

Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXXV
Bulletin No. 9

May 2025
Iyar / Sivan 5785

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Shalom & greetings!

CALENDAR

The Shabbat on April 11th was Shabbat HaGadol, which falls immediately prior to Passover – and that was literally true, as Passover began on the evening of Saturday, April 12th, when we held the Congregational Seder. As I am writing this, we are in the midst of the week of Passover – I hope you are enjoying it!

The seder held at Temple Israel was absolutely lovely. We had enough people to make it feel like a congregational/communal event, but not so many that we lost any of the sense of warmth and intimacy, and the feeling of holding a “family gathering.”

On top of that, the food was really wonderful, the setup was beautiful, and the people working on the event went above and beyond, making it perhaps the nicest seder I can recall in my time at Temple Israel.

Many thanks and even more kudos to Jill Epstein, Chair of the House Committee, and to all her crew (David McAfee, Tasha, Natalie, Nasyia, and Shakira [unfortunately, JJ was ill and could not be with us]) for the setup, serving, and clean up tasks; caterer Chasity Thomas and her employees at Tastefully Dun for all the behind-the-scenes - food and serving; the seder plate arrangers (Jill Epstein, Beth Steinberg Winter, and David McAfee, as well as Tasha); our Matzah Ball Makers Supreme (Marsha Albert and Ina Angel), and the flower arrangers (Nasyia, Shakira, and Natalie). I also want to thank Melissa Bart, who did all the behind-the-scenes administrative work to deal with registrations and payments, and kept things (or at least me!) organized. [If I missed anyone, please forgive me and let me know so I can correct the oversight.]

Sunday, April 13th, B'nai Jacob held their Second Night Passover Seder – another wonderful event to celebrate Passover. Short and sweet, with a nice meal and Passover desserts to die for!

Kudos to all who made that evening possible.

We will observe Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day – falls on April 30th) and Yom Ha'Atzma'ut (Israeli Independence Day – falls on May 1st) in the Shabbat service on May 2nd.

The Shabbat of May 9th is scheduled as Temple Israel Sisterhood Shabbat.

Sisterhood Schmooze will meet again May 12th at 11:30 a.m.

There will also be a Sisterhood retreat for the Board of Directors in June, date TBA.

LOOKING AHEAD

Upcoming events of note:

- Already noted, Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzma'ut (Israeli Memorial Day and Israeli Independence Day) are on April 30th and May 1st, observed in our Shabbat service on May 2nd.
- L'ag B'Omer (the 33rd day of the Omer count) and Pesach Sheni (Second Passover) will be observed in the Shabbat service on May 16th, which is followed by a covered dish dinner.
- Shavuot will be observed in the Shabbat service on May 30th.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4th. This will include election of Board of Trustees members and Officers, the approval of the budget for Congregational Year 2025-2026 (July to June), and other business as noted. Watch for notices concerning this meeting.
- The Third Annual Indoor Picnic Oneg Shabbat will follow the Shabbat service on June 13th.

In addition to all the services and special events, we continue our regular ongoing activities through June. These include not only the weekly Shabbat services, but also monthly Board of Trustees meetings, scheduled Sisterhood meetings, weekly Oneg Shabbatot (plural), and scheduled

ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Wednesday, June 4

**5:00 p.m. Reception
5:30 p.m. Business Meeting**

**Members of
Temple Israel
Please Plan to
Attend**

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

**Committee Chairs &
Annual Report
Contributors**

**Please submit
reports for
inclusion in the
Annual Report
by May 10.**

**Email to the
Temple Israel Office**

templeisraelwv@gmail.com

(Continued on page 3)

At a Glance: May & June

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.**

MAY	
Thursday, May 1	Yom Ha'Atzma'ut (Israel Independence Day)
Friday, May 2 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service with Yom Hazikaron & Yom Ha'Atzma'ut Observance
Friday, May 9 5:30 PM	Sisterhood Shabbat Service
Sunday, May 11 10:30 AM	Torah Study, Parashah Emor [Leviticus 21:1-24:23]
Sunday, May 11 7:00 PM	Death Chatter
Monday, May 12	Pesach Shenit (Second Passover)
Monday, May 12 11:30 AM	Sisterhood Schmooze
Tuesday, May 13 5:30 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, May 16 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service, Parashah Emor, with Pesach Shenit & L'ag B'Omer Observance Covered Dish Dinner
Sunday, May 18 4:00 PM	Jewish Literature
Friday, May 23 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service
Friday, May 30 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service with Shavuot Observance

