



A Monthly Publication for Temple Beth-El,
Las Cruces, New Mexico

DECEMBER 2014 (KISLEV-TEVET 5775)



**Shabbat Services in December
(Full Schedule on Page 2)**

Friday, December 5

Family Shabbat Service at 6:00 pm;

Dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:40 pm;

Regular Service at 7:30 pm

Friday, December 12

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm

Friday, December 26

Meditation at 7:00 pm

Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit at 7:30 pm

Saturdays

**Talmud Study at 9:00 am; Shabbat Service at
10:15 am, followed by a potluck Kiddush**



**On Friday,
December 19,
join us for a
SHABBAT CHANUKAH
CELEBRATION!**

- **Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck and LATKE dinner at 5:30 pm.**
("Potluck" Latkes are welcome!)
- **Bring your menorah to light!**
- **Multigenerational Service at 6:15 pm**
- **Dessert and Dreidels at 7:00 pm, including dreidel games, Chanukah activities, a delectable Oneg Shabbat including Sufganiyot (Jelly Donuts)!**
- **HELP US CELEBRATE OUR FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS!**



Temple Beth El is proud to present noted Tony award winning playwright, screenwriter, filmmaker, director, actor and professor

Mark Medoff, on Sunday, December 14, at 2:00 PM at Temple Beth-El for what promises to be a most informative afternoon during which he will share stories about his experiences growing up Jewish in Miami Beach, FL, and describe their impact on his creative work.

He will share the uniqueness of his community, his teachers at Beach High and professors at the University of Miami, including his mentor whose lessons have impacted him so intensely that he has been teaching them to his own students at NMSU. He, along with Dr. Richard Rundell, will provide a short presentation from his upcoming production of *Waiting for Godot* at the Rio Grande theater, his first stage role in 22 years. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students, and are available at Steinborn Realty, 141 Roadrunner Pkwy, and at White's Music Box, 200 S. Main St., and will benefit the **Mark Medoff Visiting Lecture Series** and **Temple Beth-El's Temple Youth Fund**. Tickets may also be purchased via mail.

For any inquiries, call or email
Ellen Torres: 510-676-3211 or
ellenhowerton@comcast.net.

Worship Schedule



Friday, December 5—FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE FOR ALL AGES

6:40 pm Potluck Dinner—please bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share.

7:30 pm Regular Shabbat Evening Service, including Torah discussion: “Who was that man?” *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Michele Blum and Lynn Zeemont.*

Saturday, December 6

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayishlach Genesis 32:4-36:43

Haftarah Hosea 11:7-12:12

Friday, December 12

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service; Rabbi Karol will speak on “Dreaming Again.” *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Marieka Brown, Sherlyn Shervanick and Elisha Rosenberg.*

Saturday, December 13

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayeishev Genesis 37:1-40:23

Haftarah Amos 2:6-3:8

Friday, December 19

Shabbat Chanukah

5:30 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Dinner with LATKES!!! (“Potluck” Latkes are welcome!)

Bring your Chanukiah/Menorah to light!

6:15 pm Shabbat Chanukah Family Service

7:00 pm Dreidels and Dessert! - An Oneg Shabbat including Sufganiyot/Jelly Donuts and other delicacies and Chanukah activities, including playing dreidel!!!

Saturday, December 20

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Mikeitz Genesis 41:1-44:17

Haftarah for Chanukah Zechariah 2:14-4:7

Friday, December 26

7:30 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit led by Rabbi Karol, featuring special music and prayers for healing along with our Shabbat liturgy. *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Terri Sugarman, Ruth Ann Sugarman and Judy Kirschner.* **David Fishman will lead a meditation in one of the Temple classrooms at 7:00 pm, including an introduction to Jewish meditation and a brief discussion following.**

Saturday, December 27

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayigash Genesis 44:18-47:27

Haftarah Ezekiel 37:15-28

Friday, January 2

FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE FOR ALL AGES

6:40 pm Potluck Dinner—please bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share.

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will lead a Torah discussion: “Passing on blessings.” *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Pearie Bruder.*

Saturday, January 3

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayechi Genesis 47:28-50:26

Haftarah I Kings 2:1-2:12

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2014-2015

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Trustee	Mark Saltman
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RABBIS

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane, Rabbi Emeritus

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Temple Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 pm.



Message from Rabbi Karol

At this writing, I am about to lead the Shabbat service that features the Torah reading VAYEITZEI, which opens with the patriarch Jacob's dream at Beth-El. This passage is often on our minds and right before our eyes when we attend services. The Neir

Tamid in our Sanctuary places the ladder/stairway in front of us every week, uniting the symbolism of light with a connection between heaven and earth.

