

Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXXIII
Bulletin No. 7

*Purim will be observed at the Shabbat service
on Friday, March 22nd at 5:30 PM*

March 2024
Adar-I / Adar-II 5784

Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

This is the bulletin for March, 2024. As always, the material in it must be produced in advance, so this is from the perspective of mid-February. I hope that the groundhog was right, and it will be an early spring!

A final reminder: we still have two Hanukkiot (Hanukkah candelabras) that were forgotten at the Temple at the Hanukkah dinner in December. If you are missing yours, please contact me or Greg Proctor to pick it up. If no one claims them this month (March), they will be added to the Temple collection. 😊

Calendar News

Recent Highlights

Torah Study; Death While Dining; weekly meetings of A Bissell Torah; Jewish Literature; the HIAS Refugee Shabbat; the NCJW Reproductive Rights Shabbat; a visit from students at University of Pikeville in Kentucky; the WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute course on Psalms as Poetry; and all the other things usually on the calendar.

Looking Ahead

The period through March will be active, as always. Remember that we enter Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, March 10 at 2 AM this year. It is "spring ahead," so we lose an hour from the period of Saturday night to Sunday morning.

In addition to regular Shabbat services every Friday at 5:30 PM, we have: A Bissell Torah; Jewish Literature; Torah Study; Death While Dining; and the special inclusion of our Purim observance in the Shabbat service on March 22.

Looking toward April, we are in the midst of planning for Passover: the first night Congregational Seder will be held on Monday, April 22. Pre-paid RSVPs are required – we don't take payment at the door.

For more details about what's coming up this month, please see the "At a Glance" and the "Worship Services & Torah Study" listings in this bulletin – and because things can change after the bulletin is published, remember that the most up to date information is to be found in the Reminder Links emails that I send out on Sundays and Thursdays, and on the Temple website, <https://templeisraelwv.org>

Tzedakah (Charity)

Again (and probably annoyingly), I am offering a reminder about Tzedakah. It really makes a difference. I urge you to take a moment, think of what matters most to you personally, and act generously in supporting those causes. There are many good and worthy causes you can support, in our congregation, in our community, in our state, nationally, and more widely. I hope that you will keep them in mind as you allocate your Tzedakah for this secular year. Again; I pray that your heart may be moved to give a little bit more than you otherwise might; and pray for you that your generosity will be a blessing for those who receive it, and will reflect back onto you and your loved ones. Thank you for everything you do. *[Please see the back page for an opportunity of giving in support of a Sisterhood project. —Ed]*

Support and Contact with the Rabbi

Please be in touch with me if you would like a visit or a conversation, have a
(Continued on page 5)

**Temple's 150th
Anniversary
celebration scheduled
for Sept. 20-22 —
please contact the
planning committee
with your ideas!**

Attention Temple Israel Members and Alums:

The Temple board is planning a 150th Anniversary Celebration for the weekend of Sept. 20-22 – so please mark this window on your calendar.

The planning committee, chaired by Francine Thalheimer, is eager to hear from you: your ideas, contact info, interest in what activities you would like to attend, and anything else that you believe can enhance our celebration.

We are excited about this milestone event and hope you will be also. Hint: both spiritual and fun ideas are already floating around.

Please direct questions and/or comments to

Fran Thalheimer, 150th Anniversary
Reunion Chair,
templereunion150@aol.com

150th Anniversary Planning
Committee

Shabbat worship services & Torah study

Religious services are both in-person and online (Zoom and Facebook).

Torah study sessions are online only.