JUNE	
Sunday, June 1	Erev Shavuot
Monday, June 2	Shavuot OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, June 3	Shavuot 2nd Day
Wednesday, June 4 5:00 PM	Annual Congregational Meeting Reception @ 5:00 PM Business Meeting @ 5:30 PM
Monday, June 9 11:30 AM	Sisterhood Schmooze
Friday, June 13 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service, Parashah Beha'alotcha Third Annual Indoor Picnic
Wednesday, June 18	Leora May Book Group
Friday, June 20 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service
Friday, June 27 5:30 PM	Shabbat Service
Date & Time TBA	Sisterhood Board of Directors Retreat



NOTICE: CORRESPONDENCE/EMAIL

I send Reminder Links emails on Sundays and Thursdays (most weeks) using the Google Email List. That email list is set to send a copy of each message to everyone at one time. It does not pick and choose who will receive the messages: anyone whose valid email is on the list should receive a copy.

If you are not seeing those emails in your inbox regularly, and you don't find them by looking in your Spam, Junk, or Trash folders, please be in touch with me (the rabbi) to try to remedy the situation. Some email providers (notably, AOL, but others as well) automatically mark messages from an email list as spam/trash/junk, unless they are marked otherwise in advance in their system. We want everyone who is interested to be able to receive those emails with the events and Zoom links for the upcoming time. *Rabbi Joe Blair* • rabbioeb@gmail.com • 304-989-4014

(Continued from page 1)

classes and programs. We will pause most classes for a summer break, and resume them, and possibly others, in the fall.

Please consider joining us for some or all of these:

- Monthly Torah Study on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.
- Monthly Death Chatter on Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.
- Monthly Jewish Literature on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m.
- WVU OLLI Courses in May as announced
- Weekly *A Bisell Torah* sessions on Thursday afternoons at 4:30 p.m.
- Weekly Torah at 10:00 p.m. with Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair on Tuesdays
- Weekly Talmud at 10:00 a.m. with Rabbi Urecki and Rabbi Blair on Thursdays.
- Don't forget Sisterhood Schmooze the 2nd Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m.
- Sisterhood Board of Directors meetings
- Sisterhood General Membership meetings
- Leora May Book Group gatherings

I always enjoy seeing others at our events, so I hope to see you at some or all of them, or at any special or additional events we hold beyond these. Whether you are here in person or attending online, I value your presence and participation as a member of the congregation and community. Please know that you are invited to participate however, and however often, you are able and wish to do so.

For more details on events and activities, see the At-a-Glance and Religious Events listings in this bulletin – and because things can and often do 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.

NOTEWORTHY

- If you are willing to lead a service, or read Torah or Haftarah for our services occasionally, we would warmly welcome your participation; please be in touch with me (the Rabbi) and we can work on it.
- Ronni Spudich is looking to invite members to bless and light candles for our Shabbat services each week. If you are willing, please contact her. It is a nice way to mark a special occasion.

- If you are willing, we invite you to participate in services by leading a prayer (or perhaps several) or doing a reading (or several) during the service; being called up for an Aliyah to the Torah; serving as Gabbai for the Torah Service; or giving a devar Torah (sermon).

If you are interested in doing any of these, please be in touch with me (the Rabbi), and we can select a date that works for you, as well as the role that you would like to take on. If you prefer, you can speak to Betty Stern or Ronni Spudich – all of us would be happy to have you participate in a way that you wish.

THOUGHTS, BLESSINGS & SALUTATIONS

First and foremost, I want to express how much I appreciate all the expressions of comfort and condolence on the recent loss of my mother. I have accompanied many through this passage as a rabbi, but I have been given the privilege of not facing it personally very often - it is over thirty years since my father's death, and my recollection of that time is a bit hazy.

Israeli Memorial Day &
Israeli Independence Day will be
observed in our Shabbat service
on May 2nd.