The rabbis imagined Jacob to be somewhat hesitant to step onto the ladder because of the risk of failing to rise to the top. In one midrash, God showed Jacob how the great powers of the world (represented by the angels going up and down the ladder) would rise and fall, while the children of Jacob would not suffer the same fate. In those rabbinic interpretations, we never see Jacob taking the step onto the ladder, at least not at that point. In Genesis Chapter 28, Jacob essentially declared that if God took care of all of his needs and saw him through his coming challenges and adventures, then Jacob would fully believe in God. Such a conditional approach has bothered some commentators, but it demonstrates Jacob's humanity. Even making such a pledge was still a commitment to a future relationship, which only would be fulfilled if Jacob continued on his journey to find a wife and to create and raise a family. We know, from the end of the story, that Jacob did act out of his own initiative without waiting for God to do everything for him.

Worship in most any context is a lot like Jacob's relationship with God. The words, the melodies, and the possibility of community are always there, waiting for us to take an active participatory step to make prayers and expressions of belief, commitment, joy, and hope come alive. The generations before us provided us rituals, symbols and an order of a service that reminds us of the wonder of creation, the gift of wisdom, and the trust that can lead us to a sense of security and optimism as members of the Jewish community and of the family of humanity. The Siddur/prayerbook expresses gratitude to our ancestors for establishing a foundation for our community and to God for sharing with us the strength to reach out to others to provide them with freedom, care and support. We focus on aspects of life that are holy and unique that we might consider to be miracles even when we have created them with our own knowledge and insight. We say "thank you" for everything we have and we pray that peace will finally come to our world and encompass all of humanity and all of creation.

The ways in which we express ourselves vary from week to week on Friday night and Saturday morning. On the first Friday of the month, our 6:00 pm Family Service features the central prayers of our liturgy in a relaxed family setting that is open to members of all ages. A potluck Shabbat dinner follows that brings the generations together in Shabbat

joy. The second service on the first Friday is an equally relaxed service that gives congregants a chance to take part in a discussion on an aspect of the weekly Torah portion with the goal of finding lessons for modern life. The "middle Fridays" of the month usually feature a Torah reading with a brief D'var Torah that expresses my current thoughts on the meaning we can derive from the ancient text. On the last Shabbat of the month, the "Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit" brings readings and music together to create a context that gives us a sense of peace and healing that can continue to guide us in the coming days. This service will again be preceded by a time for meditation, led by David Fishman, on December 26 at 7:00 pm.

Shabbat morning services are our most informal, with an opportunity for those present to share "miracles" in our lives, to engage in an in-depth discussion of the Torah portion for the week, and to sing and read prayers that we might not hear on Friday evening. When we reach our minyan of 10, we read Torah and still engage in a lively conversation about the text that has been handed down to us over the centuries.

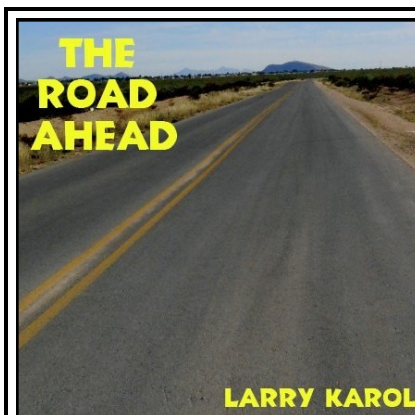
We are now looking forward to our celebration of Chanukah, which begins on Tuesday, December 16. We know well that the Chanukiah/Menorah does not light itself. It needs us to put in the candles and kindle each light so that the glow will inspire us to new acts of preserving freedom and justice for all people. Think of our Shabbat worship like a Chanukiah. When we are here, together, the light from our souls will shine brightly and there will be a special spirit emanating from our Sanctuary, creating a stairway/ladder to lofty places. Each of us can be like Jacob, making it possible to see that "God was in this place, and I, I did not know it."

Best wishes for a happy Chanukah, with a hope that we will all find the light that is at the core of our lives and our souls.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Larry K.

See Rabbi Karol's blog at rabbilarrykarol.blogspot.com.



Rabbi Karol's new album of original Jewish music, "The Road Ahead," is set to be released in mid-December. Be watching for details about the exact release date in coming Eblasts and other publicity!



President's Report

We have an unsung hero in our midst who I would like to thank publicly. Jerry Silverman. Jerry is the chair of the Building and Grounds Committee. Things he does are not always noticed but would be felt if they were not done. He has just had the outside lighting taken care of and had the landscaping trimmed. He even does the mundane job of purchasing toilet paper and paper towels. He makes sure utilities are in working order. We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated person taking care of our building. Thank you, Jerry.

I would like to thank our Golf Tournament Committee for another successful event. There was a great turnout with a lot of positive comments. They raised more money than last year and they also made a donation to El Caldito. Thank you to Arthur Berkson, Allen Blum, Mark Saltman and Lynn Zeemont. Thanks to all the players and donors.

Sisterhood had a well attended Membership Brunch and they collected many items for infants and young children to be donated to Jardin de Los Ninos. It's always nice to be able to care for those in need.

Our JFFF is off to a good start. The food committee has met to evaluate our needs and to discuss what we can do to improve over last year. You'll be hearing from the committees soon.