MARCH & EARLY APRIL

Friday, March 1	5:30 PM	Shabbat Service, covered dish dinner to follow
Sunday, March 3	10:30 AM	Torah study , Parashah Vayakhel & Shabbat Shekalim— Exodus 35:1-38:20, 30:11-16 – online only
Friday, March 8	5:30 PM	Shabbat Service, Torah Parashah Vayakhel & Shabbat Shekalim
Friday, March 15	5:30 PM	Shabbat service
Friday, March 22	5:30 PM	Shabbat service with Purim observed
Friday, March 29	5:30 PM	Shabbat service
Friday, April 5	5:30 PM	Shabbat service
Sunday, April 7	10:30 AM	Torah study , Torah Study, Parashah Tazria, Leviticus 12:1-13:59 — online only

March & early April at a Glance

*This is a projected calendar of events; it may be incomplete or changed. Services are both in-person and online/virtual. All meetings, classes, programs, and events are either in person or virtual, as announced. Updates to this information will be included on the Temple website and in the Reminder Links emails. **Wearing a Mask** is suggested if you are exhibiting any symptoms of illness; **vaccination** with a bi-valent vaccine is required to attend in person. If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about online sessions, please let him know.*

Purim begins at sundown Saturday, March 23. We will celebrate the holiday at the Shabbat service on Friday, March 22.

March

Friday, March 1 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, covered dish dinner to follow
 Sunday, March 3 at 10:30 AM – Torah

Study, Parashah Vayakhel & Shabbat Shekalim Exodus 35:1-38:20, 30:11-16, II Kings 12:1-17, Sephardim: I Kings 7:13-26
 Sunday, March 3 at 7 PM – Death While Dining
 Thursday, March 7 at 4:30 PM – A Bissell Torah
 Friday, March 8 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, Torah Parashah Vayakhel & Shabbat Shekalim
 Monday, March 11 at 11:30 AM – Sisterhood Schmoosze
 Tuesday, March 12 at 5:30 PM – Temple Israel Board of Directors Meeting
 Wednesday, March 13 at 1 PM – Temple board special meeting
 Thursday, March 14 at 4:30 PM – A Bissell Torah
 Friday, March 15 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service
 Sunday, March 17 at 4 PM – Jewish Literature
 Wednesday, March 20— Leora May Book

Club, time and location TBA
 Thursday, March 21 at 4:30 PM – A Bissell Torah
 Friday, March 22 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service with Purim Observed
 Thursday, March 28 at 4:30 PM – A Bissell Torah
 Friday, March 29 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service

Early April

Thursday, April 4 at 4:30 PM – A Bissell Torah
 Friday, April 5 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service
 Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 AM – Torah study, Parashah Tazria, Leviticus 12:1-13:59, II Kings 4:42-5:19
 Sunday, April 7 at 7 PM – Death While Dining
 Monday, April 8 at 11:30 AM – Sisterhood Schmoosze

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.

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Gayle Twigger-Shaw, *President*
 Joseph M. Blair, *Rabbi*

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

March yahrzeits

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

March 1st

Fred A. Bloomberg	3/2	Sarah Fine Machanoff	3/17
Harry Grossman	3/2	Louis Ruda	3/17
Leah Klein	3/2	Barbara Boiarsky	3/18
Marianne Lewent	3/2	Jennie Cohen Lewis	3/18
Natalie Melman	3/2	Hyman Blocker	3/19
Frank A. Baer Sr.	3/3	Eleanor Klein Diznoff	3/19
Barbara G. Bernstein	3/3	Morris Eisinger	3/19
Alex Fahn	3/3	A. Joseph Garner	3/19
Sally Greenstein	3/3	Melvin Hammer	3/19
Benjamin Machanoff	3/3	Melba Stern	3/19
Erwin Mayer	3/3	Tina Holmes	3/20
Adele Lehman Metzel	3/3	Molly Rabinowitz	3/20
Louis Tolchinsky	3/3	Trixie Shifflette	3/20
Anna Feinberg	3/4	Arnold Treibis	3/20
Jacob Orelowitz	3/4	Bruce "Bob" Marks	3/21
Esther Pincus	3/4	Michael Case	3/22
Margaret "Peggy" Koller	3/5	Sanford Lewis	3/22
Samuel Helfand	3/6	Chuck Lundy	3/22
Lee Silverstein	3/6	Tressa Silverstein Moskowitz	3/22
Marjorie Freedman	3/7		
Helen Margolis Kahn	3/7		
Louis Cremer	3/8		
Nettie Golden	3/8		
Ben Joseph	3/8		

