | the second s |
| Friday, Oct. 7 | Shabbat service with Sukkot observance at 5:30 PM | The Alexandree |
| Friday, Oct. 14 | Shabbat service with Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah observance at 5:30 PM | |
| Friday, Oct. 21 | Shabbat service at 5:30 PM | |

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

From the Rabbi

Yom Kippur is Tuesday evening Oct. 4 at 7:30 PM *(Kol Nidrei)* and Wednesday Oct. 5 starting at 10:30 AM, continuing into the early evening.

We will enjoy the musical rendering of the *Kol Nidrei* Tuesday evening, by Sandra Gross on the viola, with Bob Morris

Security for Yom Kippur services Oct. 4 & 5

The security arrangements for access to our building on Yom Kippur (Tuesday evening, Oct. 4 and Wednesday, Oct. 5) will be the same as those for Rosh Hashanah.

We will have an off-duty Charleston PD officer at the Temple for the Yom Kippur evening service and for each service Yom Kippur day. That presence will be supplemented by members of the Security Committee who will monitor the doors we will use to enter our building.

Our High Holy Days are our most well attended services. Because we expect

singing the words, and piano accompaniment by our music director, David Stern.

Yom Kippur services are Morning (10:30 AM), Afternoon (12:30 PM), Memorial (5:15 PM), and Concluding (at approximately 6 PM, beginning shortly after the conclusion of the Memorial service).

All of these services will be available

Photo by Grea Proctor

both in-person and online.

There will also be a Torah Study at 3 PM, but that will be available online only.

Information on any refreshments, such as Yom Kippur break-the-fast, will be forthcoming separately.

Rabbi Joe Blair

many people to attend in person, as happened on Rosh Hashanah, we want to do what we can to secure those who come to observe while still welcoming all who come to worship and gather. Although it may be inconvenient for some, for which we apologize, we believe limiting access to the front and rear doors is best. This is the same way we provide entry for our weekly Shabbat services.

However, as we did for Rosh Hashana, we will be keeping the front and back doors unlocked a bit longer than we do for Shabbat. The doors will be unlocked 20 minutes before, and will remain unlocked until 30 minutes after, the service begins. The plan is for the members of the Security Committee who monitor the doors to let those in who come after the doors are locked. Our goal is do that as promptly as practicable. But we appreciate your patience in advance, as it may take some time for those persons who serve as monitors to come and open the door for you.

We wish you and yours an easy fast! May we all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life for the coming year!

Shana Tovah,

David Shapiro & David McAfee

Security Committee, Co-Chairs

Please let the Temple office know if you're moving, or if you have new contact info such as new email address or phone number, or if you've dropped your landline. TEMPLE ISRAEL 2312 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, W.Va. 25311 (304) 342-5852 www.templeisraelwv.org templeisraelwv@gmail.com Francine Thalheimer, President Joseph M. Blair, Rabbi

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

www.templeisraelwv.org

October Yahrzeits

Names are read the Friday evening prior to the Yahrzeit date, which is beside the name.

October 7th

Rebecca Blankstein, Oct. 8 Harold Freedman, Oct. 8 Amelia L. Hess, Oct. 8 Alan Land Susman, Oct. 8 Flora Schwartz, Oct. 8 Freda Gordon Kopelman, Oct. 9 Sophie Applebaum, Oct. 10 Charles "Charlie" Carroll, Oct. 10 Bernice "Bea" Cohen, Oct. 10 Louis Hallam, Oct. 10 Rose Goldstein, Oct. 11 Leona Spigel, Oct. 11 Donald Deutsch, Oct. 12 Stella Hess Swarts, Oct. 12

October 14th

Alfred Zicherman, Oct. 15 Louis Fenster, Oct. 16 Sam Kopelman, Oct. 17 Kurt Feibelmann, Oct. 19 Mary Lipson, Oct. 20 Jacob Nusbaum, Oct. 20 Harriet Stern, Oct. 20 Bertha "Bertie" Feldman, Oct. 21 Frank McCallum, Oct. 21 Grace Ratowsky, Oct. 21

October 21st

Augusta Angel, Oct. 22 Dr. Herman Gordon, Oct. 23 Howard Coleman, Oct. 24 Sidney Gattlieb, Oct. 24 Lucille Goldfarb, Oct. 25 Karen Bramnik Syken, Oct. 26 William L. Sloman, Oct. 27