Your Temple Board of Trustees is once again planning a Shabbat dinner for the end of January. You will be receiving an invite in the mail and a cut off to return with your choice of vegetarian or a regular dinner.

Wishing you all a Happy Chanukah and a healthy, peaceful New Year.

**Thank you,
Dee Cook**

Revisit the flavors of our pastrami and hot dogs from last year's fundraiser and/or the Renaissance Faire!



**JEWISH
FOOD FOLK**

festival

Temple Beth-El
Las Cruces, NM



3980 Sonoma Springs Ave.

- Jewish Food
- Folk Dancing
- Kids' Games & Crafts
- Raffle
- Silent Auction
- Music

Admission \$3
Kids under 12 Free
Food sold at event

Pastrami • Knishes • Falafel
Kosher Hot Dogs • Matzo
Ball Chicken Soup • Desserts
Challah & More!

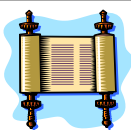
Sunday, April 26, 2015
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tickets: (575) 524-3380
LCJewishFestival.weebly.com



ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs



TORAH STUDY (EXODUS):

Led by Rabbi Karol on Wednesdays at
10:15-11:20 am

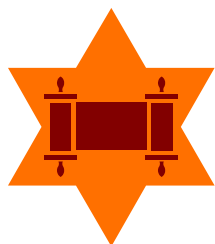
TALMUD STUDY

Talmud study meets every Saturday in the Social Hall at 9:00 am before the Saturday morning service. Prospective students are welcome. Contact Erich Zameret or Tanah Hemingway for more information.



Sweet Songs: A Journey into the Book of Psalms continuing on

selected Mondays
throughout the coming months.
Be watching for specific dates
beginning again in January.



Judaism: Roots and Rituals
An Introduction to Judaism
presented by Rabbi Larry Karol
A 10-week course on
selected Tuesday nights
at 7:00-8:30 pm

Meeting on December 3, 9, & 16;
January 6, 13, 20, and 27;
and February 4 and 11

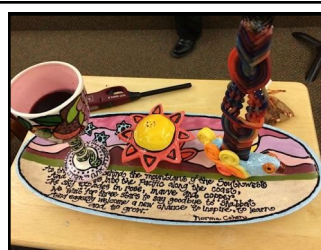
Text: Essential Judaism, by George Robinson

This course is especially designed for adult learners, seekers and explorers who want to know more about the Judaism and Jewish life! (Materials fee for this course is \$54.00). Please let Rabbi Karol know if you plan to attend, by calling Temple Beth-El at 575-524-3380 or by sending an e-mail to Rabbi Karol at rabbi@tbelc.org

Jim Rosenthal will lead his Short Story reading group, "Two Writers: Two Generations" on December 4 and 11 at 10:00 am.



Deborah Lauter, Director of Civil Rights for the Anti-Defamation League, spoke at Temple Beth-El on November 18 about the work of the ADL to further rights and combat hatred throughout our society and the world. Betsy Ehrenberg, New Mexico ADL board chair, and Suki Halevi, director of New Mexico ADL, were also in attendance at this program. Many thanks to Frances Williams for arranging this special presentation.



On Saturday, November 8, Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol, along with Women of Reform Judaism guests Dana Adler and Norma Cohen, led a Havdalah service using the Havdalah set and prayers created for the WRJ Pacific District program in Pasadena, California, on October 23-26, 2014.



**Temple Beth-El
Sisterhood's
Jewish Women's
Spirituality group,**
led by Susan Lapid,
is still meeting
periodically,



For more information,
contact Susan Lapid 496-5758, sblapid@gmail.com or
Leora Zeitlin 639-4475, lzeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu.



The Temple Beth-El

Sisterhood

Judaica Shop

Special hours for you to shop for the Hanukkah Holiday!

Sunday, December 7, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sunday, December 14, 12:30pm-2:00pm

In Temple Beth-El Lobby (near the entrance)

Come and stock up on what you need for Hanukkah for your own home, or for gifts! The Judaica shop is stocked with candles to light, dreidels to spin, wrapping paper, bows, kitchen supplies, challah covers, and many more items that you won't find anywhere else in Las Cruces!

Come see what the Hanukkah Shop has to offer!

This year the items to be sold are already in the Judaica Shop. The funding raised is applied back to the Judaica shop so that it can be stocked to continue to provide for Temple Beth-El families.

Contact:

Michele Blum

575-373-9039

Rhonda Karol

Sunflower55@aol.com

Aggie Saltman 575-649-4356, aggie@nmsu.edu



On November 20, Temple Beth-El in Las Cruces presented to Jardin de los Niños baby items that were collected at the Temple.

On November 9, the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood hosted the baby items drive during its annual membership lunch. Sisterhood members donated baby wipes, diapers, lotions and more. The donations were collected and given as part of our tradition of "Tzedakah" (righteous giving).

Jardin de los Niños provides services to homeless children and their families.

