

Above: First chapter of the Book of Esther, with reader's pointer. At right: 14th century Haggadah. — Wikimedia Commons

### Rabbi's Message

#### Shalom & greetings!

It is mid-February as I write this. You should receive this bulletin at the beginning of March. There is a lot to cover in the coming weeks.

#### Calendar News

#### Early in March:

The Fast of Esther is on March 6, an observance to remember the fast that Esther asked all the Jews to undertake with her as she prepared to risk going before King Ahasuerus without being summoned by him. Then Purim itself falls on March 7.

We will observe Purim at the Friday evening Shabbat service on March 3. This is also known as Shabbat Zachor, the sabbath of remembrance, when we recall the evil that was intended by Amalek, connected by the Rabbis midrashically with Haman. This will also be our next scheduled covered dish dinner, following the service, along with the Oneg Shabbat.

On Sunday, March 5 we will have a Torah study, focusing on Shabbat Parah – the sabbath of the red heifer, on March 10-11; we will read from Parashah Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11-34:35; Numbers 19:1-22) in the Torah on March 10.

#### Mid-month:

March 17-18, we observe Shabbat Hachodesh, marking the beginning of the month, Nisan, in which Passover will fall. The Parashah is the combined portion of Vayakhel-Pekudei.

Rosh Chodesh Nisan falls on March 23. Parashah Vayikra, the start of the book of Leviticus in the Torah, is read on March 24-25.

Shabbat Hagadol, the Great Sabbath,

the one immediately prior to the start of the festival of Passover, is March 31-April 1. The Parashah read is Tzav.

On April 5 is Ta'anit Bechorot, the fast of the first born. This lasts until sundown, when we begin the festival of Passover, and hold the first Seder (this is when



the congregational Seder is scheduled – Temple and Sisterhood members, please see the information that was mailed to you, and make your RSVP to attend).

The first full day of Passover is April 6 and continues through the seventh day on (Continued on page 4)

### Message from the Temple president URJ at 150; Jewish Disability Advocacy; Passover Seder April 5

Temple Israel is a proud, founding member of The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), originally named the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which turns 150 years old this year: URJ 150 – Defining the Path Together.

I would like to thank our Social Action Committee co-chairs, Cookie Glasser and Rachel Dash, and Rabbi Joe Blair, for organizing two important Shabbats during February: Refugee Shabbat on Feb. 3 and Repro (Reproductive Rights) Shabbat on Feb. 17.

This was the fifth annual Refugee Shabbat, a project of HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, founded in 1902 in New York City, the immigrant gateway to America. HIAS provides vital services to refugees and asylum seekers around the world and advocates for their fundamental rights so they can rebuild their lives here in this country.

This past summer, the U.S. Supreme Court decision to reverse Roe v. Wade paved the way for states across the nation to pursue abortion bans and restrictions on birth control and fertility treatments. I am proud that our congregation participated in the National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) nationwide Repro Shabbat. Reproductive freedom is a Jewish value. I also want to express my deep appreciation to our speakers and our congregants who participated in these important Shabbats.

In honor of Jewish Disability Advocacy Day (JDAD) 2023, the

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Founded 1873—Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

### Shabbat worship services & Torah study

#### Religious services are both in-person and online (Zoom and Facebook) Torah study sessions are online only (Zoom)

Friday, March 3	5:30 PM	Shabbat service with Purim observed, Shabbat Zachor, & covered dish dinner afterward
Sunday, March 5	10:30 AM	Torah study, Exodus 30:11-34:35; Numbers 19:1-22, online only
Friday, March 10	5:30 PM	Shabbat service with Torah, Parashah Ki Tisa & Shabbat Parah
Friday, March 17	5:30 PM	Shabbat service, Shabbat Hachodesh
Friday, March 24	5:30 PM	Shabbat service
Friday, March 31	5:30 PM	Shabbat service, Shabbat Hagadol
Wednesday, April 5	6:00 PM	Congregational Passover Seder. Open to members of Temple and Sisterhood and their immediate families. Pre-paid RSVP due March 28.
Friday, April 7	5:30 PM	Shabbat service, Shabbat in Passover