October 28th

Lena Baker, Oct. 29 Dorothy Rae Boiarsky, Oct. 29 Ira Loeb, Oct. 29 Estelle Stack Kreinik, Oct. 30 Dr. Myron I. Price, Oct. 30 Simon Meyer, Oct. 31 Jack Rosenblatt, Oct. 31 R. Bernard Bernheimer, Nov. 1 Alece Schwabe, Nov. 1 Max Frankenberger, Nov. 2 Robert Herzbach, Nov. 2



Celia Jurin, Nov. 2 Ethel Kart, Nov. 2 Madeline Erlich, Nov. 4 William F. Hoss, Nov. 4 Seymour Kantor, Nov. 4 Joseph Klee, Nov. 4 Max Pitasky, Nov. 4

Condolences are on p. 4

October at a Glance

This is a projected calendar of events; it has not been finalized and may be incomplete. Services are both in-person and online/virtual. All meetings, classes, programs, and events are virtual unless otherwise announced, available via Zoom. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about these online sessions, please let him know.

- Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 PM Erev Yom Kippur, with Kol Nidrei
- Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning (Shacharit) Service
- Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon (Minchah) Service

- Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 3 PM Yom Kippur Torah/Text Study (Online only)
- Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 5:15 PM Memorial (Yizkor) Service
- Wednesday, Oct. 5 at approximately 6 PM – Concluding (Ne'ilah) Service (to follow Yizkor as soon as possible)
- Friday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 PM Temple Israel Shabbat service with Sukkot observed
- Sunday, Oct. 9 Erev Sukkot (no event scheduled on this date)
- Sukkot, Oct. 10-17 (7 days); 10-18 (8 days) (no events scheduled on these dates)

Friday, Oct. 14 at 5:30 PM – Temple Israel

Shabbat service with Simchat Torah observed

- Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 5:30 Temple Israel board of trustees meeting (please note change in date from previously announced schedule)
- Wednesday, Oct. 19 Leora May Book Club – location, format and time TBA
- Friday, Oct. 21 at 5:30 PM Temple Israel Shabbat service
- Tuesday-Wednesday, Oct. 25-26 Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan (no events scheduled on these dates)
- Friday, Oct. 28 at 5:30 PM Temple Israel Shabbat service



In the Congregation & Community

(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 during the time since the last bulletin article who agreed to have their name listed:

Karen Blair Jonathan Freedman Karl Gattlieb Dona Hall Margie Hutt Gloria Kelley Mel Hutt **Dorothy Kurland** David Kushner Laura Malloy Gary Markham **Debbie Matthews** Lynn Meyer Carolyn Ostand **Greg Proctor & Family** Hedy Poppelsdorf Mark Schaul Family & Friends of Dr. Hal Selinger Allan Shumofsky **David Thalheimer** The Thalheimer Families 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.) Of special note: **Nick Winowich** will celebrate his 100th birthday on Oct. 6.

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:

September: Jackie & Steve Artz, Ladonna Kushner, Bridget McGuire, Gary Cohen, Margee Denver, Josh Barrett, Rich Katz, Ron Eisinger, Julie & David Brown, Marci & Hank Yunes, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Gary Sheff, Jace Goins, Brian Glasser, Donn Neurman, Rick Rubin, Randi & Donn Neurman, Ed Goldberg (MILESTONE), Greg Clark, Susan Cowin, Teresa & Randi Masinter, Julie Adams, Harvey Kerstein, Andrea Fernandez, Harvey Sherman, Mia Broome, Sara & Monty Preiser, Marsha & Ivan Platnick, Gail Michelson, Gloria Max, Gail Bellamy, Mitchell Klein, Bill Rosenfeld, Judy Donaldson, Henry Kanner, Lynn & Steve Meyer (MILESTONE), Ernie Lazernick, Alan Bernstein, Arie Smargon, Bob Bloom, Lynn Gattlieb, Roberta Lee Levine, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Marietta Zaborsky, Howard Abrams, Sigal Kuhl, Eric Snyder, Terry Pickett, Barbara Schwartz, Melvin Apple