PICTURED in the photo: L-R, Temple Beth-El Sisterhood members Terri Sugarman, Aggie Saltman, Elisha Rosenberg, Jardin de los Niños Executive Director Audrey Hartley, and Colin Rosenberg (front).

Smiling Faces at the Sisterhood Membership Luncheon on Sunday, November 9, 2014 with special guests Dana Adler and Norma Cohen from the Southwest Area of the Women of Reform Judaism.



Upcoming Sisterhood Council Meetings:

Sisterhood Council meetings will be held on the 2nd THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH at Temple at 6:30 pm. Council meetings are open and anyone is welcome to attend.

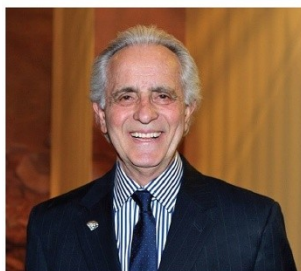


Mark Medoff

"How it All Began"

Tony award-winning playwright, screenwriter, filmmaker, director, actor and professor Mark Medoff will share his experiences growing up Jewish in Miami Beach, FL, the impact of his mentors and community, and how these roots influenced his creative work and teaching practices.

Mr. Medoff will also discuss his upcoming production, **Waiting for Godot**, his first stage role in 22 years.



2 p.m. Sunday
December 14, 2014

Temple Beth-El
3980 Sonoma Springs Ave.
Las Cruces, NM

Tickets: \$10 (\$5 for Students). Available for purchase at:
White's Music Box – 200 S. Downtown Mall
& Steinborn Realty – 141 N. Roadrunner Parkway

Proceeds Benefit Mark Medoff Visiting Lecture Series & TBE Youth Fund

A limited number of tickets is available, so please purchase them early. If there are any leftover tickets on the day of the talk, they will be available at the door, but we hope to sell out soon.

***Congratulations
to the
winning teams
at the
Temple
Tee Time
Golf
Tournament!***



Temple Beth-El Tee Time Golf Tournament

Our Second Annual Temple Tee Time Tournament was a huge success! Again, 59 golfers came out to Red Hawk Golf Course on November 2 for a fun day of tournament play. Through our efforts, we raised \$6064 (a 10% increase from last year) with 10% to be donated to El Caldito Soup Kitchen, a local organization that collects food and provides meals for the homeless of Las Cruces and the surrounding rural communities. Thank you so much to all who participated and donated!

Please be sure to thank and support all the business that supported us including:

- Advanced Archaeological Solutions
- Anytime Fitness, Las Cruces
- Calista Animal Hospital
- Chiles Baseball
- First New Mexico Bank
- John E. Glick, M.D.
- Journey Construction
- Kamran Kamali, MD FACS. Las Cruces Surgical Associates
- N' Compass Group
- Dr. Amy Gorelick & Dr. Abraham Fiszbein
- Pat Campbell Insurance
- Gaudencio Pavia, M.D., LLC; Internal Medicine
- Pronto Plumbers
- Dr. Jean-Pierre Reinhold, Gastroenterology
- Sleep Lab of Las Cruces
- Sun Loan Company

And thanks to our individual sponsors:

- Allen & Eve Palanker
- Ann & Burt Berkson
- Arthur & Rebecca Berkson
- Bill Stein & Susan Michelson
- Dee Cook
- Frances Williams
- Paula Kramer
- The Kolikant Family
- Jason & Elisha Rosenberg
- Josh & Valerie Rosenberg
- Michael & Barbara Mandel
- Dr. Harry & Diane Bass

ISRAEL UPDATE**WHY PEACE CHALLENGES THE PALESTINANS**by **Phil Alkon**

Deadly terrorist attacks on Jews in Jerusalem days ago – this time by means of cars, knives and axes - once again raise the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to headline status. As if we needed another flare-up of this 100-year war so soon after the latest round with Hamas and Islamic Jihad in Gaza. Here I consider the underlying roots of this seemingly intractable and incurable “disease.” Yes, for well over 100 years - long before the Zionist movement was formalized and Israel became a reality – Jewish attempts to establish a homeland in Eretz Yisrael have met with the nearly universal opposition of the Arab World. This was true of the Arab populations of Southern Syria, as geographic Palestine was recognized by Ottoman and Arab leaders. Ironically it was “Jewish encroachment on sacred Arab land” that gave birth to Palestinian Arab national identity. Unfortunately, these new Palestinians retain the very same dysfunctional attributes that dominate the Moslem Middle East: a set of values and behaviors that allow no accommodation with real or self-created enemies. That’s what really underlies this pernicious disease.

