



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

APRIL 2016 (ADAR II-NISAN 5776)



Shabbat Services (See Page 2)

- Friday, April 1-
FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE at 6 pm,
followed by a
dairy/vegetarian potluck
dinner at 6:45 pm.
- Friday, April 8—
Shabbat Service at 7
pm, followed by a
renaming/dedication of
the David Steinborn
Social Hall as the
Oneg Shabbat begins
- Friday, April 15—
Shabbat Service at 7 pm
- Friday, April 22-No service—First Night Pesach
Seders in homes
- Friday, April 29—Last
night of Pesach service –
7:00 pm

Saturdays

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

First Morning of Passover
service on Saturday,
April 23 at 10:15 am
(Congregational Seder that
night at 6pm)



Last Morning of
Passover service
on Saturday,
April 30 at
10:15 am



See What's New at Our 3rd Annual

MENU
★ Pastrami
★ Potato Knishes
★ Falafel & Hummus
★ Kosher Hot Dogs
★ Matzo Ball
Chicken Soup
★ Desserts
★ Challah & More!

New!
Chocolate
Babka!



Yum!



**JEWISH
FOOD & FOLK**
festival

Temple Beth-El
Las Cruces, NM

3980 Sonoma Springs Ave.

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

New!
Di Kavene
Kapelye klezmer
Band from
Albuquerque

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

Sunday, April 17, 2016
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

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

Rain or Shine!



See page 6 for information about ticket sales, providing
Silent Auction prizes, opportunities to volunteer, and
more!!! Help us to make this Temple fundraiser a
success and a FUNraiser for the entire community!

*Temple Beth-El's Second Night
Passover Seder will be hosted by
TBE Sisterhood at
Picacho Hills Country Club
on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 6:00 pm*
*See page 7 for the reservation form
(which has also been mailed
to congregants).*



Happy Pesach

Worship Schedule

Please note: All 7:00 pm services will include either a Torah reading and a sermon/d'var torah, a brief discussion based on the Torah portion, a compilation of prayers and/or songs on the theme of the Torah portion, or a brief D'var Torah that offers an insight based on the parashah for the week.

Friday, April 1

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES!
Erich Zameret will represent the Board of Trustees.
6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, April 2

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service
Parashat Shemini Leviticus 9:1-11:47
(Shabbat Parah Numbers 9:1-22)
Haftarah Ezekiel 36:16-38

Friday, April 8

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Old Rules, New Rules.” **Leslie Glater, Dan Tapper and Judy Long will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Leslie Glater will represent the Board of Trustees.** THERE WILL BE A DEDICATION OF THE SOCIAL HALL AS **THE DAVID STEINBORN SOCIAL HALL** AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ONEG SHABBAT.

Saturday, April 9

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Tazria Leviticus 12:1-13:59
Haftarah Ezekiel 45:16-46:18
(Shabbat Hachodesh Numbers 28:9-15, Exodus 12:1-20)

Friday, April 15

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Our House is a Very Fine House,” **Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Barbara Berger and Diane Bass. Renee Frank will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, April 16

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Metzora Leviticus 14:1-15:33
Haftarah Shabbat Hagadol Malachi 3:4-24

Friday, April 22 is the first night of Passover. There will be no evening service at Temple. It is customary in almost all congregations to facilitate the home celebration of Passover (when the first night is a Friday night) if that is not the night of a congregational Passover Seder. If anyone would be willing to host extra guests at their seder, or if you are looking for a seder to attend, please contact Rabbi Karol at Temple (rabbi@tblc.org) and he will try to match you to a home that night.

Saturday, April 23

FIRST MORNING OF PESACH SERVICE

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Service and Potluck Passover Kiddush
Parashah for Pesach Exodus 12:21-51
Haftarah Joshua 5:2-6:1

Second Night Passover Seder—see pages 1 and 7

Friday, April 29

7:00 pm Last night of Passover service, including excerpts from the Song of Songs, the scroll assigned to Passover. Rabbi Karol will speak on “Love and freedom: together again.” **Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Brenda Parish and Paula Kramer. Monika Kimball will represent the Board of Trustees.**

Saturday, April 30

LAST MORNING OF PESACH SERVICE,

Including Yizkor/memorial prayers

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Service and Passover Kiddush
Parashah for Pesach Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17
Haftarah Isaiah 10:32-12:6

Wednesday, May 4—5:30 pm

Memorial candlelighting and prayers for Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, led by our Hebrew School students and other congregants.