## In the Congregation & Community

**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:

> Marsha Albert and family: Zelda Pushkin, David Pushkin and Christina Peraino, and Michael Pushkin Arthur Epstein Jonathan Freedman Karl Gattlieb Jack Goldfarb Dona Hall Margie Hutt Mel Hutt Gloria Kelley Myla Kreinik Delia Kurland Laura Malloy

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, **especially** if you've dropped your landline. Gary Markham Hedy Poppelsdorf Allan Tweddle Barbara Braun Tweddle Gayle Twigger-Shaw Rabbi Victor Urecki (Harav Avigdor Chayim ben Eliahu Noach ve Rachel) Natalie Winowich Beth Steinberg Winter Rachel Leah bat Shayna Chaya veShmuel

All who are impacted by the Pandemic or other illnesses

- All affected by natural or man-made disasters, war or violence
- All others in need of prayers for healing and wholeness

#### Baruch Dayan Ha'emet (Condolences):

Temple Israel extends our condolences to the family of Nick Winowich, longtime member of Temple Israel, who died on Feb. 11 in Charleston. Nick had reached the age of 100 in October, and celebrated that milestone with family and friends. Sadly, his health was fragile, and he entered hospice care. His funeral was conducted by United Disciples of Christ Church on Feb. 17, with interment at Mountain View Memorial Park Cemetery in Charleston. Nick's memory will be a blessing: we remember all the mourners, and pray that they will be comforted from Heaven.

Temple Israel extends our condolences to Lynn and Karl Gattlieb on the recent death of Lynn's aunt, Carole Darling, in Pittsburgh. May the mourners be comforted from heaven, and the memories be a blessing.

### 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

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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

#### SEE <<UPCOMING EVENTS>> WIDGET ON HOMEPAGE FOR CURRENT SCHEDULE INFO

### March Yahrzeits—names are read at the Shabbat service prior to the Yahrzeit date

March 4

March 4

March 4

March 5 March 6

March 6

March 15

March 15

### March 3rd

Anna Feinberg
Jacob Orelowitz
Esther Pincus
Margaret "Peggy" Koller
Samuel Helfand
Lee Silverstein
Marjorie Freedman
Helen Margolis Kahn
Louis Cremer
Nettie Golden
Ben Joseph
George Harry Meyer
Nathan Deutsch
Lillian Ostand
Joseph Bernard Randall Jr.
Bertha Weisberg
Max Beren

### March 10th

Martin Cremer **Ruth Segall** Ivor Franklin Boiarsky Ruth Lieberman Cohen Harry Rosen Eva Wills Marcus Berman Albert Irwin Mendeloff Samuel Abraham Schneider Anthony Thompson Charlotte R. Polan Minnie Rotgin

Nathan Stabins
Emily Szczepaniak
Revella Goldstein
Sarah Fine Machanoff
Louis Ruda

### March 17th

March 7 Barbara Boiarsky March 7 Jennie Cohen Lewis March 8 Hyman Blocker March 8 Eleanor Klein Diznoff March 8 **Morris Eisinger** March 8 A. Joseph Garner March 9 Melvin Hammer March 9 Melba Stern March 9 **Tina Holmes** March 9 Molly Rabinowitz March 10 **Trixie Shifflette** Arnold Treibis Bruce "Bob" Marks Michael Case March 11 Sanford Lewis March 11 Chuck Lundy March 12 Tressa Silverstein Moskov March 12 Leo Gordon Kopelman March 12 Jerry M. Kreinik March 13

### March 24th

March 15 Lois Ellison March 15 Hillard Fahn March 16 Samuel Jacobson March 16

March 16 March 16 March 17 March 17 March 17

Melvin L. Schwartz

	March 19
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March 25

March 25

March 18

March 18

March 19

March 19



lane Gleason	March 26
Blanche E. Jacobson	March 26
Sylvia Salem	March 26
Sam Silverstein Jr.	March 26
Nathan Stein	March 27
Jeanette Adler	March 28
Robert W. Garner	March 28
Richard Thalheimer	March 28
Frances L. Angel	March 29
Sarajane Levey Avidon	March 29
Don Garvin	March 29
George Greenwald	March 29
Helen Foster Thalheimer	March 29
Sara Baker	March 30
Estelle Darling	March 30
Harvey Jurin	March 30
Florence Treibis	March 30
Shirley Fahn	March 31
Toba Goldenberg	March 31
Bess Groden	March 31
Henry Hersch	March 31
Alvin Lindenberg	March 31
David Resnicoff	March 31
Emily Resnicoff	March 31
Gussie Resnicoff	March 31
Max Resnicoff	March 31
Mike Resnicoff	March 31
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### March at a Glance