October: Mary Hart, Richard Hess, Robert Hess, Kathy Schulberg, Nikki Druckman, Norman Schlacht, Barbara Schamberger, Ina Angel, Ladonna & David Kushner, Steve Loew, Julie Schaul, Nick Winowich (MILESTONE), Ari White, Bunker Carp Frank, Dolores Bloom, Doris & Jack Goldfarb, Bob Schwarz, Gary Winter, David Brown, Marlo Weisberg, Nancy & Ray Dodson, Aaron Persily, Judy Masinter, Neil Kessler, Bruce Sorgman, Jessica Bloom, Sema Fineberg, Alan Cohen, David Katzeff, Ross Abrams, Terry Preiser, Karen Freedman, Evie Breidenstein, Millie Snyder, Sallie Levenson, Alan Fleischmann, Deborah Levenson, Ilene Sheff Goodman, Blaire Malkin, Ellen Saxe Kanner, Steve Rubin,

Marsha Platnick, **Deborah Sonis, Gloria Kelley,** Terrace Nason, Bruce Goldfarb, **Ann Fishkin & Bill Kroesser,** Karen Pressman, Mick Schwartz, Nancy Morton, Debbie Ebner

November: Sara Cohen, Toby Scherer, Jean Urecki, Lee Diznoff, Roger Forman, Ed Weisberg, Chip Borstein, Donna Hark, Harrit Sutter, Stefanie Simunic, Jennifer Stern, Natalie Cowley, Peggy Kundin, Sam Miller, Mark Schaul, Natalie Winowich, Barbara Rubin, Jane Hark, Marilyn Urecki, Roberto Kusminsky, David Pushkin, Marc Slotnick, Melinda Susser, Sue Rubenstein, Debra Levine, Betty Stern, Jill Epstein, Barbara Buchanan, Linda Toborowsky, Gregg Stern, Stephen Meyer, Anne Fishkin, David Covey, Marty Pressman, Patrick Smolders, Kim Aaron, Bruce Goldfarb, Eve Fingerett, Judy Watkins-Rimmey, Avrah Urecki Leven, Joellen Zacks, Ellen Slotnick, Kathie Kommor

Other Events of Note

Mazal tov to Sue & Ron Eisinger on their recent move to Edgewood Summit.

Official Welcome to all of our newest members from the Parkersburg-Marietta community of Temple B'nai Israel of Parkersburg. We are delighted to have you join us online or in person!

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 extends our condolences to Betty and the rest of the Thalheimer family on the death of long-time member Albert Foster Thalheimer on Sept. 23 in South Carolina. A memorial service was scheduled for Sept. 28 at Congregation Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim in Charleston, S.C. May the memory be a blessing, and may those who mourn be comforted from heaven.

Sisterhood Message Looking back and looking ahead, with great hopes and best wishes for the New Year — a heartwarming way to begin again

Lately I have been reminiscent of High Holidays of the past when the Temple Sanctuary was filled to the brim with members, families, guests - young and old -

gathering to welcome the Jewish New Year.

The difference these past few years is Covid-19 and the Pandemic keeping members at home, families separated, and friends checking Zoom for familiar faces. This is safe and convenient, yet leaves lots to be desired in the way of friends' face-toface conversation, smiles and warmth.

The music is the same, always beautiful and stirring. Fall atmosphere is in the air. Perhaps we have prepared traditional dishes. But the old feeling of community is missing. I, for one, really miss the "old way" and know that perhaps we may be dreaming to expect the return to the old familiar. The new norm is now the reality.

I sincerely hope that opening services and programs, along with congregational dinners and special events, will return, slowly but surely. Socialization within our religious community is an important factor and I dearly hope that our temple can soon become the community that many of us remember and desire.



The Sisterhood board, committees and active Sisterhood ladies are doing their best by hosting the usual Rosh Hashanah

> reception and the Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast. Temple members have their individual choice to come back to our amazing facility. It would be a heartwarming way to begin the New Year.

> > Marsha Albert, Sisterhood President

Thanks to Sisterhood's Helen F. Thalheimer Care Committee for the gift mugs filled with holiday treats that were given to those attending Rosh Hashanah services, and which were also delivered to members who were unable to be at services in person.

Photo by Greg Proctor

The 2022-2023 Sisterhood Yearbook has been mailed to all members of Sisterhood and the Temple. We make every effort to list your contact info as accurately as possible. Please let the Temple office know whenever you move, change your email address or get a new phone number—and especially when you drop a landline. Thanks!



Sisterhood thanks the sponsors of High Holy Days floral arrangements on the bimah

Rosh Hashanah

Given by Ronni and David Spudich, in memory of Ronni's parents, Helen Cohen and Edward B. Cohen, and Ronni's brother, Ricky Cohen.

Yom Kippur

Given in memory of Jerry Goldberg, by Donna, David and Joanna.