Friday, May 6

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES!
Dave Zeemont will represent the Board of Trustees.
6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, May 7

9:00 am Lay-led Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Acharei Mot Leviticus 16:1-18:30
Haftarah I Samuel 20:18-42

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2015-2016

President-Monika Kimball
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Leslie Glater (Sisterhood)
Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28 at 7pm.



Message from Rabbi Karol

"Do not oppress the stranger, for you know the feelings of the stranger, having yourselves been strangers in the land of Egypt." (Exodus 23:9)

"You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him/her, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." (Exodus 22:21)

"When a stranger lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him/her. The stranger living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him/her as yourself, for you were strangers in Egypt. I am the Eternal One, your God." (Leviticus 19:33-34)

"In every generation, we should see ourselves as if we went free from Egypt." (Passover Haggadah)

Passover is coming once again. Along with members of Jewish communities all over the world, we will prepare and join together for Passover Seders. Many will change their diet for the week, choosing their own ways in which to fulfill the command to refrain from eating leavened foods as a way of remembering an ancient flight to freedom. Some will invite friends and neighbors who are not part of the Jewish community as guests to the Seder as a way of sharing a time-honored Jewish tradition, while performing the mitzvah of *hachnasat orchim*, welcoming guests/hospitality. When our own Passover table reflects the diversity of the greater community, it offers us an opportunity to spread the message of liberation and liberty.

The central value of Passover, overcoming oppressors and oppression, is embodied in the very observance of the Seder. By remembering that "we were slaves," and declaring that, "now we are free," we are called upon to look out to the human community, in the here and now, and to make a difference in the ongoing struggle for freedom.

This message of Passover is based upon statements in the Torah about how we are to view the most vulnerable members of society because "we were slaves." To know and relate to the feelings of another person is a call to show mercy and compassion to someone in need without judging or dismissing that person's predicament. These teachings about showing empathy towards individuals in dire straits direct us to refrain from viewing other members of society with disdain, arrogance, prejudice, or hatred.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks has cited a passage from Deuteronomy (Chapter 10, verses 16 through 19) to strengthen this ancient reminder of how God wants us to reach out to others with generosity and mercy "because we were slaves": "Cut away, therefore, the thickening about your hearts and stiffen your necks no more. For the Eternal your God is God supreme and Lord supreme, the great, mighty and awesome God, who shows no favor and takes no bribe, but upholds the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and befriends the stranger, providing food and clothing. You too must befriend the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

Each of us may choose, if we wish, to combat all types of oppression that surround us and to alleviate suffering. We may devote ourselves to opposing anti-Semitism and other expressions of bigotry directed towards particular

groups of people. We may pursue a variety of strategies to stand up to bullying or abuse of power in all sorts of contexts. We may donate food and clothing for people in need through local agencies in which congregants already participate. We may work for equality and fairness locally and throughout the world. We may consider avenues to assist people fleeing from oppression and violence. We may simply sit and listen to stories of people inside and outside our community to broaden our own body of knowledge and awareness of the wide range of possibilities for how we can live our lives and how we can deal with challenges and celebrate the joys that come our way.

At Temple Beth-El, our celebration of Passover will be preceded by the opening of our Temple doors for the Jewish Food and Folk Festival on April 17. That event bears many similarities to the Pesach Seder. It includes a presentation of Jewish foods, music, participation by people of all ages, and highlighting the ties that bind all people together simply by welcoming guests into our community home. This program offers us a way to raise awareness among our neighbors about who we are, with the hope that the understanding engendered through our efforts will lead to greater sharing in the days to come.