This calendar may be changed after the Bulletin is published—please visit www.templeisraelwv.org for the current schedule. Services are both in-person and online. The format of meetings and other events varies—see the website for details. Masking is requested; full vaccination is required to attend in person. If you aren't receiving Rabbi's LINKS emails, please let him know.

Thursday, March 2 at 4:15 PM – A Bissell Torah, online only

- Friday, March 3 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service with Purim observed, and covered dish dinner to follow Sunday, March 5 at 10:30 AM – Torah
  - study, Exodus 30:11-34:35; Numbers 19:1-22, online only
- Thursday, March 9 at 4:15 PM A Bissell Torah, online only
- Friday, March 10 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service with Torah, Parashah Ki Tisa & Shabbat Parah

Monday, March 13 at 10 AM - Zoom

Leadership Check-in, online only

- Tuesday, March 14 at 5:30 PM Temple Israel board of trustees meeting
- Wednesday, March 15 at 6 PM Leora May Book Club
- Thursday, March 16 at 4:15 PM A Bissell Torah, online only
- Friday, March 17 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service
- Sunday, March 19 at 4:15 PM Jewish Literature, online only

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### Rabbi's Message, continued

#### (Continued from page 1)

April 13 (extending to April 14 for those who follow the custom of eight days).

We begin counting the Omer starting the evening of April 6 (or the next full day on April 7), marking off 49 days, which brings us up to the next Festival holiday of Shavuot. This marks the time from Liberation and Redemption to Revelation and the Matan Torah, the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

To fill out the picture: a few days after Passover, we will arrive at Yom HaShoah, Jewish Holocaust Remembrance Day, which begins on the evening of April 17 (next full day, April 18.)

Rosh Chodesh Iyar is April 21-22, which is also the Shabbat on which we read Parashah Tazria-Metzora.

Yom Hazikaron – Israeli Memorial Day is April 25, and April 26 is Yom Ha'Atzma'ut, Israeli Independence Day.

May 5 will be a regular Shabbat service, but will include our acknowledgement of Pesach Sheni, the Second Passover; a chance for those who did not observe it for any reason to do so.

As you can see, our calendar is busy and full. I know that I, your officers and board members, and committee members are all doing our best to serve our congregation and the larger community, and to offer meaningful, inviting, and engaging services, programs, classes, and activities. So, please join us for the scheduled events, celebrations, holidays, programs, and classes, and offer your suggestions for how we can make it better. We look forward to spending quality time with you.

### Highlights since the last Bulletin

The following is a list of significant events, from my perspective:

- Regular and ongoing: Shabbat services, including those with Torah readings; monthly covered dish dinners; and weekly Oneg Shabbatot; Torah Study; the Zoom Leadership Check Ins; Charleston Death Café; Jewish Literature; A Bissell Torah (focusing of late on the tales and sichot of Rabbi Nachman of Breslov).
- We have had a significant number of congregants who have been ill of late, and I have tried to offer pastoral support to them; also providing pastoral care to families who have had a loss, or are in the process of approaching one – there have been three instances recently. While this is often sad and sometimes quite difficult, it is at the heart of what we as Jews can do for those who encounter transitions and approach liminal moments in life.
- WV Council of Churches: Dismantling Racism Task Force: this group continues to focus on a major project to commemorate those who lost their lives through lynchings in West Virginia
- WV Faith Table: Executive Committee and the Communications Committee. This group engages in democracy and voting rights support, and we worked with other groups to place an ad for MLK Day, inviting the public to support anti-racism and economic justice issues through supporting voting rights and advocacy. This included working with representatives of the NAACP, Race Matters of Greenbrier County, Sisters from the Congregation of Saint Joseph, the Islamic Association of West Virginia, and others. We welcome your participation in planning our calendar through the end of the year.
- I participated (and will continue to do so) in meetings of these organizations:
  WV Faith Leaders Network, WV Clergy

Committed to Human & Civil Rights, WV Clergy for Reproductive Choice, WV Cares Dementia Advisory, WV Civic Engagement Table, WV Citizen Action Group, and WV Faith Leaders in Action.