The Palestinians share three crippling socio/political handicaps with their Arab brethren. The first is a culture of self-identity rooted in hatred of the “others.” This world-view extends from families, clans and tribes, to entire religious communities and peoples. It is a deeply embedded syndrome that relies on enemies to justify one’s own existence, to reflexively blame others for one’s problems, and to avoid responsibility for improving one’s condition. The mandate of every Palestinian national and political movement to date is framed in terms of enmity to Israel and the Jews, and to act accordingly. Whether it is the PLO and Fatah of the West Bank, or Hamas and Islamic Jihad of Gaza fame, you will search their “constitutions” in vain for any goals or program that seek social, economic political or spiritual progress. Hurting Jews and Israel trumps self-reliance and self-improvement

A second symptom of the malaise is the inability of the Arab Moslem world to accept the sovereignty of other peoples within their exclusive domain. This perspective allows for no nationhood for Kurds, Arab Christians, or any other of the varied ethnic and religious cultures that have shaped the history and present character of the Middle East. It is not surprising that Israel represents an anathema to Moslem Arab sensibilities, and especially to the Palestinians of former southern Syria. Even the “moderate” Palestinian Authority (of PLO and Fatah lineage) continues to educate its people that the Jews have no historical connection or present claim on their sacred Palestinian soil. It must be especially difficult for them to consider that Israel has emerged as the only civil and functional society in “their” world.

A third manifestation is the issue of religion itself. The toxic form of extreme Islam that has taken hold of Arab cultural and political mores threatens the future of the Middle East and endangers many of its communities, Moslem and otherwise. Given Islam’s checkered relationship with the

Jews, and the exclusive sacredness of much of the Middle East, the notion of a regional Jewish state has hardly been welcomed by the Moslem establishment. Two of the Palestinians’ three political movements (Hamas and Islamic Jihad) are founded in Islamist core beliefs promoting jihad, violence against Jews and the replacement of Israel by an Islamic state. Has anyone heard a single call by any Palestinian Moslem cleric for peace and understanding between Arabs and Jews? Please let me know.

A psychosomatic aspect of the Arab conflict comprises an array of contradictory attitudes and behaviors that I call an *intellectual disconnect syndrome*. One of its manifestations is the notion of veracity as a flexible concept and practice. For example, President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority earnestly espouses in English the cause of peace with Israel to eagerly attentive Western visitors. Hours later, in Arabic, he extols the terrorist murderers of Israeli citizens to cheering Palestinians as he dedicates yet another West Bank street to those exemplary Fatah or Hamas martyrs. Another manifestation of the syndrome is self-delusion. The Arab claim to “ownership” of Palestine is founded on the sincere conviction that any historic Jewish connections with Eretz Yisrael are invalid or non-existent. In other words, authentic “ownership” of the Middle East begins with the birth of Islam and the Arab Conquest. Yet another disconnect is the inability to accept a linkage between hostile provocations on the one hand, and their consequences on the other. In the latest round of Gaza fighting, Hamas and many Gaza residents expressed outrage that missile and tunnel attacks against Israel could possibly result in military responses by the IDF. I have yet to hear any Palestinian leader draw the conclusion that the Palestinians’ present condition is a consequence of the war that they have chosen to wage against Israel and the Jewish people over many decades.

Given these fundamental challenges, why do I retain some optimism regarding Israel-Palestinian relations? First, Israelis strongly favor a workable two-state peace settlement. Second, Palestinians possess a huge untapped potential for positive creative endeavors. Finally, Israelis and Palestinians may be increasingly drawn together in confronting common external threats. I also believe that realization of Palestinian potential and peace with Israel are inseparable. Both require that Palestinians liberate themselves from a sick culture that defines them in terms of enmity to others, rather than as drivers of a positive future for themselves. They create and nurture a leadership founded on self-reliance and responsibility. With Israel as a peaceful neighbor and partner, the Palestinians can begin to build a progressive, civil society that would serve as a model for Arab governance in the Middle East.

TBE serving Breakfast at Camp Hope on December 25

From Liz Lewis-Olson

Temple Beth-El will once again be serving breakfast on December 25 at Camp Hope.

Donations can be brought to our house at 4419 Nambe Arc a day or two before the event. It would be best to bring egg dishes directly to the event at 6:45 AM on December 25. We start serving at 7:00 am.

We encourage members to bring their children and others who can help make this happen!

What we need:

* Volunteers to help set up and serve the Camp residents. Be at Camp Hope by 6:45 AM on December 25.

*The following donated food items:

4 egg bake dishes

Bagels

Cream cheese

A Variety of Fruit juices

Package or two of Lox from Sam's

Fruits: bananas, apples, etc.

Ongoing Events at TBE

WEEKLY TEMPLE BREAKFAST

Weekly breakfasts and discussions of Jewish and general interest topics are held at the Temple every Wednesday morning. Breakfast begins at 8:45am, speaker presentations begin at 9:00am. The cost is \$2.00 weekly or \$6.00 monthly. Please contact Phil Alkon for information. (philipalkon@gmail.com or 575-524-6945)



MENSCH CLUB

For information about meetings and events, contact Dave Zeemont at 523-0913 or email at mudjob@earthlink.net.