As we sit down at our Seder tables, may we give thanks for what we have and identify the messages and values we can share with the greater community and with the world. By seeing ourselves as having been freed from slavery, the lessons we learn from this festival can enable us to move into the future with confidence, compassion, resolve, and hope. An early Chag Samayach!

L'shalom,

Rabbi Larry K.

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

**Rabbi Karol
led "A Seder for
Justice and
Peace" at
St. Andrew's
Episcopal
Church on
March 24, 2016**



**Whether it's
Purim or
Pesach,
we have
much to
celebrate!!!!
Chag
Samayach!!!**



President's Message April 2016

To paraphrase Garrison Keillor, it's been a quiet month in Las Cruces. While many parts of the country and the world are suffering from natural as well as man-made disasters, we here in our little

town have been fortunate. This once again brings me to the notion of gratitude. I've always felt that, if you are not grateful for what you have, you really don't deserve additional blessings. Of course, gratitude should not be offered with the purpose of receiving further rewards, but genuine daily meditation to enumerate the many good things in our lives is not only done in homage to our G-d, but also therapeutic for our mental well-being. Grateful people are generally happier and at peace with themselves and that, in turn, affects others around them. To cite one example, at Friday night Shabbat services, the Rabbi elicits responses from congregants regarding the past week's positive occurrences in their lives for which they are grateful. He and the entire congregation enjoy taking part in the shared good feeling of gratitude. What a lovely way to welcome the Sabbath.

With gratitude in mind, we also recall the blessed memory of David Steinborn who left a significant legacy of generosity at Temple Beth-El. I only met David three times, but learned rather quickly that he stands out as a giant in the shul's history. His good deeds are too numerous to recount here, but it is clear that we needed to honor him in some way. His wife Vivian had explicitly requested that no memorial service be conducted, so the board of trustees voted to name the social hall after him. It will forthwith be known as ***The David Steinborn Social Hall*** and the formal dedication will take place during the **Oneg Shabbat on Friday, April 8, 2016**. I would like to extend a special invitation to all of you to attend. With good wishes for a delightful spring season, and with gratitude for your support of our House of G-d, I remain yours truly,

Monika

The Batkin Fund A History of Giving

Several congregants have recently asked me about the specifics of the Irving Batkin Scholarship Fund, so I thought it might be useful to reiterate its function.

The original fund was set up by Mike Batkin in honor of his grandfather with the explicit purpose of advancing Jewish education for Temple Beth-El members. Funds used can include a member attending a Jewish summer camp, assisting the Religious School, or providing tuition assistance for needy students. (There are additional recipient groups. If you are interested, please contact the Rabbi). The trustees of the fund are the Rabbi, the President, and the Treasurer of the temple.

The fund used to be in a Citizens Bank account which, due to the low interest rates in recent years, provided only pennies for the temple. Therefore, based on Mike Batkin's advice and with the approval of the TBE board, the fund was signed over to the Jewish Community Foundation of El Paso. Mike had suggested that we would earn between 4% and 5% interest on the \$18,000 deposited, and when the first year's earnings provided only half of that, Mike made up the difference. With his contribution of \$450, we have received \$900 to support Jewish educational activities this year, as opposed to previous years during which we earned only a few dollars. It is important to note that the proceeds must be used or they will revert back to the principal. As there are currently tuition needs in the Religious School, the fund can be of help. The one provision to note is that the recipient must be a member of Temple Beth-El.

You might remember that, at last year's congregational meeting, Mike Batkin made the generous offer to match up to \$1,800 in donations to the Batkin Fund, and he just assured me that this offer still holds true today. A few people have responded to the invitation, which have promptly been matched by Mike. I would like to once again encourage you to donate to this most worthwhile cause. After all, helping to provide support for our young in their quest for a Jewish education is a most noble endeavor.

Finally, I would like to extend Temple Beth-El's sincere gratitude to Mike Batkin for his continuing generosity which goes beyond the Irving Batkin Scholarship fund. Anytime he is asked, he is ready to aid our various needs. He has contributed to the Brick Walkway and Biblical Garden project, and, most recently, to our newly created Security Management Fund. His continuing concern for and interest in Temple Beth-El is greatly appreciated.

ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs



TANAKH STUDY (ISAIAH):

Led by Rabbi Karol on
Wednesdays at 10:15-11:20 am
(No session on April 13)



LAY-LED 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.



Jim Rosenthal's Book Discussion group on the short stories of Isaac Bashevis Singer (as well as two stories by former congregant Gabriel Lampert) met on March 28 for its next-to-last session in the series. **See page 8 for information on a video presentation about Isaac Bashevis Singer on April 4.**

Members of all ages participated in the burial of worn sacred books on Sunday, March 6.



On Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 pm, Belorussian violinist Yevgeny Kutik performed and gave a presentation about his background in a "Meet the Artist" event sponsored by the Adult Education Committee. Yevgeny was a



guest performer with the Las Cruces Symphony later in the week. Our audience of 47 was charmed by Yevgeny's story. He played a few un-accompanied short pieces and spoke about his family's emigration from Belarus. Yevgeny's career began in 2003 with an appearance with the Boston Pops, after he won first prize in the Boston Symphony Orchestra Young Artists' Competition. Since then, he has appeared worldwide, playing solo recitals and concertos with orchestras. He has become a highly sought-after artist on the concert stage, captivating audiences worldwide.



Thank you to Susan Fitzgerald, Tamar Elhayani and Pearie Bruder for their help in Hamentaschen baking this year. Hamentaschen were included in Mishloach Manot



bags prepared by our Religious School students and were served at the Purim Carnival and Dinner on March 23. In the photo, Joshua Rosenberg, Sadie Carvlin and Michael Bruder are making these Purim delicacies on March 9.

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.

Temple Beth-El's Third Annual Jewish Food and Folk Festival!

TBE's largest event of the year, the Jewish Food and Folk Festival, is coming back on Sunday, April 17, at 11am-3pm. Last year, hundreds of people came through our doors to enjoy food and learn about the Jewish culture. This year we are adding a few new things to the festival. We are adding CHOCOLATE BABKA to the menu. We will have LIVE klezmer music from the Di Kavene Kapelye Klezmer Band, which is traveling from Albuquerque to perform for us. And, in addition to our Temple choir and the Mesilla Valley International Folk Dancers, our students from the Religious School are officially on the entertainment schedule to perform!

So far, the long-range forecast for April 17 is looking better than last year, so we hope to get even more people to attend. Now what we need to do is get those tickets and **SELL SELL SELL!** Please let everyone you know about the festival and what a great experience everyone would have if they come. You can get tickets from the Rabbi in his office, or you can contact Brenda Parish, at bjparish@comcast.net, or 644-4744. Fliers that you can put up at your place of work, place of business or businesses you frequent are also available in the Temple office.

Right now we also need donated items for the Silent Auction. Please contact Sue Mazer at smazer2@q.com, or 925-922-4481. The silent auction brings in money at no cost to us and is a very vital part of our festival in which people enjoy participating.

Thank you to all of you who have signed up to volunteer. This event is very organic in the sense that we have to do it ourselves! There will be a critical volunteer meeting on Wednesday, April 13, at 6:30 in the social hall. If you have any question about volunteering please contact the JFFF Volunteer Coordinator Ellen Torres, ellenhowerton@comcast.net

We're looking forward to sharing another great day with you! If you have any JFFF questions, contact event co-chairs Rebecca Berkson and Aggie Saltman at lcjewishfestival@gmail.com.