- I am participating in an Interfaith event as a panelist at Bluefield State University focusing on interfaith issues and racial equity; I will serve as a member of a panel, and offer a Jewish perspective on these issues.
- I taught a two-session WVU OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Initiative) course, "More Midrash: Diving in Again" online in February. I anticipate another offering for the spring semester, topic and dates TBD.

### Support and Contact with the Rabbi and Temple leadership

As always, I want to serve you in as many ways and as well as it is possible. Please be in touch with me (the rabbi) or alternatively, the office, members of the board, or committee members if you have any needs, suggestions, concerns, or questions. You are also invited to attend the Zoom Leadership Check Ins monthly as another forum where you can talk to leadership and other members.

### Thoughts, Blessings, and Salutations

At this season, as we move into spring and approach Purim and Passover, it is generally a time of hope, renewal and growth, when we can feel the earth being re-invigorated, the world around us opening to new possibilities, and even we, ourselves, reaching towards the sense of renewal and enrichment.

Individually, as a congregation, and as a community, we face the prospect of both feeling and bringing growth and renewal and new hope into the world. This sense of hope is already planted, growing, and ready to flower.

Some would say that this is a tangible expression of G-d in the world; an immanent presence of the divine,

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### Sisterhood Message A gift from the universe, adding dimension and purpose to life

#### Requiem for Kai

There was a beautiful baby boy named Kai.

He was a gift from the universe to me and my family for a little over five months. He was my great-grandson. What a wonderful experience for such a small amount of time.

Kai was a perfect baby. He was hitting all the marks for a six-month-old, showing recognition of family and friends, familiar objects and surroundings. Kai had a killer smile and he was enjoying babbling galore. He seemed to take pleasure in nature as the out of doors appeared a wonderment to him.

Observing "firsts" from his point of view was a treat to me as his enjoyment at everything new seemed amusing to his senses. This was fun to observe and gave new perspective to me.

Losing Kai was an accident and a tragedy. My granddaughter, sons, daughter and daughter-in-law feel a massive void. Each of us had too short a window of what

absolute innocence and pure happiness looks like. It had been many years since we had a baby to love and cherish.

Early in January, his grandmother Christina and I brought Kai to a Friday night service. He seemed enthralled with David and Bob's music to the point of attempting to sing along. Many noticed Kai's presence that evening.

Kai was buried as a Jew. The graveside memorial service was beautiful. Kai is resting in peace in our Temple cemetery in the Angel family area. Rabbi Joe was wonderful as he comforted all of us in his quiet spiritual way.

All of the past month, sad as it was and remains, has added a certain dimension and purpose to me as I promise to try and do more good stuff in Kai's honor and memory. I want to adopt his loving smile and to use it as often as I can. The memory of Kai is one big huge smile at everything nice!

Pass this on.

#### Marsha Albert, Sisterhood President

### Sisterhood meeting community needs

Sisterhood continues to keep our ear to the community and their needs. Although it has been a mild winter, it is hard on many homeless people and others.

We have become aware that the fire at the Regal Apartments affected many veterans who had independent apartments there. The Red Cross is caring for their emergency needs, and the community has had some fund raisers. As these veterans seek to reestablish their homes in the next few months, they will need furniture, kitchen items and bedroom furnishings.

The Temple is responding with a donation to the United Way earmarked for the affected residents, but stay tuned for a Sisterhood project to help provide bedroom and linen items! We appreciate your help and efforts toward tikkun olam!

Also of note, Sojourner's Shelter: Going shopping for cereal...but 20 kids eat a lot!