March 8th

Nathan Deutsch	3/9	Leo Gordon Kopelman	3/23
Joseph Bernard Randall Jr.	3/9	Jerry M. Kreinik	3/23
Bertha Weisberg	3/9	Lois Ellison	3/25
Max Beren	3/10	Hillard Fahn	3/25
Martin Cremer	3/11	Samuel Jacobson	3/25
Melvin H. Hager	3/11	George Harry Meyer	3/25
Ruth Segall	3/11	Melvin L. Schwartz	3/25
Ivor Franklin Boiarsky	3/12	Jane Gleason	3/26
Ruth Lieberman Cohen	3/12	Lillian Ostand	3/26
Harry Rosen	3/12	Sylvia Salem	3/26
Rachel Cassidy	3/13	Sam Silverstein Jr.	3/26
Eva Wills	3/13	Mary Sonis	3/26
Marcus Berman	3/15	Nathan Stein	3/27
Albert Irwin Mendeloff	3/15	Jeanette Adler	3/28
Samuel Abraham Schneider	3/15	Robert W. Garner	3/28
Anthony Thompson	3/15	Richard Thalheimer	3/28
		Frances L. Angel	3/29
		Sarajane Levey Avidon	3/29
		Don Garvin	3/29
		George Greenwald	3/29
		Helen Foster Thalheimer	3/29

March 15th

Charlotte R. Polan	3/16	Sara Baker	3/30
Ida Schwartz Preiser	3/16	Estelle Darling	3/30
Minnie Rotgin	3/16	Harvey Jurin	3/30
Nathan Stabins	3/16	Florence Treibis	3/30
Emily Szczepaniak	3/16	Shirley Fahn	3/31
Revella Goldstein	3/17	Toba Goldenberg	3/31
		Bess Groden	3/31



Condolences are on p. 4

Photo by Greg Proctor

March 22nd

Henry Hersch	3/31
Alvin Lindenberg	3/31
David Resnicoff	3/31
Emily Resnicoff	3/31
Gussie Resnicoff	3/31
Max Resnicoff	3/31
Mike Resnicoff	3/31
Samuel Kahn	4/1
Dorothy Kandel	4/1
Ralph Mannis	4/1
Sam Silverstein Sr.	4/1
Benjamin Brown	4/2
Doris Goldfarb	4/2
Murray Lewis	4/2
Fannie K. Sanger	4/2
Clara Schwartz Stern	4/2
Rae Beren	4/3
Joseph Garner	4/3
Henry Kleeman	4/3
Jay M. Segall	4/3
Tilly Lapatinsky Walker	4/3
Wilbert "Will" Darling	4/4
Eugene Drasnin	4/4
Harry N. Barton	4/5
Josi Steinberg	4/5
Natalie Winowich	4/5

March 29th

Sara Baker	3/30
Estelle Darling	3/30
Harvey Jurin	3/30
Florence Treibis	3/30
Shirley Fahn	3/31
Toba Goldenberg	3/31
Bess Groden	3/31



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 Mi Sheberach list during the time since the last bulletin article who agreed to have their name listed. If we spoke and you did not want your name announced in the Mi Sheberach list, please know that I have included you in my personal prayers for healing and wholeness, though your name is not listed here. If your name has been removed from the list, it may still appear here, which is a cumulative listing of names since the last Bulletin, and it won't appear next month.