Partying like it's Adar II 14!!! Scenes from our Purim celebration on March 23



**Thanks to BETY and to our Purim Spielers
(and to all who attended) for adding so much joy
to our celebration!**

A Marketing/Public Relations Committee has been formed at Temple Beth-El. Led by TBE Board member Renee Frank, committee members include Rabbi Karol, Aggie Saltman, Terri Sugarman, and ad hoc member Susan Fitzgerald. The committee will work to promote, support, and communicate the goals and activities of TBE to the Temple Community as well as the community at large. **If you have any activity that you would like to have promoted or advertised, please send it to TBEpublicrelations@gmail.com.**

Stock Up For the TBE Rummage Sale
The Temple Beth-El rummage sale will be held on May 22, 2016. Please start considering what items you have at home that you might be able to save and donate to sell at the sale. Items may include any WORKING goods. Stay tuned for more information from the TBE Sisterhood as we get closer to the date. Electronics or appliances, gently-used clothing, furniture, and household goods are all needed.

Adelante Deadline

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the May 2016 Adelante is April 20. The 20th of the month is the monthly deadline. Please do your best to keep to that schedule to facilitate a timely completion of the Adelante!

Office Hours

On weekdays, Rabbi Karol is in the office every day except for Thursday. Times vary, but you can mostly count on finding Rabbi Karol in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays at 10:00-11:30 am (and Fridays while he is preparing for Shabbat worship) and on Wednesdays at 11:30am-12:30 pm. Ruth Rubin is volunteering in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 11:00am until 1:00 pm. Please call before you come (575-524-3380), or email Rabbi Karol at rabbikarol@tbelc.org or rablpkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!

THE TEMPLE BETH EL SISTERHOOD INVITES YOU TO.....

Join us for this year's SECOND NIGHT Passover Seder on April 23, 2016, 6:00 PM, at Picacho Hills Country Club, 6861 Via Campestre, Las Cruces.

Enjoy the experience as we follow our Passover tradition led by Rabbi Karol.

We have a wonderful open buffet dinner planned, a vegetarian alternative and delicious desserts.

We will be providing each table with sweet kosher wine, and/or grape juice. There will also be a cash bar for those that wish to imbibe in other spirits including different wines by the glass or bottle.

FULL PAYMENT IS REQUIRED TO HOLD YOUR PLACE AT THE SEDER TABLE.

THE DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT IS MONDAY, APRIL 18TH, 2016. We cannot accept requests after the 18th due to PHCC requirements.

Checks are payable to: Temple Beth El Sisterhood

The committee strongly advises those who are requesting reservations for family groups and/or groups of 6 or more people to submit that information, with your payment, as early as possible.

Indicate a name, phone number, and/or email as the contact for your family or group.

CONTACT: Michele Blum 373-9039 or Lynn Zeemont 523-0913

Table settings will be 8-10 guests, and the committee will do its best to accommodate all requests.

***KINDLY FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT TO:
Lynn Zeemont 1236 Regency Court Las Cruces, NM 88007***

PAYMENT DEADLINE APRIL 18, 2016

Name _____ **Phone#** _____ **email** _____

REGULAR MEAL

VEGETARIAN MEAL

_____ # _____ **Temple member** \$32.00 **TOTAL \$** _____

_____ # _____ **Non-Temple member** \$38.00 **TOTAL \$** _____

_____ # _____ **Children (12 and under)** \$16.00 **TOTAL \$** _____

*****PLEASE NOTE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS REQUIREMENT*****

WOW! IT'S SHAPING UP!!!**And More Beautiful Benches**

Before Art and Wendee Lorbeer take off for their summer home, Art managed to pour two fabulous concrete benches for the meditation area of the Biblical Garden and Brick walkway. Now people can enjoy the fountain while sitting in comfort on the benches. Thank you so much to Wendy and Art for this generous and beautiful contribution, for the effort that this artisan project required, and for the speed with which the benches were completed.

