

# Temple Israel Bulletin

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September 2025  
Elul 5785 / Tishri 5786

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Shalom & greetings! Welcome to the September Bulletin!

Our last publication was the Summer Bulletin, covering June, July, and August. In all honesty, a lot has happened since that was written, and we need to catch up a little, and look ahead to a full and active year that is kicking off! Some of it will be in this Bulletin, while some will appear in the Bulletin for the next few months.

### LOOKING BACK

First, allow me to remind you of some of the highlights that took place since the last Bulletin was published. In calendar order:

Shavuot, the Annual Congregational Meeting, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Indoor Picnic, the WV Jewish Film Festival, the Jewish Literature session at which Basia Winograd joined us to discuss her writing (That was wonderful! If you missed it and want to view it, let me [Rabbi Joe] know, and I can share the link to the recording with you – but please don't share it), the Talent Show (which was great – kudos to those who shared their talents with us!), the final Shabbat service led by Rabbi Urecki as Rabbi at B'nai Jacob, and the fantastic weekend program to honor and celebrate his and Marilyn's many years of contributions and dedication to B'nai Jacob, the Jewish community, and the larger West Virginia community, which was immediately followed by Rabbi Adam Berman leading the Shabbat service the next week as the newly elected Rabbi at B'nai Jacob.

I offered some words on the occasion of Rabbi Urecki's retirement, as did others; I wish him and Marilyn only good things, and many blessings and much happiness, and I look forward to continue to socialize and worship with them.

In the same vein, I offer a hearty welcome to Rabbi Berman and his lovely family, and look forward to working with him, getting to know him, and enjoying a warm, collegial relationship with him. Rabbi and Emmy, may your time in Charleston be all you could hope for, and more.

I also had two highlights as a rabbi that made me feel delighted, and I am happy to share. First, I was privileged to take part in a Beit Din for a conversion, which was a joy. May both of these people be blessed and find a warm welcome, and make their

way in the Jewish world, bringing the gifts they hold to strengthen the Jewish people. *Baruch Haba'im.*

Second, I was honored to be asked to officiate at the wedding of a couple, one of whom grew up at Temple Israel, and her family is still here. That was amazing, and left me feeling so good, and with feelings of joy and happy hopes and wishes for them as they begin on their life journey together. Mazal tov to them!

### LOOKING AHEAD

There is a lot that is coming up. I will list some of it here, but watch for more in the October and November Bulletins, or other messages to the Congregation.

- Labor Day is September 1<sup>st</sup>. (The office is closed.)
- Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> will be the WV Council of Churches Dismantling Racism Task Force Interfaith Service (Rescheduled) at 3 p.m., to be held at the St. Paul A.M.E. Church, 1108 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Charleston, WV. Rabbi Blair will be speaking at this event.

### HIGH HOLIDAYS OVERVIEW

- **Rosh Hashanah Evening**, 7:30 p.m., Monday, 9/22
- **Rosh Hashanah** (The office is closed on 9/23.)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning**, 10:30 p.m., Tuesday, 9/23
- **Tashlich Service**, 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, 9/23 – To take place in-person in the Foyer or Garden of Temple Israel (depending on the weather)
- **Yom Kippur Evening**, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, 10/1
- **Yom Kippur** (The office is closed on 10/2.)
- **Yom Kippur Morning**, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, 10/2
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon**, 1:00 p.m., Thursday, 10/2
- **Yom Kippur Memorial**, 5:00 p.m., Thursday, 10/2
- **Yom Kippur Concluding**, ~6:00 p.m., Thursday, 10/2
- **Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast**, ~7:00 p.m., Thursday, 10/2

(Rabbi's Desk continued on page 3)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Temple Israel Congregation:

I am honored to be selected to serve as your President for the second time.

While this Congregation has experienced a number of changes since I was last in office in 2017, I am pleased to report that the fundamentals have stayed the same. Under the excellent leadership of Rabbi Blair, we have stayed committed to the precepts of Reform Judaism in our religious services and in our social justice adherence.

As we well know, and cannot overlook, the demographics of our congregation and of the greater Charleston Jewish community continue to change.

Accordingly, I committed myself and our leadership to exploring a potential consolidation with B'nai Jacob to ensure that we will have a vibrant Jewish Community for the foreseeable future.