This has brought into sharp relief for me, again, what a gift and a blessing it is to have a supportive community, a congregational family, and friends who show their care and support. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With Passover in mid-April, we are experiencing beautiful weather and gorgeous blooms and greenery. It is a joy to be able to move about and see all the natural beauty and scenery locally and throughout our area and state. I certainly hope that you are taking full advantage of it, and enjoying this spring season.

We are in the midst of the period of the counting of the Omer, harkening back to the barley harvest in ancient days. This count has been used as a link between the holiday of Passover, which represents liberation and Redemption, with the holiday of Shavuot, which represents G-d's Instruction and the Revelation at Sinai. During this time, we not only move from Redemption to Revelation, we also seek to connect them on a spiritual level, so that we feel

both liberated from Pharaoh and enslavement in Mitzrayim (the narrow place), and also supported and graced by the gift of G-d's instruction via the Torah, and both the written and oral law, as set forth in the Tanakh, Talmud, and the brilliant interpretations and implementation of these rules and instructions as a way of life and a guideline for how to live within G-d's Creation in accordance with the 'best practices' we have been taught.

I pray that we may each be comforted and blessed with the beauty and warmth of the season, and by the embrace of our congregation and community, and with health, love, prosperity, and a life filled with deeds of lovingkindness, which can all serve to bring us to be a blessing to each other and to the world.

As always, please remember to take every opportunity to be kind to those around you; it will make a difference and improve the world. There are so many reasons to feel down; raise your own spirits and those of everyone you encounter by sharing kindness and love.

I hope to see you at the events and services that are upcoming. Warm wishes for you this spring and during this holy time when we witness renewal and rebirth all around us.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace), and prayers for good health, joy, and peace,
Rabbi Joe Blair
rabbijoe@gmail.com
304-989-4014



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.



May Yahrzeits

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

April 25

Estelle Kasanof Gottlieb	4/26
Dr. Morris I. Mendeloff Jr.	4/26
Sabina Rosenberg	4/26
Gerald Bernard Ostand	4/28
Herschel Shapero	4/29
Bernice Rosenthal Roche	4/30
Millie Kahn	5/1
Robert David Kaye	5/1
Allan Tweddle	5/1
Anne Mae Walter	5/1
Sylvia Glasser	5/2
Julius Hess	5/2
Alvin Julius Lindenberg	5/2

May 2

Mary Mildred Ardman	5/3
Mary Lillian Dees	5/3
Doris Gilman	5/3
Harry Greenspon	5/3
Lois Silverstein Kaufman	5/3
Cecil R. Sessions	5/3
Henry Sloman	5/3
Vilma Lehman	5/4
Manuel Rotgin	5/4
Charles Gross	5/6
Rebecca Grace Roueche	5/6
Stanley E. Deutsch	5/7
Sara Samuel Silverstein	5/7
Paul Weintraub	5/7
Suzanne Grinberg	5/8
David McHale	5/8
Alison Ruth Kaplan	5/9

May 9

James Edward Amburgey	5/11
Benjamin David	5/11

Thomas Jay Kramer	5/11
Dr. Philip David Maimon	5/11
Harry Mellman	5/11
Linda Rubin	5/11
Dr. Jack Basman	5/12
Esther Galperin	5/12
Gordon Mae Hendrick	5/12
Joan Markham Siebert	5/12
Craig Fillmon	5/13
Tracie Christian Rose	5/13
Jerome Goldberg	5/14
Norman Lakin	5/14
Sherry Lovett	5/14
Allan Randall	5/14
David Badner	5/15
Frieda L. Barton	5/16
Jerome Harold Deutsch	5/16
Milton Fenster	5/16
Rae Tagress Rosenberg	5/16

May 16

Ruth Barton	5/17
Sadie Carroll	5/17
Morton F. Hess	5/17
Henry "Hank" Lewis Badner	5/19
Herbert Mitchell Barrett	5/19
Marjorie "Petie" Kwass	5/19
Ben Goldfarb	5/20
Joseph Bernard Randall	5/20
Sadie Goldberg	5/21
Julia Shreve	5/21
Michael Zide	5/21
Dorothy Fishkin	5/22
Fannie Gottlieb	5/22
Helen H. Hess	5/22
Fay Kulowski	5/22
Matthew H. Small	5/22
Gerald Allen Amburgey	5/23