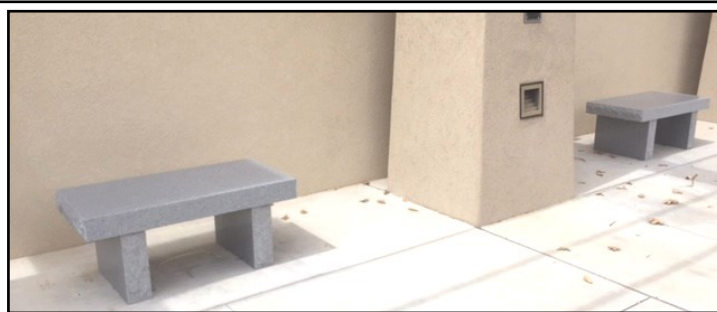
**And Garden Plants**

Are you ready to see plants surrounding the meditation area? The beginning of the plantings will be provided by a grant from Sisterhood...but you can purchase a plant/tree and the labor required to plant it. In keeping with the Biblical Garden theme, we will be planting pomegranates, figs, and olive trees. When we have the pergola erected, we will plant grape vines. If you purchase a plant/tree, your name and the name of the plant will be inscribed on a small plaque. The trees/plants will range from \$100-\$250. Call Alison if you are interested.

And More Bricks

We have loads of space for more inscribed bricks. What a terrific way to honor or memorialize a person, or congratulate someone, or send best wishes or celebrate an event through an inscribed brick. Order forms are available through Dee Cook or Alison Mann, and at the lobby table at the Temple. Please add to the walkway and meditation area with a brick that is special to you! We will send a note, if you wish, to the person or event honored on your brick, and we will tell you when your brick has arrived and has been added to the TBE brick areas. And remember, you don't have to be a TBE member to buy a brick.

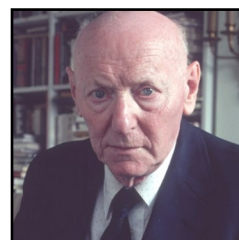
The Biblical Garden and Brick Walkway Committee

**Benches - Beautiful Benches**

If you've visited Temple Beth-El recently, you will have noticed the two new beautiful granite benches in the walkway to the temple entrance. Along with the Biblical Garden and Brick Walk these benches further contribute to the aesthetics of the area and needless to say will be there forever. These benches did not appear like manna from heaven however, and sincere appreciation is in order especially to Frances Williams without whose initiative and generosity we would not have them. Her membership on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee enabled her to purchase the benches at a fraction of the retail price and she and an anonymous donor proceeded to bear the expense for one of the them. The second one was acquired with board of trustee approval using monies from the general fund. I hope that you will agree that it was a wise long term investment.

With gratitude,
Monika

The Book Discussion group will be getting together on **Monday, April 4, at 10 am.** at the Temple to view a documentary about Nobel Prize winning author Isaac Bashevis Singer (whose short stories the group has been reading and discussing the past two months). Anyone who is interested in joining us for this event is certainly welcome. For more information, contact Jim Rosenthal at 522-6478 or jar529@gmail.com.



ISRAEL UPDATE (A personal perspective)

A LIGHT UNTO THE NATIONS? By Phil Alkon

As we peer beyond our cozy southern New Mexican environs, the real world presents us with threatening vistas. The Middle East is undergoing an historic disruption, climaxing centuries of deeply embedded intolerance, hatred and violence that have long plagued Arab societies. Consequences of this upheaval reach far beyond the Middle East. Europe now faces the dual challenge of organized Islamic terrorism and the cultural, social and economic costs of dealing with the hugest refugee crisis since World War II. The Western world has yet to comprehend, let alone meet, this profound challenge. The United States is entangled in a divisive and bizarre primary election process. Meanwhile, little Israel, the real focus of this column, is experiencing a wave of terror attacks by Palestinian youth who are convinced that Israeli Jews are the source of their frustrated lives, rather than the self-destructive values and hateful world view imposed on them by a corrupt, self-serving Palestinian leadership.

Despite this grim array of current events, your Israel Committee decided to take a positive turn. We decided to highlight a real-life phenomena too often obscured by daily events. That is, the amazing progress that modern Israel continues to achieve in the face of unprecedented obstacles. We hosted an open Israel Roundtable discussion that focused on Israeli accomplishments in various fields of human endeavor. Here, I'll summarize some of the key points raised by the participants.