(President's Message continued on page 3)

## SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over. We invite you to support our events and attend general meetings — everyone is welcome.

Betty Stern compiled a list of Sisterhood's accomplishments for 2024-2025.

- Arranged for and financed flowers for the Bima on Shabbat
- Provided the Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast
- Purchased Yahrzeit Memorial Board nameplate plaque for Margot Jogwick

### SOCIAL ACTION

- Provided stamps for postcards to congregation members
- Contributed to Women's Health Center
- Contributed to "Guns to Garden"

(Sisterhood President's Message continued on page 2)

# AT A GLANCE: SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER & HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES

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.**

**Please Note: Additional offerings for in-person classes and programs will be offered, to start in November. To help plan, in October a request for feedback on topics, days, and times will be sent out. Please respond to it to help identify what you are interested in seeing offered. Thank you.**

## September

Monday, September 1	Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED
Friday, September 5 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service
Monday, September 8 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Sisterhood Schmooze in the Sisterhood Lounge   Brown Bag Lunch
Tuesday, September 9 5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, September 12 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service
Saturday, September 13 3:00 p.m.	WV Council of Churches Dismantling Racism Task Force Interfaith Service   St. Paul A.M.E. Church
Saturday, September 13	<i>Selichot</i>
Sunday, September 14 11:00 a.m.	Sisterhood Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, September 19 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service
Monday, September 22 7:30 p.m.	<b>Rosh Hashanah</b> Evening Service Dessert Oneg
Tuesday, September 23	10:30 a.m. <b>Rosh Hashanah</b> Morning Service 12:00 p.m. <i>Tashlich</i> Service   In the Foyer or Garden
Friday, September 26 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service   <i>Shabbat Shuvah</i>

## October

Wednesday, October 1 7:30 p.m.	<b>Yom Kippur</b> Evening Service ( <i>Kol Nidrei</i> )
Thursday, October 2 <i>Each service will be 60-90 minutes</i>	<b>Yom Kippur Day</b> 10:30 a.m. <b>Yom Kippur</b> Morning Service ( <i>Shacharit</i> ) 1:00 p.m. <b>Yom Kippur</b> Afternoon Service ( <i>Minchah</i> ) 5:00 p.m. <b>Yom Kippur</b> Memorial Service ( <i>Yizkor</i> ) ~6:00 p.m. <b>Yom Kippur</b> Concluding Service ( <i>Ne'ilah</i> ) ~7:00 p.m. <b>Yom Kippur</b> Break-the-Fast
Friday, October 3 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service with <b>Sukkot</b> and anniversary of October 7th Observance
Monday, October 6 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Sisterhood Schmooze in the Sisterhood Lounge   Brown Bag Lunch
Monday, October 6	<b>Erev Sukkot</b>
October 7 - 13	<b>Sukkot</b>
Friday, October 10 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service with <b>Shemini Atzeret &amp; Simchat Torah</b> Observance   Covered Dish Dinner Oneg Shabbat
October 13 - 14	<b>Shemini Atzeret &amp; Simchat Torah</b>
Tuesday, October 14 5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, October 17 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service   Lay-Led
Thursday, October 23 12:00 p.m.	WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV) Awards Luncheon (Rabbi Blair is one of the clergy being honored)
Friday, October 24 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service
Sunday, October 26 11:00 a.m.	Sisterhood Board of Directors & General Membership Meeting & Program: Historic Glenwood Estate Presentation (Marla Griffith, Executive Director)
Thursday, October 30 12:45 p.m.	WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Course – Another Engagement with Jewish Poetry, Session 1   Online   Taught by Rabbi Blair
Friday, October 31 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service

(Sisterhood President's Message continued from page 1)

### SOJOURNERS

- Provided meals at Christmas and spring time
- Snacks for children during summer break
- Provided sheets and towels

### VETERANS

- Provided personal care items

### CARE COMMITTEE

- Provided holiday bags to 15 members for 3 holidays
- Sixteen members received gift cards, flowers, etc., during illness or bereavement

### TEMPLEGRAMS

- 16 books compiled and delivered

Sisterhood anticipates another successful year and plans to build on its achievements.

May the New Year bring you and your family good health, peace, and love.