Sayde Cohen	5/23
Tracy Auden Fretwell	5/23

May 23

Richard "Ricky" Cohen	5/24
Patrick J. Gleason	5/25
Mary Mannis	5/25
Nathaniel Rose	5/25
Robert W. Garner II	5/26
Samuel Mendelsohn	5/26
Joe Greenburg	5/27
Emily Marks	5/27
Robert Silverstein	5/27
Samuel Dash	5/29
Jane Mayer Silverstein	5/29
Florence Mann	5/30
Monica Montanaro	5/30

May 30

Ruth Silverstein Sherman	5/31
Lester J. Mann	6/1
David L. Wyant Jr.	6/2
Marion Smith Cohen	6/3
Sylvia I. Garner	6/3
Joseph Sloman	6/3
Ben Elgart	6/4
Norman Glass	6/4
Mark E. Grinberg	6/4
Sarah Meilman	6/4
Esther Markham Stowers	6/4
Melvin Marks	6/5
Alfreda Ruvel	6/5
David Lautman	6/6
Alfredo Montanaro	6/6
Miriam E. Rogin	6/6
Herbert J. Shapiro	6/6

Condolences are on page 5

TZEDAKAH (CHARITY)

Passover is a time when Tzedakah is emphasized through the practice of Maot Chittin – the provision of means to celebrate the holiday. This emphasis continues throughout the period of the counting of the Omer, up until Shavuot, which falls in early June.

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. That is why I ask for your consideration of donations to the Rabbi Discretionary Fund, and other worthy causes. I deeply appreciate everyone who has donated - sincere thanks from the bottom of my heart to all who have made contributions allowing me to support those in our congregation and community who are in need.

These funds are used 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 reaching out and assisting in times of distress.

I can assure you that there have been multiple and significant needs supported by the fund. I mention this because I hope never to have to turn away one of our own who has a need, and I also want to acknowledge the generous support of several people recently, allowing me to meet current needs.

And lest it not be obvious, there are many worthy causes that deserve your consideration. Please do all you are able.

We are taught that 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.

In the Congregation & Community

Refuah Shelemah/Mi Sheberach (Healing & Wholeness & Blessings)

Prayers and wishes 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.

Gail Bachman and Family
The Family of Marion Baer
David Bailey
The Blair Family
Sally Bowyer
Rose Christian
Susan Cummings
The Drake Family
Arthur Epstein
Jonathan Freedman
Karl Gattlieb
Jack Goldfarb
Mirabella and the Grizer Family
Rabbi Earl Jordan
Roberta Lee Levine
Gary Markham
The Needel Family
The Paetzelt Family
Kay Pickus
Penny Sappington
Mark Schaul
Barbara Braun-Twedde
Gary Winter

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 may 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/were to be acknowledged we include:

April: Zel Lewis (MILESTONE); Ditty Markham; Fran Thalheimer; Karl Gattlieb; Lynn & Karl Gattlieb; Bridget McGuire & Max Gottlieb; Harriet Deutsch

May: Kate Forman; Sharon Jubelirer; Jennifer & Gregg Stern; Dottie Baer Garner; Barbara Braun Twedde; Ellen Kay Bastron; Duke Bloom; Lena Thoren Glasser; Shelly Winowich; Trish & Dylan Erwin; Rabbi Earl Jordan

June: Pam Goldfarb; Sue Eisinger; Steve Artz; Carolyn & Paul Ostand; Ronni & David Spudich; Jack Goldfarb; Ann Kushner; Betty & David Stern; Moe Rubenstein; Robin Godfrey; **Ditty & Gary Markham (MILESTONE);** Sara & Brett Radow; David Thalheimer; **Beth & Gary Winter (MILESTONE)**

I have not heard about other events (I hope I included all that should be here, but if I missed any, please forgive me, and let me know so I can acknowledge it in the next bulletin).

Mazal tov to Rabbi Victor Urecki and Marilyn Urecki on having selected and placed a contract on a new house in South Charleston. They will be moving in early June – and I imagine they would welcome any helpers to transport Lego sets and comic books!

