

Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXXV
Bulletin No. 3

November 2024
Tishrei / Cheshvan 5785

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Shalom & greetings!

I am writing this immediately following the High Holiday services. I felt quite good about how they went, even though it was a whirlwind of activity, and the effort felt both exhausting and exhilarating, leaving me in a puddle. It was a pleasure and a privilege to observe these holidays with so many of you, in person and online.

I hope that many of you felt inspired, uplifted, and renewed by the services and the holidays, as well as the opportunity to gather this year. Everyone works very hard to make these services the best they can possibly be, and I believe that all of those involved did a marvelous job, contributing to the success of the services, and to the lovely, smooth flow of just about everything, from food, to music, to flowers and decorations, to security, to work on the building in preparation! It is truly astonishing how much goes into planning and implementing this holiday, a major event on our annual calendar.

But even as I praise the flow and all of those who made the holidays happen, I hasten to add that I firmly believe, no one is perfect, and there is always room for improvement. I would particularly like to know if you have any ideas for how I might do better. If you have any constructive criticisms or ideas that would improve the way it went, please feel invited to express them to one of the following: Ronni Spudich (chair of the Ritual Committee), Ina Angel (president of Sisterhood), Jill Epstein (chair of the House Committee), David McAfee (chair of Security), Betty Stern and/or David McAfee (Buildings and Grounds), Gayle Twigger-Shaw (president of the Congregation), or to me (Rabbi), so we will know what you found good and bad, and can try to do a better job on future holiday services.

**Shabbat Service, with Torah
Parashat Lech-Lecha,
Krystallnacht & Veterans Day
observance, followed by
covered dish dinner Friday,
Nov. 8 at 5:30 PM**

CALENDAR Noteworthy

Reminder: Daylight Savings Time ends on November 3rd – set your clocks **back** an hour (Fall back!).

Remember to vote on (or before) November 5th!

We are now in the third year Triennial Cycle of Torah readings – we generally look to the final one-third of each Torah Parashah for the weekly reading.

Thanksgiving falls on Thursday, November 28th (the fourth Thursday). The Temple office is closed that day.

Thanks, and many kudos to everyone who helped with the High Holy Day services. The following is a list attempting to include everyone who participated in services or on the preparations for the High Holy Day services, including (in alphabetical order):

Marsha Albert
Ina Angel
Jackie Artz
Steve Artz
Josh Barrett
Gail Bellamy
Rachel Dash
Jill Epstein
Alan Fleischmann
Lynn Gattlieb
Cookie Glasser
David Goldberg
Donna Goldberg
Jack Goldberg
Richard Gottlieb
Sandra Gross
Dona Hall
Richard Hess
Rich Katz
Jack Levin
Charlie Loeb
Judy Lundy
David McAfee
Bob Morris
Caroline Ostand
Natasha Medley
Debby Sonis
Betty Stern
David Stern
Ronni Spudich
Millie Snyder
David Thalheimer
Gayle Twigger-Shaw
Beth Steinberg
Winter
Gary Winter

Heaven fend that I inadvertently and/or mistakenly left anyone off this list. If by chance I missed including your name, PLEASE accept my sincere apologies, and contact me so I can correct the oversight in the next bulletin. My mind is still in a bit of a fog; that is the only reason for any oversights.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

The last month and a half were an extremely busy time preparing for the High Holiday season, particularly as it fell so hard on the heels of the 150th Anniversary event, which was itself a big event.

That meant that September ended with an explosion, and October started with a big bang. Rosh Hashanah fell in the first few days of the month, and there are a lot of moving parts in that machine! It is always a challenge to get all of them in place and working smoothly together.

Kudos to Mary Rich Maloy and her helpers for the Dessert Oneg on Rosh Hashanah evening.

Shabbat Shuvah, along with a commemoration of events on 10/7 was the Friday night immediately after Rosh Hashanah, so our Shabbat service included those pieces.