*Ina Angel*, Temple Israel Sisterhood President

## New Address

Ann Kushner will be moving from Harmony in South Charleston to

**Heritage Center**

**101 13th Street**

**Huntington, WV 25708**

Ann's cell phone will remain the same.

## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK CONTINUED

(Rabbi's Desk continued from page 1)

Looking beyond the High Holy Days, we continue with observances and events:

- Shabbat service with **Sukkot** and the anniversary of October 7<sup>th</sup> observed, Friday, 10/3, 5:30 p.m.
- **Sukkot** Holiday (The office is closed on 10/7)
- Shabbat Service with **Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah** observed, Friday, 10/10, 5:30 p.m.
- **Simchat Torah** Holiday (The office is closed on 10/13)
- WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence Awards Luncheon, 10/23, 12:00 p.m. Rabbi Blair will be recognized at this event.
- WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Course: Another Engagement with Jewish Poetry, Thursdays, 10/30 & 11/6, online. Instructor, Rabbi Blair
- Torah Study, Sunday, 11/2, 10:30 a.m., Parashah Vayera
- Jewish Literature, 11/2, 4:00 p.m.
- Death Chatter, 11/2, 7:00 p.m.
- Shabbat service with **Krystallnacht & Veterans Day** observed, Torah Parashah Vayera, with Covered Dish Dinner to follow, Friday, 11/7, 5:30 p.m.

In addition to all the services and special events listed, we will be looking into adding new events and classes to our ongoing activities. These include monthly Board of Trustees meetings, scheduled Sisterhood meetings, weekly *Ongei Shabbat* (plural), and the return of scheduled classes and programs (i.e., A Bisell Torah, Leora May Book Group), as well as looking to add new classes and events.

Please watch for more information on offerings, and please respond when asked about what you would like to see offered, as well as when (frequency, day, dates & times).

I always enjoy sharing these events with others, 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 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 & Thursdays, and on the Temple Israel website calendar ([templeisraelwv.org](http://templeisraelwv.org)).

### PARTICIPATION REQUESTS

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 invites members to bless and light candles for our Shabbat services each week. If you are willing, please contact her.

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, 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

As we look forward only weeks to the arrival of the High Holy Days, I offer you this prayer.

*May we draw closer to the divine, and be guided towards our best selves. May we be a vehicle to bring G-d's presence to every living thing we encounter, and thereby to all of creation.*

*May we be inscribed in the book of life for a good, sweet, and happy year, with peace, prosperity, and health, for each of us, and for all our loved ones.*

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 High Holiday services, or one of the other events that are upcoming in our community. Warm wishes for you as we proclaim the Sovereignty and Majesty of G-d.

*B'virkat Shalom* (with blessings of peace), and prayers for health, joy, and peace,  
**Rabbi Joe Blair**  
[rabbijoebl@gmail.com](mailto:rabbijoebl@gmail.com)  
 304-989-4014

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

(President's Message continued from page 1)

As I announced at our Annual meeting, I pledged to keep the Congregation informed of any developments in that regard. I am pleased to report that our Board of Trustees had a joint meeting with the B'nai Jacob Board to discuss and outline the steps necessary to decide on how this consolidation may take shape. Both Boards believed that the discussion was very productive and pledged to continue those efforts during this next year.

In addition, the Steering Committee created by my predecessor, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, has created several subgroups dedicated to the most important issues which we need to resolve prior to consolidation - finance, religious practices, governance, programs, social action and facilities. Our Finance Committee has met with B'nai Jacob's committee to exchange financial information, and we plan to have the other above committees meet soon with their B'nai Jacob counterparts.

I should reiterate that nothing can or will be done respecting consolidation without the entire Congregation being fully informed of the details and affirmatively voting to approve. In the meantime, please feel free to ask me or any of the Board of Trustees members any questions you may have as the process unfolds.

I look forward to our High Holiday celebration and the other exciting and rewarding events planned for the upcoming month.

Sincerely, *Richard Gottlieb*  
 Temple Israel President

Did you know that you may request to change your dues billing cycle? For example, if your dues are billed quarterly and you wish to be billed once a year in January or October instead of quarterly, that adjustment can be made.

Billing cycles to choose from are:

- Annually in January or October
- Quarterly
- Semi-quarterly in January and October

Please contact the Temple Israel Office to request a change.