### Caroline Ostand

### Rabbi's Message, continued

#### (Continued from page 4)

experienced through the everyday miracles of growth, renewal, and re-birth, offering support for the sense of opening vistas and renewed connection with the divine plan for the world. When we witness things budding and growing, and (it is hoped) feel the same for ourselves, we are both witnesses to and the beneficiaries of G-d's gracious plan for our world.

In that light, we can accept that there is a plan and a structure that will unfold, even in the face of things that seem to run counter to it. Despite all the pitfalls, difficulties, and tragedies in the world, we can hold on to the feeling that there is still good, and that there is still a reason to retain and spread hope. May we all feel so, soon.

> -B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace), and prayers for healing and wholeness for all in need,

> > Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair *RabbiJoeB@gmail.com* (304) 989-4014 (my cell, please call it first) 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.

If you aren't receiving my LINKS emails, please send me an email to this address: RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

**Please note:** The CCAR (Central Conference of American Rabbis) no longer provides online access to prayer books. Visit the Temple website to link to the CCAR website for info about purchasing Mishkan T'filah as an ebook.

Rabbi Blair

### Our Thoughtful Contributors

Donations to the Sisterhood Floral Fund are welcome any time. Please contact Betty Stern if you would like give flowers in celebration of a simcha or to remember a loved one.

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If you would like to make a donation to a Temple or Sisterhood fund, please mail your check to Temple Israel and tell us to whom you would like a card to be sent.

Donations to a Sisterhood fund (Care Committee, Floral Fund, or Y.E.S. Fund): checks should be made payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood, noting which fund on the memo line.

Checks to the Library Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Social Action Fund, or Unrestricted Fund should be made payable to Temple Israel.

### Thanks for making Shabbat even more special...

### ... By giving bimah flowers

Feb. 3 – Cookie Glasser in memory of her mother, Helaine Kaufman Rotgin, a well-known advocate for social justice in our community and state.

Feb. 17—Lauren Winowich Lane & Brian Winowich, in loving memory of the patriarch and matriarch of their family, "Jedo & Nana," Nick Winowich and Betsy Gooding. L'dor v'dor.

Feb. 24—Marsha Albert in memory of her parents, Eleanor Klein Diznoff and Alex Diznoff.

### ... By sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat

Feb. 3 – Cookie Glasser, in memory of her mother, Helaine Kaufman Rotgin, a well-known advocate for social justice in our community and state.

Feb. 3 – Tu B'Shevat fruits and nuts given in celebration of the holiday by the Social Action Committee.

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



March 3rd Shabbat service: Covered dish dinner plus Purim observance



Bring a dish to share or just yourself—there's always plenty of good food.

### In the Congregation and Community, continued

(Continued from page 2)

celebrating! Among those we know who are/were to be acknowledged we include:

February: Barrie & Tod Kaufman, Ronni Cohen Spudich, Carole Lewis Bloom, Julie Adams & Josh Barrett, David Stern, Bob Aaron, Barrie Baer Kaufman, Margot Jogwick

March: Rachel Dash, Amy & David Shapiro, Marsha Albert, Shelly & David Winowich, Gary Markham, Bob Kimball, Glenn Goldfarb

April: Zel Lewis, Ditty Markham, Fran Thalheimer, Karl Gattlieb, Lynn & Karl Gattlieb

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.

### March at a Glance, continued

(Continued from page 3)

Thursday, March 23 at 4:15 PM – A Bissell Torah, online only Friday, March 24 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service Sunday, March 26 at 7 PM – Charleston Death Café, online only Thursday, March 30 at 4:15 PM – A Bissell Torah, online only Friday, March 31 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, Shabbat Hagadol *Next month* Sunday, April 2 at 4:15 PM – Jewish Literature, online only Wednesday, April 5 at 6 PM – Congregational Passover Seder, RSVP Required Thursday, April 6 – Temple office closed in observance of 1st day of Passover Thursday, April 6 – NO A Bissell Torah (1st day of Passover) Friday, April 7 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, Shabbat in Passover

Wednesday, April 12 – Temple office closed in observance of 7th day of Passover

# President's message: URJ 150, continued from front page

#### (Continued from page 1)

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (the RAC), the Jewish Federations of North America, and the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies were collecting organizational signatures for a letter to members of Congress, urging them to prioritize policies in the 118th Congress that promote inclusion and accessibility while empowering people with disabilities to lead lives of greater independence and economic stability. The letter was open to all Jewish institutions and organizations, including camps, NFTY chapters and congregations.