Marsha Albert
Melissa Cadle
Ruth Chodrow
Patricia Cohen Coniglio
The Crocker Family
The Domermuth Family
Arthur Epstein
Vera Flint
Jonathan Freedman
Karl Gattlieb
Jack Goldfarb
Ed Goldberg
Richard Gottlieb and Family
The Harwood Family
Mel Hutt
Rabbi Earl Jordan
Dorothy Kurland
Roberta Lee Levine
Judy Lundy and Family
Gary Markham
Mark Malloy
Lynn Meyer
Steve Meyer
Susan Mysel
Peggy Silverstein O'Connell
Amy Shapiro
David B. Shapiro
N. David Stern
Matt Tomaszewski
Barbara Braun Tweddle
Elliot Urecki
Jean Urecki
Gary Winter
Rachel Leah bat Shayna Chaya veShmuel

All who are impacted by illness or poor health
All who have been affected by natural or man-made disasters, war, or violence
All others who are in need of prayers for healing and wholeness, however that may manifest and whatever it may be for them

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

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

To those who reached or will reach milestones, and to all who had any birthday or anniversary or other life event worth celebrating! Among those we know who are to be acknowledged we include:

February: Barrie & Tod Kaufman (MILESTONE), Ronni Spudich (MILESTONE), Kate & Isaac Forman, Carol Lewis Bloom, Julie Adams & Josh Barrett, N David Stern, Frank Baer III, Bob Aaron, Barrie Baer Kaufman, **Elliott Urecki (MILESTONE), Margot Jogwick (MILESTONE)**

March: Rachel Dash, Amy & David Shapiro, Daniel Goldfarb, **Marsha Albert (MILESTONE),** Laura Malloy, Shelly & David Winowich, Gary Markham, Bob Kimball, Glenn Goldfarb, Greg Proctor

April: Zel Lewis, Ditty Markham, Fran Thalheimer, Susan Striar May, Karl Gattlieb, Lynn & Karl Gattlieb, **Bridget McGuire & Max Gottlieb (MILESTONE)**

We also offer Mazal Tov wishes to

Jill Epstein on her promotion to Senior Agent at AEP, recognizing her excellent customer service skills.

Rachel Dash for organizing the Tu B'Shevat Shabbat service, and for speaking at the Refugee Shabbat.

Judy Lundy for volunteering to read Torah for us at the Tu B'Shevat service, and doing a lovely job of it. We are looking forward to her next foray into Torah reading in May! [If you want to try this, please be in touch with

the Rabbi.]

Fran Thalheimer for organizing the Refugee and the Reproductive Rights Shabbat services.

Millie Snyder on her appearance on the podcast "My Community," discussing healthy eating and lifestyles, which is viewable online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ryJg5zj39QI>

Congratulations to N. David Stern for receiving the Susan S. Landis Distinguished Service to the Arts – Individual Award. Please see the full article on p. 5.

If you have a milestone 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 sincere condolences to Susan Striar May and family on the recent death of her husband, Stuart Lee May, in Florida, where the funeral was officiated by Rabbi Urecki. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Stuart be a blessing to those who knew and loved him.

Temple Israel extends our sincere condolences to the family of Hedy Poppelsdorf (Hedwig Fraenkel Poppelsdorf), longtime member of Temple Israel Congregation, who died at age 99 in Louisville, Colo. on Feb. 2. Hedy moved from Charleston to North Carolina, then to Colorado to be near family (including her daughter Paula Domermuth, Paula's husband Dave, and their daughter). Those who knew Hedy remember her as being a true animal lover, and particularly of cats. May all her mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Hedy be a blessing to all who knew and loved her.

Temple Israel extends our sincere condolences to the family of Martin Kanner on his recent death, in Charleston. The funeral was at Barlow Bonsall Funeral home, and the burial service was held at the B'nai Jacob Eternal Home, both officiated by Rabbi Urecki. May all mourners be com-

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Rabbi's Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

question, or wish to add (or remove) a name on the Mi Sheberach list or in the recent deaths list.