# SEPTEMBER Yahrzeits

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

**AUGUST 29**

Harry Pollack	8/30
Hal Jeffrey Jurin	8/31
Ruth Ann Oliver	8/31
Harriet Broida Schwartz	8/31
Gertrude Artz	9/1
Louis Rotgin	9/1
Fannie Schwartz	9/2
Robert Sidney Aaron	9/3
Beatrice Cohen Binderman	9/3
Deidre Eisinger	9/3
Sarah Gilman	9/3
Mina G. Greenspon	9/3
Rose Korn	9/3
Joseph Bloom	9/5
Simon H. Galperin Sr.	9/5
Rabbi Israel B. Koller	9/5
Stanley Silverstein	9/5

**SEPTEMBER 5**

Lena T. Burka	9/6
Nettie Weinstein Goldman	9/6
Raymond A. Cohen	9/7
Marion Lehman	9/8
Charles Cohen	9/9
Suzanne Silverstein Rice	9/9
Anna Rodgin	9/9
Herman G. Wells	9/9
Max M. Goldfarb	9/10
Sophie Spivack	9/10
Priscilla Herzbach	9/12
Sol Kaplan	9/12

**SEPTEMBER 12**

Susan Ferrara Bostic	9/13
Peter Godfrey	9/14
Esther Price	9/14
Sarah Greenberg	9/15
Fred Burka	9/16
Gussie Kwass	9/16
Carol Marks	9/16
Joan F. Silverstein	9/16
Sylvia M. Kohn Gold	9/17
Sam Kaplan	9/17
Hildegard Mellman	9/17
Werner Yunker	9/17
James Pickus	9/18
David Reich	9/18
William R. Wood	9/18
Jacob H. Stern	9/19
Louis E. Walter	9/19

**SEPTEMBER 19**

Rebecca Helfand Gilman	9/20
Ruth Goldfarb	9/20
Henrietta Kaufman	9/20
Margaret Short Lewis	9/21
Naomi Ruth Pickus	9/21
Arthur Beren	9/22
Philip Angel Sr.	9/23
A. Foster Thalheimer	9/23
Robert Weinberger	9/23
Sigmund Yunker	9/23

Irene Blocker	9/24
Nan Hertz	9/24
Jean Jubelirer	9/24
Abraham Greenberg	9/25
Sam Joseph Toovy	9/25
Rosa Levine	9/26

**SEPTEMBER 26**

Dr. Gordon F. Phillips	9/27
Alfred H. Schaffner	9/27
Bernard Bergen	9/28
Richard O. Katz	9/28
Ellen Shapiro	9/28
Judy Walder	9/28
Thomas C. Bachman	9/29
Edna P. Hofmayer	9/29
Lawrence C. Kaufman Jr.	9/29
Etta Ruda	9/29
Joseph Bernard Gateman	9/30
Genevieve Henderson	9/30
Susan Hockenbrocht	9/30
Faye Kantor	10/1
Richard M. "Ricky" Pollack	10/1
Leonard Gottlieb	10/2
Nat Spigel	10/2
Ray Blocker	10/3
Louis Gottlieb	10/3
Helen Jacobs	10/3
Ann W. Silverstein	10/3

When making donations to the  
**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund,**  
**Unrestricted Fund, Social Action**  
**Fund, or Floral Fund,** please make  
your check payable to Temple Israel.

Please make **Sisterhood** donations  
payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.



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

# 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, though your name is not listed here.

David Bailey  
Carl Cardwell  
Anne Dever  
Arthur Epstein  
Jonathan Freedman  
Karl Gattlieb  
Ed Goldberg  
Jack Goldfarb  
Mirabella & the Grizer Family  
Rabbi Earl Jordan  
Ruth Jordan  
Paula Kushner  
Judy Lundy  
Ditty Markham  
Gary Markham  
Deborah Meehan  
Laura Patterson  
Kay Pickus  
Penny Sappington  
Mark Schaul  
Bob Steinberg  
Barbara Braun Tweddle  
Gayle Twigger-Shaw  
Wesley Walker  
Gary Winter

We also recall in our prayers:

All who are impacted by illness or disease

Everyone afflicted by natural or man-made disasters, war, violence, terrorism, or oppression

Hostages, captives, prisoners, and their families

All others in need of prayers for healing and wholeness, specifically including those who are in your heart or mind at this time

## **Baruch Dayan Haemet (Condolences & Prayers)**

We offer condolences to Mary Rich Maloy on the recent loss of her sister, Anne Morton Lewis Caldwell, in Marietta, GA, on June 1. May the mourners be comforted, and may her memory be a blessing.