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)

Temple Israel extends condolences to Rabbi Joe Blair and family on the recent passing of his mother, Lillian Roslyn Blair, aged 98, on March 20th, 2025, in Falls Church, VA. A private graveside funeral was held at King David cemetery on March 25th, officiated by Rabbi Blair. Any donations in her memory may be given to Temple Israel or to Children's Tumor Foundation, PO Box 7247, Philadelphia, PA, 19170 c/o the Needel Family Fund, or by donating online at <https://www.ctf.org/ways-to-give>. Baruch dayan haemet. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Lillian be an enduring blessing.

Temple Israel extends condolences to the family of Margot Jogwick who became niftar on March 21st at the age of 91. Margot expressed her wishes and did not want a funeral service. She was

cremated, as she chose, and her remains will rest at the Temple Israel Hebrew Cemetery within Spring Hill Cemetery. Sisterhood has decided to place a yahrzeit plaque in the memorial alcove at Temple Israel. Margot is survived by her sister, Christa, and nephew, Simon Paetzelt, both of Berlin, Germany. Margot instructed that donations be directed to Temple Israel. Baruch dayan haemet. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Margot be an enduring blessing.

Temple Israel extends condolences to Rabbi Joe Blair and family on the recent passing of his great-uncle, William Needel, of Quincy, MA, on March 26, 2025, at the age of 92. Any donations in his memory are requested to go to Children's Tumor Foundation, PO Box 7247, Philadelphia, PA, 19170 c/o the Needel Family Fund, or by donating online at <https://www.ctf.org/ways-to-give>. Baruch dayan haemet. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Bill be an enduring blessing.

Long-time and beloved member of Temple Israel, Marion Baer, succumbed to her final illness at home on the evening of April 17th, 2025. The funeral took place on Tuesday, April 22nd, at Temple Israel, followed by interment in the family Mausoleum at the Hebrew Cemetery within Spring Hill Cemetery. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may the memory of Marion be an enduring blessing.

We continue to send good wishes to Rose Christian, mother of Dona Hall, who has moved to Harmony at Southridge.

Our heartfelt prayers go out to all who were affected by fires or severe weather events throughout the U.S. and the world. Many have been devastated, including entire communities in the Los Angeles area of California. Please consider donating to one of the organizations that are seeking to help the affected people recover from devastating losses.

We continue to offer prayers for those who are held captive, dead or alive, as well as their families. Our hearts are with them. May there be a happy resolution and complete healing from their trauma soon for all those still alive and their families, and may the bodies of those who lost their lives be returned to their families to offer a dignified burial and some form of closure. May there be

(Continued on page 6)

Our Thoughtful Contributors

Thank You for Making Shabbat Even More Special

April 4, 2025 — The flowers on the bimah were given in memory of Rabbi Blair's mother, Lillian Roslyn Blair, by Temple Israel Sisterhood.

April 18, 2025 — The flowers on the bimah were given in memory of Rabbi Blair's mother, Lillian Blair, by Donna Goldberg.



a cessation of hostilities and an end to the death and injuries taking place.

We pray also for all those who are under attack, and those who are innocents caught in the crossfire. May there be an end to all their suffering, and may peace come to pass throughout the world.

Our prayers go out to those fallen in service to their country, members of the U.S. Military, the IDF, First Responders, and all who placed themselves in the way of harm for the sake of others. We pray for the peace of their souls, and for comfort for their families and loved ones.

Rabbi Joe Blair

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 rabbijoe@gmail.com.

I read email and texts quite regularly (**on all days EXCEPT Shabbat & holidays, both Jewish and secular**).

In an emergency on one of these days, please phone me on my cell phone and leave a message expressing the urgency of the call and the nature of the need in the message. I will get back to you as soon as I am able.

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

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month, the Sisterhood column features two reviews of the wonderful Congregational Passover Seder held at Temple Israel. Special thanks to Beth Steinberg Winter and Marsha Albert for contributing their insight and heartfelt reflections.

A reminder to all Sisterhood members: The Sisterhood Shabbat Service will be held on May 9, 2025. We look forward to sharing this sacred occasion with you. *Ina Angel*, President

WHY IS THIS NIGHT DIFFERENT?

The Community Seder held at Temple Israel is a beautiful yearly tradition. One to which we look forward each spring, just as our Temple garden is blooming and weather is more predictable.

Our dependable House staff, along with capable volunteers, order and prepare traditional and symbolic food. The Social Hall is welcoming and festive. Our members and guests are treated to a lovely event. It is always a great evening to share our tradition and to also introduce those of other faiths to one of our most sharable and historical holidays.