(Continued on page 3)



At a Glance: November & December

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 Israel website and in the Reminder Links emails. **If you aren't receiving emails from Rabbi Blair about online sessions, please let him know.**

| NOVEMBER | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, November 7 4:30 PM | A Bisell Torah, online |
| Friday, November 8 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Shabbat Service with Krystallnacht and Veterans' Day observed. Covered dish dinner to follow. |
| Sunday, November 10 10:30 AM | Torah Study, Parashah Vayera [Genesis 18:1-22:24] |
| Sunday, November 10 7:00 PM | Death Rattle |
| Monday, November 11 11:30 AM | Sisterhood Schmooze |
| Tuesday, November 12 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Board of Trustees Meeting |
| Thursday, November 14 4:30 PM | A Bisell Torah, online |
| Friday, November 15 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Shabbat Service Torah Parashah Vayera |
| Thursday, November 21 4:30 PM | A Bisell Torah, online |
| Friday, November 22 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Shabbat Service |
| Thursday, November 28 | Thanksgiving Day Holiday. Office closed. No A Bisell Torah due to holiday |
| Friday, November 29 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Shabbat Service, Lay-led |

| DECEMBER | |
|---|---|
| Monday, Dec. 9 11:30 AM | Sisterhood Schmooze |
| Tuesday, December 10 5:30 PM | Temple Israel Board of Trustees Meeting |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 11:00 AM | Sisterhood Board meeting |
| Wednesday, Dec. 18 More details in December's Bulletin | Congregational Hanukkah Dinner at B'nai Jacob |
| Wednesday, Dec. 25 <i>In the evening</i> | First candle of Hanukkah is lit |



Plan Ahead!

Hanukkah Dinner is planned for Wednesday, December 18th, at B'nai Jacob



More details in December's Bulletin

SUPPORT & CONTACT WITH THE RABBI

Please be in touch with me if you would like a visit or a conversation, have a question, wish to add (or remove) a name on the Mi Sheberach list, or have any other reason to speak with me.

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

I read email and texts quite regularly (**Shabbat and Jewish holidays excepted**). In an emergency on one of these days, please phone me on my cell, and if you leave a message, expressing the urgency of the call and the nature of the need in the message.

Rabbi Joe Blair • rabbioeb@gmail.com • 304-989-4014

(Continued from page 1)

A communal commemoration of October 7th was held on Monday, with a showing of the documentary film *Beyond October 7th*, followed by a brief service, led by Rabbi Urecki and me.

Regular business continued as well, with the monthly Temple Israel Board of Directors meeting on October 8th.

Yom Kippur fell on Friday night and Saturday, October 11th and 12th, with a total of five services included. It was intense, but as I said above, I hope it was spiritually uplifting and emotionally fulfilling.

Kudos to those involved with the Break-the-Fast that evening (Sisterhood members and others) – it was lovely. Plenty to eat, and lots of good conversation to start the new year off with a wonderful time.

I also wanted to note that we had a robust group who joined our services for the High Holidays online. Thank you for choosing to be part of our congregation during these special days.

Only a few days later, we entered into the holiday of Sukkot, which was celebrated in our Shabbat service on 10/18. Sukkot concluded the following week, and we observed Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah in our Shabbat service on 10/25, including a reading of verses from Deuteronomy (Dev. 34), and Genesis (Ber. 1), completing the reading of the Torah and immediately beginning it anew. The extra reading assigned for that week is from Numbers (Bam. 29:35-30:1) – we did not include that in the reading at this service, but it may be of interest to know that it is usually included. That service also acknowledged the attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

On October 28th, there was a celebration of life for Dr. Steven J. Jubelirer at CAMC. The Jewish community was invited, along with his medical colleagues and other CAMC staff. There may be a larger event for the general public at a future date.

Meantime, all other regular events continued; Sisterhood Schmooze took place on October 14th, the Ritual

Please let the Temple office know if you're moving, dropped your landline, or you have new contact information, such as a new email address or phone number.

Committee met to evaluate the High Holidays, and Shabbat services were held every week. We certainly kept busy.