KNITTING GROUP—A knitting group meets at TBE on Tuesday mornings at 10:15 am. For more information, please contact Deana Kessin at 521-4077 or Kessin@comcast.net

MAH JONG—A new Mah Jong group is meeting on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Frima Marquez at 522-0470 or panchic@comcast.net.

Michael and Stacey Hyman
invite you to share their joy as

Aaron Jean Hyman
is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah

January 10, 2015
10:00 am

Temple Beth-El
3980 Sonoma Springs
Las Cruces, NM 88011

RSVP to Stacey at 575.640.7686
by December 27, 2014

Kiddush lunch to follow service

THE CHESED GROUP

Is here for members in need of assistance due to health issues. Please CALL well in advance:

- David Zeemont at 523-0913 if you need transportation to a medical appointment
- Sally Alkon at 524-6945 if you need transportation or someone to shop for food
- TBE office at 524-3380 if you would like a hospital visit from Rabbi Karol
- TBE office at 524-3380 if you do not drive and need a ride to Temple services.

If you are interested in being a coordinator/helper/driver for services or temple events, please call
Dave Zeemont at 523-0913

Ladies Clothing Contributions for La Tienda de Jardin

La Tienda de Jardin, located at 335 La Colonia Ave (at the southwest corner of Alameda and Main St), would greatly appreciate contributions of ladies clothing, jewelry, shoes, handbags and household items. La Tienda does the following very well:

- It supports Jardin de Los Ninos, a local charity that takes care of homeless and near homeless children and families.
- Purchases help mostly working women dress appropriately at a fair price.
- The donations help those who donate keep their closets tidy while doing a good deed.
- Items not sold are given to other charities and nothing goes to a landfill.

If you have not visited us, please do. We are open Monday-Friday, 10am to 5pm and Saturday at 10am to 2pm. If a pick-up would help you make your donation or you need more information, please call Joan Silar at 521-1925 or Bea Klein at 526-2684.

Lifetime's miniseries "The Red Tent," based on the best-selling novel by Anita Diamant, premieres December 7 and December 8 (check local listings for the time). "The Red Tent" is a sweeping tale, told through the eyes of Dinah, the daughter of Leah and Jacob. Airing over two nights, the all-star cast includes Academy Award, Golden Globe and Emmy nominee Minnie Driver ("Return to Zero," "About a Boy"), Emmy nominee Morena Baccarin ("Homeland"), Golden Globe nominee Rebecca Ferguson ("The White Queen"), Iain Glen ("Game of Thrones"), Will Tudor ("Game of Thrones") and Academy Award, Golden Globe and Emmy nominee Debra Winger ("Terms of Endearment"). The miniseries begins with Dinah's (Ferguson) happy childhood spent inside the red tent where the women of her tribe gather and share the traditions and turmoil of ancient womanhood. The film recounts the story of Dinah's mothers Leah (Driver), Rachel (Baccarin), Zilpah and Bilhah, the four wives of Jacob (Glen). Dinah matures and experiences an intense love that subsequently leads to a devastating loss, and the fate of her family is forever changed. Winger portrays Rebecca, Jacob's mother while Tudor stars as Joseph, Dinah's brother.

Tzedakah Opportunities at TBE

Giving to Casa de Peregrinos & El Caldito

The food for December

for Casa de Peregrinos is Single-serving & easy-open spaghetti, ravioli, and lasagna

Foods for December for El Caldito are
Tuna fish, rice, pasta and peas. (Plastic bags are needed as well!)

Casa de Peregrinos provides staple foods to the needy, and El Caldito provides a hot meal 365 days a year to the hungry in our community. Both organizations are part of the Community of Hope located on the same campus at 999 W. Amador. There are common interests and goals and the food received is often shared between the two organizations in order to best utilize both perishable and non-perishable foods. Please bring something for one or both of these organizations. For more information or questions, contact

- Liz Lewis-Olson, Casa de Peregrinos
(elewis4@comcast.net)
- Eve Palanker, El Caldito (palanker1@msn.com)

VISITING CONGREGANTS

WHO ARE ILL OR HOME-BOUND

At Temple Beth-El, we depend on you, our members, to inform us if you know of someone who needs a visit, especially if they are in a hospital or a rehabilitation or assisted living facility, and also if they are not able to leave their homes due to health-related issues. In order for us to keep our list of who needs a visit current, we ask you to call or email Rabbi Karol (rabbi@tbcl.org) with the names of congregants who you know would like to be visited. We appreciate your cooperation in this area, so that we can be, as much as possible, a truly caring community.

Diane Bass wants everyone to know that she is home now. She is grateful for all the cards, visits, and good wishes that have kept her on the road to recovery.



Temple Beth-El is on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Temple-Beth-El/115816285166004>

If you are on Facebook already, find our page, click "Like" and join us on our new Facebook community!