Our Rabbi leads the crowd of all ages in the reading of the Haggadah that tells the story and explains the various symbols of our people coming out of bondage to become a free nation...the trials and tribulations. And all that, along with songs. (Perhaps one of the first musical productions.)

May we sing "Dayenu" together. Young and old...for years to come. *Marsha Albert*, Sisterhood Past President

Wouldn't it be nice to
attend the Temple Israel Seder
and keep this tradition going?

TEMPLE ISRAEL PASSOVER 2025

Dearest Rabbi Blair, Temple Israel Leadership, and my Temple Family,

What can I say? Are there words enough to describe what a wonderful Passover Seder we had at Temple Israel? Fifty-one years ago, at age 22, this Brooklyn girl became a West Virginian. After all these years, Temple Israel has become my FAMILY!

Passover Seder 2025 was so much more than a service and a meal – it was an experience!

Let me start by saying that Rabbi Blair kept the length of the Seder very much within reason. The participation of so many present was fantastic. It felt like a family affair rather than a community gathering.

As many of you know me, I can get a little over the top mushy. Writing this review of the Temple Israel Passover experience and the caterer is an honor.

Ina, thank you for the opportunity and for making space for my comments.

First, I want to rave about Chasity Thomas and the Tastefully Dun Team – this was an outstanding meal. The food was absolutely delicious; every dish bursting with flavor, and cooked to perfection.

My health issues, more often than not, tend to make my "meal" encounters very challenging. I HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THE DINNER CREATED BY Chasity. The flavors of each dish were perfectly balanced and presented beautifully. The freshness of the ingredients and the unique flavors were unforgettable.

In the interest of not making this article too lengthy, let me just say the food was exceptional. What a menu! Wow re: the tenderloin and the roasted veggies. Chasity did something very special – she made Tzimmes. My Bubbe, Sarah, and my Mamala, Frances, applaud you.

Last, but not least, thank you Jill Epstein & David McAfee for making sure this Passover 2025 was seamless. Your attention to detail is beyond words.

Additionally, what would we do without the help of Tasha and her family, Shakira, Natalie, and Nasyia?

As my granddaughter, Tilly, would say, THE END!

I am truly grateful to Temple Israel, and everyone involved, for enhancing my family life in Charleston. Seder 2025 could not have been better, even if I were back in Brooklyn.

Beth Steinberg Winter, Sisterhood Past President

The Matzo Ball Ladies



Photo courtesy of Jill Epstein, April 2025



Photo courtesy of Jill Epstein, April 2025



Federated Jewish Charities of Huntington B'nai Sholom Congregation is excited to announce the upcoming 2025 session of Camp Keif - free two-week in-person day camp for ages 5 and up!

**June 16th - June 20th &
June 23rd - June 27th
Monday thru Friday
9:30 am to 3:00 pm**

Children are welcome to participate from 1 day to the entire 2 weeks.

Celebrating the 10th year of Camp Keif at B'nai Sholom, planning has already begun for Camp Keif 2025. Team Camp Keif is working hard to create an engag-

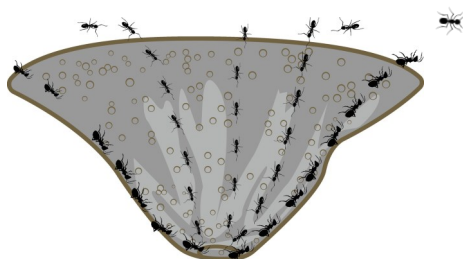
ing, fun-filled camp that will build bonds of friendship and strengthen Jewish identity, Jewish values, and a connection to Israel in our children.

We would love to have the children from B'nai Jacob and Temple Israel join us! It is a wonderful opportunity for the children of our two communities to be together.

Please call or email for your Registration Form - and if you have any questions.

Susan Miller
CampKeifHuntingtonWV@gmail.com
304-617-7488

Graphic credits throughout the Bulletin are available upon request.



PLANNING AHEAD

Sisterhood Yearbook

Please be certain that the Temple Israel Office has your contact information up to date for the Sisterhood Yearbook.

Email
templeisraelwv@gmail.com

Phone
304-342-5852

Permit No. 2161

Charleston WV

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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