LOOKING AHEAD A Very Brief Note of Special Events Upcoming

- Shabbat service with Krystallnacht and Veterans Day observed, followed by a covered dish dinner, 11/8, 5:30 p.m.
- Torah Study, Sunday 11/10 at 10:30 a.m., Parashah Vayera, Gen. 18:1-22:24.
- Death Rattle, Sunday 11/10 at 7:00 p.m. (this is what I am now calling the series that used to be Death Café. Neither Death While Dining nor Death Chatter worked – they just didn't quite ring the bell. 😞)
- Sisterhood Schmooze, Monday 11/11, 11:30 a.m.
- Temple Israel Board of Directors meeting, Tuesday, 11/12, 5:30 p.m.
- Shabbat service with Torah, Parashah Vayera, 11/15, 5:30 p.m.
- The Jewish Literature group will meet on Sunday, 11/17, at 4:00 p.m. An announcement of the choice of material to read for that session is still in process, but it should be arriving in your email inbox soon! Watch for it.
- Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, 11/28. Office closed.
- Temple Israel Shabbat service, 11/29, Lay-led.

For more details on events and activities, see the At a Glance and religious events listings in this bulletin – and because things can change after the bulletin is published, the most up-to-date information is to be found in the Reminder Links emails sent on Sundays and Thursdays, and on the Temple Website – templeisraelwv.org.

THOUGHTS, BLESSINGS & SALUTATIONS

We have completed the Harvest Festival on the Jewish calendar (Sukkot), which celebrates the harvest that we enjoy of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and other produce. This is the religious observance that encourages

us to acknowledge and express gratitude for all that we enjoy and benefit from in our world. As we move forward in this season, we come to the secular holiday that focuses on the same themes. Thanksgiving is a time to pause, be grateful for the bounty of nature and G-d's creation, and to take stock of all the blessings that we have been granted.

It is no coincidence that there is so much similarity in these two events: after all, when the Pilgrims wanted to hold a celebration that would express their thanks for survival and all the bounty they found in this new land, they turned to the Bible and modeled it on the holiday focused on gratitude found there, Sukkot. So it turns out that Thanksgiving is a secular version of Sukkot – a harvest festival with a focus on gratitude to G-d, and acknowledgment of all the produce that they had been able to grow, which sustained and nourished them.

We are fortunate to be allowed to celebrate both! I wish you a very happy Thanksgiving, the second Sukkot. May we each be aware of all the blessings around us, open to the joys and satisfactions that grace us, and grateful for all the bounty that we receive.

May this time bring us the opportunity and awareness to enjoy our blessings and joys, and may it help to raise our spirits, nourish our souls, rekindle our sense of purpose, fill us with hope and optimism, heighten our awareness of joy, and open our eyes to the wonders, miracles and blessings among which we walk each day.

May we each be blessed with health, love, prosperity, and a life filled with deeds of lovingkindness, and bring us to serve as a blessing to each other and to the world.

I look forward to seeing you soon.
B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace), and prayers for good health and joy,
Rabbi Joe Blair
rabbijoeb@gmail.com
304-989-4014

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

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

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

November Yahrzeits

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

October 25

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Kurt Feibelmann | 10/26 |
| Karen Bramnik Syken | 10/26 |
| William L. Sloman | 10/27 |
| Lena Baker | 10/29 |
| Dorothy Rae Boiarsky | 10/29 |
| Ira Loeb | 10/29 |
| Estelle Stack Kreinik | 10/30 |
| Dr. Myron I. Price | 10/30 |
| Simon Meyer | 10/31 |
| Jack Rosenblatt | 10/31 |
| R. Bernard Bernheimer | 11/1 |
| Alece Schwabe | 11/1 |