Photo by Greg Proctor



Our Thoughtful Contributors

Checks to Sisterhood funds should be made payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.

Checks to the Library Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Social Action Fund, or Unrestricted Fund should be made payable to Temple Israel. Please write separate checks when making contributions to more than one fund or when paying membership dues.



Photo by Greg Proctor

Prayer Books

If you are planning to attend Yom Kippur services online, and would like to borrow the YK Machzor, please call or email me (the rabbi) and we can arrange for you to pick up the prayerbook. Call my cell phone (304) 989-4014 or email me at

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com



Sept. 11, 2022

Dear Fran,

On behalf of my family and myself, I want to tell you how appreciative and grateful we all are in making the unveiling ceremony and reception associated with my dear wife June such a meaningful and caring event.

The outpouring of affection from so many in our Temple community was overwhelming. I cannot thank the many individuals enough who helped to honor June and our family. The love and caring shown by our congregation will forever be embedded in our family's memories. And hopefully, I will be able to return to Charleston on many future occasions to renew my many long-term friendships that helped shape my life and those of my family.

With much love and affection, I wish you and all in our congregation a prosperous, active, and healthy New Year.

Warmest regards,

Barry Warhoftig

May you find your own inner worth, and fan your divine spark into a flame that

burns brightly. May you grow stronger and better, and become the person you wish to

be in your heart and soul - the person who

is all that you are meant to be, for yourself,

Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

have been completely successful, and she is doing absolutely wonderfully! She is fully engaged and advancing in physical therapy, and already far better than she was for quite some time before the surgery. We anticipate a full recovery and significant improvement, far beyond her condition during the past several years, with almost complete recovery of mobility and function. Again, deep appreciation for all the support and care we received.

Tzedakah (Charity)

I may say it often, but it is always true: needs locally, nationally, and around the world continue to run very high in light of the many issues, including natural and man-made disasters, limitations on immigration, and the effects of war, oppression, and violence that are seen widely. Needs are extreme, both domestically in the United States and overseas. Please be generous and do what you can, wherever you can. Please be generous.

Please note the many Tzedakah opportunities that we have supported over the years: Manna Meal, Covenant House, Sojourner's Shelter, RCCR, Mazon, AJWS, HIAS, Federated Jewish Charities of Charleston, JNF, and all the other worthy causes in our community and beyond, new and old, and offer whatever support you are able. Especially at this season, when we are taught that Tzedakah, Avodah, and Gemilut Chasidim are essential elements of our inner spiritual work as we approach the Yamim Nora'im – the Days of Awe.

Holiday Thoughts, and Blessings and Salutations

The High Holidays are a time that calls us to deep consideration, to ask ultimate questions regarding life and death, to seek meaning and find answers. It is a time of weighing things in the balance of right and wrong. It is both a call and an opportunity to see ourself for who we have been, and who we wish to become. In the cycle of the calendar, Rosh Hashanah is a point marking an end and a

new beginning; Yom Kippur is the moment of judgement and the time for choices. We have the gift of an opportunity for a "course correction" if we have not done as well as we wished. That is what this holiday period is about, in essence.

My prayer and hope at this moment is the we each and all will be able to do the hard work it takes to look deeply and unflinchingly into

our own soul, to have the courage and the integrity to see and face what is really there, and to look beyond it to find a way forward towards more light, our better selves, and a more godly existence, with compassion for ourself and others, knowing that all of us are imperfect, all of us need to be cared for and comforted, and that each of us contains the essential spark of the divine that animates us, and makes us human – and because of this, we are worthy, of another chance, of love, and of redemption.



There's still time to bring a sack of non-perishable groceries for delivery to the local food bank— pick up a bag at the Temple or bring your own.

Photo by Greg Proctor

your loved ones, your congregation, your community, and for this world, which so desperately needs each of us to strive to reach our greatest potential.

> At this time between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, during the Yamim Nora'im, I wish you all possible blessings, and a Shanah Tovah Umetukah Tichateimu – may you be sealed for a good and sweet new year.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace), Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

(304) 989-4014

(my cell phone – please call this number to get in touch directly with me)

Additional photo credits-thanks Wikimedia Commons!

Masthead

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cucurbita#/ media/

File:Squashes_at_Kew_Gardens_IncrEdibles_2 013.jpg

By Chiswick Chap - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/ index.php?curid=36881535

P. 6—lulav and etrog

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P. 6-Cucurbita 2006

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cucurbita#/ media/File:2006-10-18Cucurbita pepo06.jpg

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