We offer condolences to Betty Stern and family on the recent death of her cousin, Ina Hark, in South Carolina on August

19th. May the mourners be comforted, and may her memory be a blessing.

We continue to hold in our prayers Rose Christian, mother of Dona Hall, who has moved to Harmony at Southridge. May she be comfortable and enjoy her time there.

Our heartfelt prayers go out to all who were affected by fires, floods, or other severe weather events throughout the U.S. and the world. Many have been overwhelmed and left in dire straits, and are in need of assistance. 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 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 and to members of the military, 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.

## **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:

**August:** Kim & Bob Aaron; Fran & David Thalheimer; Ron & Sue Eisinger; **Mary Rich Maloy (MILESTONE);** Carole & Duke Bloom; Lynn Meyer; Liz Kantor-Bright & Jeff Bright; Victor Bastron; Sarah Gottlieb; Judy Lundy; Peggy Silverstein O'Connell; Max Gottlieb

**September:** Jackie & Steve Artz; Ladonna Kushner; Bridget McGuire; Josh Barrett; Rich Katz; Ron Eisinger; Jace Goins; Jodi & Rich Katz; Julie Adams; Ed Goldberg; Marsha & Ivan Platnick; Gail Bellamy; Bill Rosenfeld; Lynn & Steve Meyer;

Nadyah Bastron; Lynn Gattlieb; Roberta Lee Levine; Gayle Twigger-Shaw

**October:** Mary Hart; Richard Hess; Ina Angel; **Janie & Moe Rubenstein (MILESTONE);** Ladonna & David Kushner; Julie Schaul; **Gary Winter (MILESTONE);** Marlo Weisberg Erwin; Millie Snyder; Alan Fleischmann; Debby Sonis; Gloria Kelley; Marsha Platnick; Steve Meyer

Mazal tov to Rabbi Urecki and Marilyn for their 39 years of dedicated service to B'nai Jacob, the Jewish community, Charleston, and beyond. Their impact was huge and will continue to influence those they touched for years to come. May retirement be all that you could wish for, and may you enjoy many blessings and much joy.

Mazal tov to Rabbi Berman and his family; we welcome you to Charleston, and look forward to your presence, teaching, and leadership in coming years. It is a blessing to have you here. May you find your time here even more rewarding and enriching than you imagined, and may you be blessed, just as you will be a blessing to us.

Mazal tov to Millie Snyder for pulling together the Talent show and providing a lovely evening for all who could attend. Kudos also to all who participated in the event; whether by performing, or by supporting it.

Mazal tov to Sara Perez on the celebration of her Bat Mitzvah on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mazal tov to Cadet Airman Miryam Perez on her accomplishment in reaching that rank in the Civil Air Patrol. In addition, we wish her a very hearty mazal tov following the celebration of her Bat Mitzvah on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June.

Mazal tov to Ava Katz and her parents, Jodi and Rich, on her graduation from George Washington High School, and best wishes to her as she acts on her decision to attend the University of Michigan to study biomedical engineering.

Mazal tov to Holden Bryant (grandson of Millie Snyder) on his graduation from Northern Vermont University, and for entering employment in his chosen field.

Mazal tov to the Radow and Prince families on the marriage of Joanna Radow and Jason Prince on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Temple Israel in Charleston. The couple will live in New York.

(Continued on page 6)

## IN THE CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY CONTINUED

(Continued from page 5)

Mazal tov to Lynn & Karl Gattlieb on the upcoming wedding of their daughter, Dr. Shelly Gattlieb and Mr. Bro Kriti planned for the end of September (the 27th) in Carmel, Indiana. We send the happy couple hopes for a beautiful wedding, and best wishes for many blessings as they begin their life together.

Mazal tov to Ellie Schaul for the recent exhibition of her Zeitgeist Houses.