November 1

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Max Frankengerger | 11/2 |
| Robert Herzbach | 11/2 |
| Celia Jurin | 11/2 |
| Ethel Kart | 11/2 |
| William F. Hoss | 11/4 |
| Seymour Kantor | 11/4 |
| Joseph Klee | 11/4 |
| Max Pitasky | 11/4 |
| Louis D. Glass | 11/5 |
| Louis Goldfarb | 11/5 |
| Phineas Berenson | 11/6 |
| Charles McHale | 11/6 |
| Floy M. Sessions | 11/6 |
| Eleanor "Ellie" Burka | 11/7 |
| Carl H. Lehman | 11/7 |
| Michael M. "Mike" Margolis | 11/7 |
| Edwin Stabins | 11/7 |

November 8

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Hyman Gilman | 11/9 |
| Joseph Gotlieb | 11/10 |
| Florine Marks Isaac | 11/10 |
| Susan Jubelirer Nesi | 11/10 |
| Sam Badner | 11/11 |
| Louis Cohen | 11/11 |
| Madeline Erlich | 11/11 |
| Harry Fleischmann | 11/11 |
| Lilla Wolf | 11/11 |
| Barbara Brooks | 11/12 |
| Isaac Salem | 11/12 |
| Albert Schwabe | 11/12 |
| Alma Bernheimer | 11/13 |
| Milton Gottlieb | 11/13 |
| Ellis C. Amburgey Sr. | 11/14 |
| Anna Gersman | 11/14 |
| Bernard Gottlieb | 11/14 |
| David H. Kahn | 11/14 |
| Jean Merz Klee | 11/14 |
| Sydney M. Kleeman | 11/15 |

November 15

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Herbert Gottlieb | 11/17 |
| Minnie H. Kahn | 11/17 |
| Anna Barton | 11/19 |
| Franc Stern | 11/19 |
| H. H. Willis | 11/20 |
| Ester Mendeloff | 11/21 |
| Edith Hartley Aaron | 11/22 |
| Frances W. Freedman | 11/22 |
| Nina Poppelsdorf | 11/22 |
| Sadie Shane | 11/22 |

November 22

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Edith Burnett | 11/24 |
| Arthur Weisberg | 11/24 |
| Minnie Hess | 11/26 |
| Morton A. Lewis | 11/26 |
| Harriet B. "Cissy" Abrams | 11/27 |
| Jearoll Casto | 11/27 |
| Doris Kleeman Leopold | 11/27 |
| Reba Markstein Lindenberg | 11/27 |
| Max Feinberg | 11/28 |
| Jane R. Glaser | 11/28 |
| Bernard H. Jacobson | 11/28 |
| Carol Katz | 11/28 |
| Robert "Bob" Albert | 11/29 |
| Jacob Solon Broida | 11/29 |
| Reba Blustein Cohen | 11/29 |

November 29

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Bob Baer | 11/30 |
| Maxine Stabins | 11/30 |
| Joanne Mendeloff Misaqi | 12/1 |
| Cherie Cremer | 12/2 |
| Hannah Kaplan | 12/2 |
| Dave Kahn Jr. | 12/3 |
| Mary Beth Chadwick | 12/4 |
| Minnie Elgart | 12/4 |
| Fran Fahey | 12/4 |
| Louis Jordan | 12/4 |
| Frances B. Kay | 12/4 |
| Edward B. Cohen | 12/5 |
| Dr. Leonard M. Eckmann | 12/5 |
| Aaron Morton Kaye | 12/5 |
| Goldie Mendelsohn | 12/5 |
| Lavalie Bixby Hoss | 12/6 |
| Howard J. Klapper | 12/6 |

Condolences are on p. 5

NOTICE: CORRESPONDENCE/EMAIL

I have heard that members of the congregation/community were not receiving the Reminder Links Emails sent out on Sundays and Thursdays using the Google Email List. If you are not seeing those emails in your inbox regularly, and you don't find them in your Spam or Trash folders, please be in touch with me (the Rabbi) to try to remedy the situation. We want everyone who is interested to receive those emails with the events and Zoom links for the upcoming time. Thank you. *Rabbi Joe Blair* ▪ rabbijoe@gmail.com ▪ 304-989-4014



Please know that there has been an uptick in illnesses (COVID-19, RSV, FLU) which have occurred among our community members.