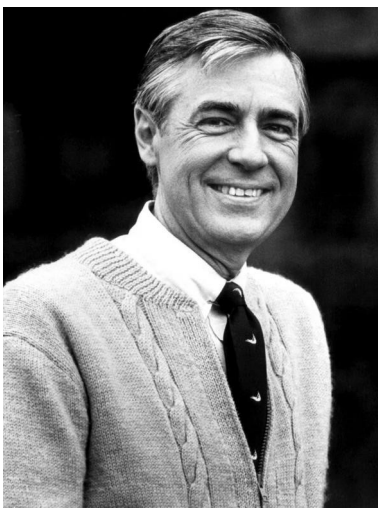
If you have any pastoral concerns, know of someone who needs pastoral or rabbinic support or assistance, or have a suggestion or a concern about our community, please call me (the rabbi) at (304) 989-4014, or email me at RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

I read email and texts regularly (**Shabbat and Jewish holidays excepted** – if you have an emergency on one of these days, 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). Please be assured that I will respond as soon as I am able, and forgive any delay.

Thoughts, Blessings, and Salutations

The world around us seems to be a frightening place at times, and we are exposed to great evil and cruelty in many places, directed at multiple individuals, groups, and nations; to the degree that we often may feel powerless, disheartened, and fearful. I want to remind you that even with all that is happening – and I do not deny that it is there – even so, there are still many good people trying to “do the right thing,” and there are lights of

compassion and goodness that continue to shine in the world, and that beckon us to rise above the events, people, and feelings that make us feel small and disempowered. No one of us can change what is happening, but by the combined efforts of all of us, we may be able to change the course of events, even if only a small amount – and a tiny change in course today has significant and increasing effects going forward.



Press photo of Fred Rogers from 1982.
Source: Wikipedia. In the public domain.

It sounded simplistic and childish, but what Mr. Rogers [Rev. Fred Rogers, Z”L] once said in talking about how to comfort children was a deep truth: “When [I] would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You

will always find people who are helping.’ To this day, especially in times of disaster, I remember my mother’s words, and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers — so many caring people in this world.”

This was phrased as a comfort to children, but it is also a valuable lesson and a way of life for adults. For us, the deep message is not that we should look for the helpers, but rather that we should strive to be one of those helpers.

In keeping with this profound thought, we pray for the strength and wisdom to know how to be a “helper,” and to bring healing and wholeness to those with whom we interact, and for that same healing and wholeness to be felt throughout the world. We pray to bring care and compassion to all we encounter, to soothe fears and bring healing, to make the world a place that is, at least, a little bit safer for each person. We pray that each of us, our loved ones, and all others may experience the blessings of health, loving family and friends, wellbeing, and peace. Ken Yehi Ratzon – may it prove so soon.

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)

N. David Stern receiving Governor's Arts Award

Congratulations to Temple Israel’s music director, N. David Stern, who at press time is scheduled to receive the Susan S. Landis Distinguished Service to the Arts – Individual Award at the 2024 Governor’s Arts Award Ceremony on Feb. 27.

The event will be held at the Culture Center on Tuesday evening, February 27, 2024, with a reception at 5:30 PM in the Great Hall, followed by the awards ceremony at six o’clock in the Culture Center’s Norman L. Fagan Theater. The ceremony

will feature awards presentations and celebrate the arts with performances by young West Virginia artists.

The Governor’s Arts Awards celebrate excellence in the arts in West Virginia. The awards focus attention on the importance of arts to economic development in the Mountain State by honoring individuals and organizations whose creative achievements and significant contributions to the arts enhance life in West Virginia.



Sisterhood Message

In awe of our Sisterhood: Growth, fun, dedication and a fantastic slate of officers add up to continued success



The February Schmooze. At left, clockwise from left: Joan Randall, Dona Hall, Beth Winter, Jill Epstein, Lynn Gattlieb, Ditty Markham, Caroline Ostand. Photo courtesy Marsha Albert.

In the final months of my term as Sisterhood President I want to express my admiration for the Sisterhood Board, committee chairs, and loyal members.