Donations through November 19, 2014

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Jeff & Avis Lewis, in memory of Beverly Lewis
- Helen Raphael and Rex Douglass, in memory of Oscar Leaser
- Marcy Hundley, thank you for the Torah study class

Fund 2004

- Abraham Pomerantz, in memory of Yetta Lipshitz
- Irv & Nina Rothman, in memory of Mel Taylor

General Fund

- Joan Glickler, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Dee Cook, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Dee Cook, a speedy recovery to Diane Bass,
- Brenda Parish, in memory of mom
- Deana Kessin, in memory of Ken Kessin
- Robert & Phyllis Brantley, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Cherri Hudson-Brown & Jeff Brown, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Selda Steckler, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Jim & Marianne Rosenthal, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Jay Yasgur
- Dave Zeemont, in memory of Mel Taylor
- Bryan and Lisa McCuller, in memory of Arlene Metzger

A Different Kind of Chanukah Gift

Looking for that spectacular Chanukah gift that will amaze children and adults? Buy a brick in their honor! The TBE Biblical Garden Walkway has lots of space for more bricks, and we will soon be adding bricks to the meditation area, so it's an ideal time to fill out a form and add your loved one's name to a gift that beautifies the temple, honors an individual, and celebrates the highest form of gift giving. And there's a BONUS! For every brick you buy, a handwritten personal note will be sent to the recipient, telling them of your donation in their name, and inviting them to come and look at their brick (another order will be going out soon) in the months ahead.



If you've been on the walkway, you'll notice that lots of different occasions and people have been honored.... anniversaries, birthdays, sisterly greetings, memories of loved ones, tributes to visiting grandchildren, and more....so how about some Happy Chanukah greetings for that special person(s). Order forms are available through: Dee Cook 575 521-7319; Alison Mann 575 680-0207; Bob Kimball 575 520-2902 and other members of the committee (Frances Williams, Norm Mazer, Jerry Silverman and Linda Kruger) can also help in obtaining forms and perfecting the wording.

TEMPLE FUNDS—From the Treasurer

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

Torah Endowment Project—For the purchase of a new Torah. Donations above the cost of the Torah are used to secure the financial future of the Temple.

General Operating Fund—For the day-to-day operation of TBE.

Fund 2004—For upkeep on our new building.

Community Service Fund—For projects that benefit our community and Las Cruces and Southern New Mexico.

Send a Kid to Israel Program (S.K.I.P. Fund)—To send Temple youth to Israel.

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund—To provide a Jewish education for our children. Earnings from this fund are used mainly to offset the cost of operating our Religious School.

Frances Williams Library Fund—To provide books and infrastructure for the TBE library.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—Rabbi Karol uses the Discretionary Fund to meet a variety of philanthropic requests as well as to supplement TBE programs.

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane Adult Education Fund—Provides funds to help further adult education and cultural programming at TBE.

Beth El Temple Youth Fund—Provides support for Youth activities at TBE.

Periodically the temple may list short-term projects or needs. Contributions that do not specify a project or fund will be added to the General Operating Fund. If you have a question or wish to contribute to a project not listed here, please contact our Temple Beth-El Treasurer, Paul Feil.



Honor the memory of loved ones with a memorial plaque and mark celebrations and milestones (and also the memory of friends and family) by adding leaves to our Tree of Life (still \$72 per leaf).

DECEMBER 2014 (KISLEV-TEVET 5775)**Yahrzeits-November 30 through January 3, 2014****Read on Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6**