Please consider making certain you are up to date by getting any vaccinations that are recommended, and be aware of any risks you may encounter.

If you are ill, please consider attending our services online, and take care of yourself. If you have been exposed or are not feeling well and still wish to attend, please consider using a mask (masks and hand sanitizer are available at each door at the Temple).

In the Congregation & Community

A Poem for Reflection

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 or wellness. This list includes those on our 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, even though your name is not listed here.

Nadia Bastron
Arthur Epstein
Vera Flint
Jonathan Freedman
Karl Gattlieb
Jack Goldfarb
Rabbi Earl Jordan
Roberta Lee Levine
Mark Malloy
Gary Markham
Mark Schaul
David Thalheimer
Barbara Braun Tweddle
Rachel Leah bat Shayna Chaya
veShmuel

All who are impacted by illness or disease

All afflicted by natural or man-made disasters, war, or violence
All hostages and victims of terrorism and evil acts

All others in need of prayers for healing and wholeness

Mazal Tov (Congratulations)

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

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/were to be acknowledged we include:

October: Mary Hart; Richard Hess; Ina Angel; Jane & Moe Rubenstein; Ladonna & David Kushner; Julie Schaul; Gary Winter; Marlo Weisberg; Nancy & Ray Dodson; Millie Snyder; Alan Fleischmann; Debby Sonis; Gloria Kelley; Marsha Platnick; Anne & Bill Kroesser; Stephen Meyer, Natusha Shaffer-Medley

November: Barbara Braun Tweddle, Roger Forman, Jennifer Stern, Jonathan Freedman, Mark Schaul, Betty Stern, Jill Epstein, Gregg Stern,

Anne Fishkin, Kim Aaron, Bruce Goldfarb, Kathie Kommor

December: Ellie Schaul, Beth Emrick, Cookie Glasser, Robert Hess, David Feibelman, Melissa Cadle, **Jackie Artz (MILESTONE)**, Ellen Kay & Vic Bastron, David McAfee, **Ellyn & Ed Goldberg (MILESTONE)**, Laura & Jace Goins, Angela Cannon, **Dan Kurland (MILESTONE)**, Marion Baer, Arla Ralston & Roger Forman, Phyllis & Harvey Sherman, Joy Kleeman, Fred Pollock

A few other events of note that I heard about (I hope I captured all of them, but if I missed any, please forgive me, and let me know so I can acknowledge it in the next bulletin). In no particular order:

Mazal Tov to Rabbi Urecki on the celebration of his long service to West Virginia Jewry by the Huntington Federated Jewish Charities on Sunday, October 6th.

A bittersweet event: on October 28th at 5:00 p.m., the CAMC Foundation held a celebration of life for Dr. Steven J. Jubelirer in the CAMC Cancer Center Lobby. Members of the Jewish community, together with his colleagues and co-workers at CAMC were invited to attend.

Janie and Moe Rubenstein continue to offer access to Wondering Jews – a website sharing Jewish events and resources from around the state of West Virginia. Wondering Jews is the One Stop for All Things Jewish in West Virginia. Visit Wondering Jews at <https://wonderingjewsinc.com/>.

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 & Prayers)

Within our congregation, we continue to hold Harriet Deutsch and family in our thoughts regarding her home in Sarasota, FL, which was affected by Hurricane Helene.

Our prayers go out to all who were affected by weather events throughout the U.S. and the world. Please consider donating to one of the organizations that are seeking to help them.

Rabbi Joe Blair

Kristallnacht

**In the dead of night
when the moon was high
and crystals were energized
from nature's moon,
energy to give life?**

**But this energy was dark and black,
and midnight's hidden faces
showing shameful deeds
masked by moonlight.**

**Secret evil always hides its face,
and dark, unsigned letters,
whispered conversations, balaclava.
And breaking glass with running steps.**

**Truth will always face the sun,
and not need back lane paths,
like thieves. But open face
and call at front in day
and see God's face like
Moses glisten.**

**Shame upon you crystal sinners,
in your shame-filled deeds
of darkness, empty hollows echo,
a dead tree, with a rotten bark.**

Bernard Kennedy



Our Thoughtful Contributors

Thank You for Making Shabbat Even More Special

Flowers on the bimah for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur given by Donna Goldberg and family in memory of Jerry L. Goldberg, wonderful husband, father, and grandfather.