Jewish Disability Advocacy Day (JDAD), Feb. 15 was a virtual Day of Action, launched with an online Zoom session. Jews with disabilities and their allies came together in Washington, D.C. to celebrate their wins in 2022, which included the passage of the ABLE Age Adjustment Act, a longtime legislative priority of JDAD, and to begin their advocacy journey in this session of Congress. Advancing the civil rights of people living with disabilities remains a core focus of the Reform Movement's work of building a world of compassion, justice, and wholeness. Jewish tradition is explicit about the importance of creating a world that is accessible for all people. We are taught, "You shall not insult the deaf, or place a stumbling block before the blind "(Leviticus 19:14).

Please join us for Shabbat services in-person or online every Friday night at 5:30 PM. Join your Temple leaders and congregants during our Leadership Zoom Check-In, held the second Monday of the month at 10 AM. Rabbi Blair shares the links to services, classes, and meetings in his Thursday and Sunday LINKS emails.

The Temple's Passover Seder is Wednesday, April 5. Information about the Seder and a reservation form were mailed to members of the congregation and Sisterhood in early February.

Questions or concerns, please contact me via email *fot51@aol.com* or on my cell phone (304) 545-7967.

Francine Thalheimer



REMINDER: MEMBERS OF TEMPLE & SISTERHOOD: Pre-paid RSVPs for the congregational Passover Seder on Wednesday, April 5th are due in the Temple office no later than March 28, 2023. Your check is your reservation.

Wikimedia Commons

### Staying in touch with 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, or a concern about our community, please feel free to call me **on my cell phone** 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 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.

Rabbi Joe Blair

Temple Israel



A progressive Reform Jewish Congregation within the heart and history of Charleston WV Please visit the Temple's website www.templeisraelwv.org for up-to-date schedule info. The "At a Glance" is current when the Bulletin goes to press, but some events might be rescheduled. You can also easily access service recordings and other helpful links. (Continued from page 3)

### Yahrzeits, continued

#### March 31st

Samuel Kahn	April 1
Dorothy Kandel	April 1
Ralph Mannis	April 1
Sam Silverstein Sr.	April 1
Benjamin Brown	April 2
Honey Fleischmann	April 2
Murray Lewis	April 2
Fannie K. Sanger	April 2
Clara Schwartz Stern	April 2
Rae Beren	April 3
Joseph Garner	April 3
Henry Kleeman	April 3
Jay M. Segall	April 3
Tilly Lapatinsky Walker	April 3
Wilbert "Will" Darling	April 4
Eugene Drasnin	April 4
Harry N. Barton	April 5
Josi Steinberg	April 5
Lylla Shinberg	April 6
Lee Harry Kay	April 7

### Tzedakah: an urgent matter

Please be generous – needs locally, nationally, and around the world continue to run high in light of natural and man-made disasters – limitations on immigration, and the effects of war, oppression and violence – experienced by so many.

The earthquake in Syria and Turkey has left thousands dead, injured or homeless, and other disasters are causing deprivation and dangerous conditions for needy and otherwise helpless people exposed to difficult weather and other extreme conditions.

Needs are urgent, both domestically in the United States and overseas. Please be generous and do what you can, wherever you can.

Please remember the many Tzedakah opportunities that we have supported over the years: Manna Meal, Covenant House, YWCA's 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.

Tzedakah is among the highest of all mitzvot possible; may your heart be moved to give a little bit more than you otherwise might, may your generosity be a blessing for those who receive it, and may that blessing reflect back onto you and your loved ones.

Rabbi Joe Blair

Tzedakah box (*Pushke*), Charleston (S.C.), 1820, silver, National Museum of American Jewish History.

—Wikimedia Commons



### Temple & Sisterhood members: Passover Seder pre-paid RSVPs due March 28th

The Triumph of Mordechai, 1624 painting by Pieter Pietersz Lastman (Rembrandt House Museum) - Wikimedia Commons