Meyer Bass, Friend of Tanah Hemingway

Leo Bienstock, Father of Gerie Muchnikoff

Rose Caplan, Step-mother of Betty Rosse

Ivy Dessaur*

Murray Gould*

Celia Greenberg, Grandmother of Cyrille Kane

Mel Kirschner, Father of Bob Kirschner, Husband of Lila Ziegler

Dr. Michael Polsky, Husband of Rita Polsky

David Silverman, Father of Jerald Silverman

Arthur Wiener, Father of Robin Labe

Read on Friday, December 12 and Saturday, December 13

Daisy Chapman, Mother of Diane Fleishman

Ida Weinstein Epstein, Mother of Marlene Benz

Jay Feldman, Son of Louise Feldman-Baskey

Samuel Goldman, Father of Rochelle Silverman

Charles Klein, Grandfather of Debbie Levy

Max Kruger, Brother of Charles Kruger

Dave Levy*, Father of Bea Klein

Tony Pakinkas, Friend of Tanah Hemingway

Sam Shickler*

William Silberman, Grandfather of Cyrille Kane

Harry A Winkelman, Father of Joan Silar

Tova Zameret, Mother of Erich Zameret

Read on Friday, December 19 and Saturday, December 20

Toma G Bell, Mother of Joseph Bell

Joel Glickler*, Husband of Joan Glickler

Samuel David Goldberg, Father of Richard Goldberg

Lee Gutman, Nephew of Allen Palanker

Helen Isaacs, Aunt of Linda Kruger

Florence Kaye, Mother of Susan Quinn

Ken Kessin*, Husband of Deana Kessin

Hyman Krepps*

Rose Rice Orlins*

Edward Sochat, Cousin of Helen Raphael

Abraham Weinglass, Father-in-Law of Teddy Weinglass

Read on Friday, December 26 and Saturday, December 27

Lois Bissonette, Mother of Lynn Berkeley

Baruch Freedental*

Max Freudenthal*

Leopold Gluck*, Grandfather of Ann Hansen

Eleanor Goldman, Mother of Rochelle Silverman

Sidney Kaye, Father of Susan Quinn

Lillian Klein, Grandmother of Debbie Levy

Dorothy Moss, Sister of Charles Kruger

Etta Muchnikoff, Mother of Stan Muchnikoff

Michele Murdoch*, Daughter of Joan Glickler

Margaret Schoenbrun*

Harry Segal, Grandfather of Michele Blum

Barbara Zenz Siegel*

Ruth Steinborn*

Lois Stern*

Carolyn Wolfe*, Mother of Elissa Poel

Read on Friday, January 2 and Saturday, January 3

Abraham Bongar, Grandfather of Steven Elias

Ilona Farkas*, Mother of Yosef Lapid

Gerard Frieder*, Father of Linda Fisher

Morris Gluck*, Husband of Helen Gluck

Rose Gordon, Mother of Harvey Gordon

Henry Greenberg, Uncle of Cyrille Kane

Sarah Jacobs*

Harry Kuznekoff*, Father of Chuck Kuznekoff

Dorothy Leibson*

Sam Ross, Father of Irwin Ross

Sonia Silverman, Mother of Jerald Silverman

Ronja Van Stellingwerf*

Sylvia Weiss*, Mother of Diane Bass

Evelyn Willman*

***The Temple Beth-El Family
extends condolences to:***

***Linda Kruger and family,
on the death of her husband,
Charles Kruger, on November 27.***

May his memory be for blessing.

In order to ensure that the name of your loved one will be recited during services, we have instituted the following practices:

- The Hebrew dates for each week's Yahrzeits are listed in each Newsletter.
- Hebrew vs. conventional calendar: The temple's tradition is to base the Yahrzeits list on the Hebrew calendar. Those who wish to have a name read on a Friday night close to the conventional calendar date are asked to please email or call the administrator a few days prior to the service.

*Asterisks at left indicate that a loved one has been permanently memorialized with a plaque in the Temple sanctuary. If you are interested in acquiring a plaque for your loved one, contact the Temple office.



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DECEMBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Kislev 9 1 Psalms 7:00 pm	Kislev 10 2 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Kislev 11 3 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Torah Study 10:15 am Hebrew School 4:45 pm Judaism Class 7:00 pm	Kislev 12 4 Short Story Group 10am Mah Jong 1:00 pm	Kislev 13 5 Family Service 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner 6:40 pm Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Kislev 14 6 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Kislev 15 7 Religious School 9:00 am Sisterhood Chanukah Shop 9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Kislev 16 8	Kislev 17 9 Knitting Group 10:15 am Judaism Class 7:00 pm	Kislev 18 10 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Torah Study 10:15 am Hebrew School 4:45 pm	Kislev 19 11 Short Story Group 10am Mah Jong 1:00 pm Sisterhood Council 6:30 pm	Kislev 20 12 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Kislev 21 13 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Kislev 22 14 No Religious School Sisterhood Chanukah Shop 12:30-2:00 pm Mark Medoff Program 2:00 pm	Kislev 23 15	Kislev 24 16 Knitting Group 10:15 am Judaism Class 7:00 pm Chanukah 1st night 	Kislev 25 17 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Torah Study 10:15 am No Hebrew School 	Kislev 26 18 Mah Jong 1:00 pm Board Meeting 7:00 pm 	Kislev 27 19 Shabbat Chanukah Dinner 5:30 pm Service 6:15 pm Dreidels & Dessert 7:00 pm 	Kislev 28 20 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am 
Kislev 29 21 No Religious School 	Kislev 30 22 	Tevet 1 23 Knitting Group 10:15 am Chanukah– Last night 	Tevet 2 24 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Torah Study 10:15 am No Hebrew School	Tevet 3 25 Serving Breakfast at Camp Hope 7:00 am	Tevet 4 26 Meditation 7pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:30 pm	Tevet 5 27 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tevet 6 28 No Religious School	Tevet 7 29	Tevet 8 30 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Tevet 9 31 No Wednesday Breakfast No Torah Study No Hebrew School	Tevet 10 Jan. 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	Tevet 11 2 Family Service 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner 6:40 pm Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Tevet 12 3 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am

3980 Sonoma Springs Avenue
Las Cruces, NM 88011
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 9:00am--1:30pm

Phone: 575.524.3380
Fax: 575.521.8111

President: Dee Cook

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol
rabbi@tbelc.org

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**Temple Beth-El and "Adelante" are on the web at
www.tbelc.org**

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

December, 2014



**Temple Beth-El
3980 Sonoma Springs Avenue
Las Cruces, NM 88011**