Flowers on the bimah for Rosh Hashana given by Ronni and David Spudich in memory of Ronni's parents, Helen and Edward B. Cohen, and Ronni's twin brother, Ricky Cohen.

Flowers on the bimah for Yom Kippur in memory of Marty Glasser who continues his presence in our hearts as a loving and kind husband, father, grandfather, and friend. Given by Cookie, Brian, Michael, Kristy, and all the special grandchildren whose lives Marty touched.

October 18 & 25 - Flowers on the bimah given by Temple Israel Sisterhood.

TZEDAKAH (CHARITY)

As I say each month, please be generous with your tzedakah. You may not realize how many have been helped, or how much it means to those I have been privileged to support, but trust me, they rely on the generosity and kindness of those who donate to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. It makes a world of difference to them.

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

Please do what you can, wherever you can. Support and assist whoever and whatever you are able, and whatever moves you, especially at this time following the High Holy days. The needs are urgent and real; you can tell simply by watching the news headlines. You can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

For the same reason, I am asking for your consideration of donations to the Rabbi Discretionary Fund. I appreciate everyone who has donated recently - sincere thanks to all who have made contributions. These funds are used only in our own Congregation and Community to help those who have urgent needs. I am deeply grateful and truly honored to be allowed to act on behalf of Temple Israel in this way, and to serve as the hand of Temple Israel in assisting individuals in times of distress. I can assure you that there have been multiple and significant needs supported by the fund. The balance is significantly depleted; I mention this because I hope never to have to turn away one of our own who has a need. I am asking you to consider making a donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund (if you have not already), to help me to support members of our community. As always, I thank you for your generosity and kindness in helping to fulfill this critical mitzvah. *Rabbi Joe Blair*

SISTERHOOD MESSAGE: OUR JILL OF ALL TRADES

Jill Epstein, Sisterhood Vice President, arrived in Charleston in January, 1992, as a department manager for Kaufman's in the Mall. Leaving her home town and family in New Castle, PA, was a big step, especially to hear her describe how she found the Mall minus a GPS at the time.

Prior to that, Jill had management training in the Pittsburgh Kaufman's and those skills have served her well in subsequent positions, including her excellent handling of House Manager for Temple Israel.

Jill, being one of twenty grandchildren on her paternal side of the family, admits to being her grandmother's favorite, along with her personal shopper. I'm guessing that Jill's relationship with this particular grandmother evidences her somewhat "old soul" as she bonds well with people quite a bit older in our Temple community (including myself).

It was a chance discussion with Alan Fleischmann in his store that brought Jill to Temple Israel services in May 2015. Alan suspected that Jill was a "member of the tribe" and encouraged her to come to our Temple. Thank you, Alan.

Jill recalls being warmly welcomed by Judy Lundy and Ronni Cohen Spudich. They encouraged her to come up front and sit with them. The "helper quality" in Jill shone through quickly. She said it was automatic for her to start clearing tables at the Chanukah dinner. Jill's several waitressing jobs from high school to when she attended Penn State U certainly prepared her for always being a "helper."

Jill and David McAfee became fast friends. To this day they

work as a team doing anything and everything for Temple Israel. Shopping for and preparing for our Shabbat Oneg is a staple activity for them, along with a myriad of other things that keep the Temple running smoothly.

As a member at large on the Sisterhood Board under three Presidents which adds up to six years, Jill accepted the position of Sisterhood Veep working with President Ina Angel...a very good team keeping Sisterhood in the best of hands.