Working my way up from program chair to vice president to president, I have witnessed firsthand all the interworking of many dedicated women within our Temple community who keep the ball rolling.

First, to and for our Temple we are a stronghold and a right arm, in that we supply the beautiful flower arrangements for services in our awesome Sanctuary; we often sponsor special Oneg Shabbats and host the break-the-fast at the end of Yom Kippur; we keep track of ailing and shut-in members with calls and goody gifts of comfort, and we update our members on universal Jewish affairs and social action opportunities.

And for our local community, we are generous with time and commitment to various causes and needs. This includes Charleston's men's shelter and the Charleston YWCAs Sojourner's Shelter for Women and Families.

Many members have specific community interests, which we acknowledge and support when asked to do so. *[Please see the current project on the back page.—Ed.]*

Due to the closure of our Holland Bulb Sale supplier, our annual fund raiser is no longer a source of revenue. Since we have decided to forgo a specific fundraiser this year, we must depend on members' dues, donations, and the sending of Uniongrams for our operating costs.

My "State of the Sisterhood" address would also include the very good health of our organization. The growth and fun at our monthly Schmooze, the dedication of our board members and committee chairs, and the fantastic slate of officers to be voted on soon, all add

up to continued success.

I could not be more pleased with the cooperation I have received that makes me look good. Kudos to you all. I will pass the gavel this spring knowing our Sisterhood is alive and well and in the best of hands. You all know who you are...my sincere gratitude.

Marsha Albert, Sisterhood President

Correction to the February 2024 Sisterhood Message

Due to an editing error in the February 2024 Sisterhood Message, information about Beth Winter's move from New York to West Virginia was stated incorrectly. Beth moved from Brooklyn to Charleston with her first husband for his job with Carbide, not the person who was named in the article. We regret the error. -Ed.

Our Thoughtful Contributors



Photo by Greg Proctor

Thanks for making Shabbat even more special

Feb. 16 – The Oneg Shabbat reception was given by Gayle Twigger-Shaw, in honor of N. David Stern's birthday.

Feb. 16 – The flowers on the bimah were given by the Stern Family, in honor of David's birthday.

Feb. 23 – The Oneg Shabbat following the service was given by Sisterhood, in honor of Margot Jogwick's milestone birthday.

Sisterhood sees to it that there are flowers on the Bimah every Shabbat. If you would like to sponsor them in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion, please contact Betty Stern.

The House Committee coordinates our Oneg Shabbat receptions and covered dish dinners. If you would like to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat, please contact Jill Epstein.

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

In the Congregation and Community, cont'd

(Continued from page 4)

forted from heaven, and may his memory be a blessing to those who knew and loved him.

Temple Israel extends our sincere condolences to Ellie and Mark Schaul on the recent death of Mark's brother, Charles Schaul in Texas. May the mourners be comforted from heaven and may the memory of Charles be a blessing. Further info on a memorial service will be forthcoming.

Rabbi Joe Blair

Save the Date!

**Monday,
April 22
at 6 PM**

Congregational Passover Seder

Pre-paid RSVPs required.

The meal will be catered.

Deadline and cost will be announced.

Please note: there will be no covered dish dinner in April.



Sisterhood collecting donations of bed linens, breakfast cereal and healthy snacks for Sojourner's Shelter residents



It is with great need and service that Sisterhood, under the leadership of Caroline Ostand, has consistently donated time and goods to Sojourner's Shelter for Homeless Women and Families, which is operated by the YWCA of Charleston for the benefit of local families.

Our latest project is to collect donations of bed linens – new or slightly used – for the families, as well as breakfast cereal and afternoon snacks for the children. Caroline will pick up donations left at the Temple. I urge you to help make this campaign successful.

Donation baskets are located in the



Social Hall on the stage, and on the pew in the main lobby.

Marsha Albert
Sisterhood President

Photos: at left by Greg Proctor; at right courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