Mazal tov to all those elected to serve on the Temple Israel Board of Trustees at the June Annual Congregational Meeting. Officers elected (or re-elected) include: Richard Gottlieb, Mary Rich Maloy, Gail Bellamy, Jack Levin, and Trustees Marsha Albert, Debby Sonis, and Betty Stern. Those continuing to serve include Steve Artz, Donna Goldberg, David Thalheimer, Dona Hall, Millie Snyder, Beth Steinberg Winter, and Ina Angel as representative of the Sisterhood. The Cemetery Committee representative to the Board of Trustees is Richard Hess; he serves on that committee together with Betty Stern and David Thalheimer. Past President Gayle Twigger-Shaw becomes the Immediate Past President. We offer thanks and appreciation to Fran Thalheimer, as well as Lynn Gattlieb and Richard Lehman, who have concluded their terms on the Board.

I hope I included all who should be here (I tried!), but if I missed anyone, please forgive me, and let me know so I can acknowledge it in the next Bulletin.

Please do let me know about reasons to celebrate and offer congratulations. 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.)

Rabbi Joe Blair

## TZEDAKAH (CHARITY)

I have asked you to consider giving Tzedakah in almost every Bulletin over the past seven years. The frequency of my request is an indication of the importance I attach to this Mitzvah, and how important it is.

This month, I ask again. 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. So, I ask for your consideration of donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. I deeply appreciate everyone who has ever donated - sincere thanks from the bottom of my heart to all who have made contributions.

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 many people over the past years, allowing me to meet the needs as they arose.

And lest it not be obvious, **there are many worthy causes** that deserve your consideration. Please do all you are able. Support those causes that are close to your heart. We are taught that Tzedakah is among the highest of all mitzvot – **ESPECIALLY** at this time of year. 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.

Rabbi Joe Blair



Rabbi Victor Urecki, left, and his successor, Rabbi Adam Berman. Photo by Benjamin Cohen

Be sure to check out the wonderful piece in the *Jewish Forward* about B'nai Jacob and their new spiritual leader, Rabbi Adam Berman!

<https://tinyurl.com/5asjs586>

## 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 (Except on **Shabbat and 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

# Temple Israel Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Service

Please list the names(s) of the person(s) you wish to have remembered during Temple Israel's Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial service being held on Thursday, October 2, 2025.

Only the names of deceased relatives and friends listed on this form will be read at the service.

Please return the completed form **no later than close of business Friday, September 26, 2025,** via contact information listed below.

Names to be remembered at the Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Service:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL



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





# Trip to Israel Planned for 2026

Our friends in Huntington are planning a trip to Israel through Jewish Federations of North America, Network of Small Jewish Communities. They would like to include the Charleston community, and include all those who are interested in the planning. The itinerary and dates are still a work in progress, but they are looking at dates around Purim (February - March 2026) or Israel Independence Day (April 2026).

## Where We're Going:

- ☆ Masada at Sunrise
- ☆ The Western Wall + Tunnel Tour
- ☆ Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum
- ☆ Machane Yehuda Market
- ☆ Kalisher Ulpan in Be'er Sheva

## What's Included:

- ☆ Hotels
- ☆ Breakfasts, many lunches & dinners
- ☆ Secure group travel

If you have never been to Israel or are looking to return, this will be an excellent opportunity to visit with our West Virginia community!

If you are interested, please contact

Linda Klein

412-414-560

abaxlp@aol.com

Federated Charities of Huntington, WV



## 2025 Bill of Rights Brunch & After Show

Brunch 12:00 p.m.	<i>Sunday</i> <i>Nov. 9</i>	Beni Kedem Shriners Temple 100 Quarrier St. Charleston
After Show 4:30 p.m.		

Catered by Charleston's Own Award-Winning 1010 Bridge Restaurant

Special after-event concert.

Everyone attending the brunch is welcome to stay for the concert – or – if brunch isn't your thing, then you can just pick up tickets to the show!

Whether or not you can attend personally, please consider supporting ACLU-WV Foundation as a sponsor this year!

Contact the Temple Israel Office for forms.

*TICKETS ON SALE NOW*



Permit No. 2161

Charleston WV

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Nonprofit Org.

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

Charleston, West Virginia 25311

2312 Kanawha Boulevard East

Temple Israel