At the time when Jill first entered our Temple, she admits to a missing link in her life...Faith, which she happily found within the Temple walls. She feels honored to be our House Chairperson with all the responsibilities that come with that unsung position. Jill's motto is "never ask anyone to do anything you wouldn't do yourself." And she lives up to that standard daily. Her full-time job at American Electric Power Call Center servicing eleven states fulfills her passion for hard and meaningful work, and many wonder how she does it.

Asking Jill how she feels about our aging Jewish community and Temple membership she said "scary." It would be nice if more people her age would find their way to our Congregation. Perhaps they could discover what Jill found here.

Temple Israel and Sisterhood are lucky that our "Jill of All Trades" made her way into our midst.

As told to Marsha Albert, Past President of Sisterhood, by Jill Epstein.

RABBINIC SEARCH UPDATE

In June of 2025, the existing employment contract with our Rabbi Joe Blair will expire.

Our options are: renew Rabbi Blair's contract, partner with B'nai Jacob Synagogue, hiring one rabbi for both congregations, or hire a new rabbi altogether. For the last 3 weeks, the nucleus of a Search Committee has been working to refine and define the application required by Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). Our legal minds have been asked to clarify the language and now the application is ready for submission.

Rabbi Blair has indicated he would like to be considered for his position again. He will have that opportunity. We are also exploring the possibility of sharing a rabbi with B'nai Jacob, as our membership continues to dwindle. Temple Israel membership is expected to drop to unsustainable levels in less than a decade.

A Search Committee has been formed to consider all possibilities. The members are: Ina Angel, Josh Barrett, Mary Rich Maloy, Steve Artz, Richard Gottlieb, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, and Cookie Glasser.

Temple Israel members will be kept fully informed and are asked to provide feedback at all times. It is crucial for us to maintain open communication. No decisions will be made without the knowledge of the congregation.

Gayle Twigger-Shaw
President



FALL BACK

Daylight Saving Time Ends November 3rd

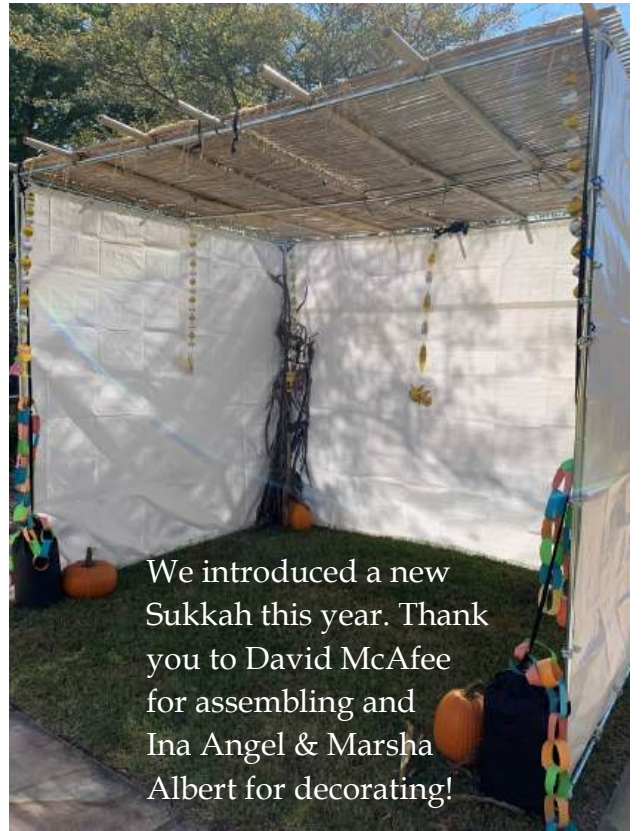


Turn clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 3rd

We welcome guest Bulletin contributors! Submit your article by the 15th of each month.

Reminder that the bulletin is available on the Temple Israel website at <https://templeisraelwv.org/monthly-bulletin/>

Graphic credits throughout the Bulletin are available upon request.



We introduced a new Sukkah this year. Thank you to David McAfee for assembling and Ina Angel & Marsha Albert for decorating!

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Temple Israel
2312 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

Permit No. 2161

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charleston WV