For starters, recent visitors noted the remarkable vibrancy, confidence and optimism that characterize life in Israel. One manifestation is the scale of infrastructure development in recent years, especially in housing, urban renewal, modern highways, and expanded rail transportation. The growth and development of Arab communities in the Galilee is especially notable. Despite significant urban developments, agricultural and natural areas, thankfully, remain a prominent feature of Israeli landscapes owing to thoughtful planning and vigorous conservation programs. Based on personal visits, observers assured us that the Galilee, Negev and Arava, for example, endure as unique, healthy and sustainable ecosystems.

Programs to advance positive interactions between Israeli Jewish and Arab communities were described, as were efforts to advance the participation of minority groups in all aspects of Israeli life. Collaborative programs among Arab and Jewish youth are actively promoted; and male and female Arab students are a prominent component of Israel's higher education population. The growing number of female Bedouin students attaining degrees at Ben-Gurion of the Negev was mentioned. Many Arab youth also are participating in public service programs, and leaders in some Arab communities are calling for mandatory conscription of their young men into Israeli military service. In the political realm, a recently formed United Arab list now comprises the

third largest political party in the Israeli Knesset. One participant noted that, given the violent intolerance that pervades the region, Israel's Arab citizens might be the most fortunate Arabs in the Middle East.

Israel's print and broadcast media remain as vibrant as ever. Critical and unsparing coverage of life and politics in the country is a staple of print, television and radio reportage, and testifies to the vigor of Israeli democracy.

In addition to the diverse and lively literature art and music scenes in contemporary Israel, our discussions touched on the incredible contributions by Israeli scientists in medicine and other scientific and technological fields. Israel ranks only second to the U.S. in high-tech startups, and probably has the world's highest per capita rates of productivity in many scientific fields. One notable technological development is the creation of a national desalinization and wastewater recycling system that meets the country's potable water needs in full. California take note.

Perhaps the most telling moment in a personal visit to Israel last spring was the opportunity to spend an Easter Sunday in Jerusalem's Old City during Passover. Among throngs of Christian pilgrims from all over the World, and with Jews and tourists from Israel and beyond, we visited the Western Wall and later lunched on great Middle Eastern fare in the Muslim Quarter. Standing at the doorway of a Palestinian shop near the Jaffa Gate and chatting with the Muslim owner's teenage son about our diverse backgrounds, we watched as a Christian Arab bagpipe band marched proudly by in full Scottish regalia. Hardly a policeman in sight, no confrontations, no stones, no shots, no bombs, no sirens. Just an incredible array of humanity freely celebrating (or not) their own religious traditions on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in Jerusalem. Where else in the world could we have witnessed this incredible vision of Middle East peace?

I now think of Isaiah's reminder to the people of Israel of their obligation to uplift a distressed humanity. That message confronts a worldview seemingly fixed on overlooking Israel's incredible example. It's not easy to be "a light unto the nations" in a blinded world.



The Israel Committee of Temple Beth-El presented its fourth Israel Roundtable on the topic, "Sharing the Extraordinary Achievements of Modern Israel" on Sunday, March 6.

SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING**March 24, 2016**

The Rabbi began the meeting with a prayer that he gave at the recent service to bury worn prayer books. In his report which followed, he spoke briefly about this service which included Religious School students and faculty. The Rabbi is also working with the Jewish Federation of El Paso towards getting all of the Temple's information on their web site.

Monika Kimball gave her President's Report, updating the finances of the Batkin Fund and that financial support is currently assisting the Religious School and the Security committee. She also requested that the Board help create an inscription for the new granite benches.

Treasurer Paul Feil reported that progress is being made towards clarifying the Temple's income and expenses for the year.

Leslie Glater of the Sisterhood reminded members that the congregation needs to RSVP for the Second Night Passover Seder, and Dave Zeemont reported that the Mensch Club is still working on a revised Constitution, with elections to follow.

Chair Ellen Torres of the Adult Education Committee spoke of the success of the new donation box used at the last committee-sponsored event. She also noted that the last event of the year, a Sing-a-Long with Rabbi Karol, is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th.

Librarian Linda Kruger spoke about the need to keep any food or drinks out of the Library. She also gave an accounting of books that have not been returned to the Library for some time and what it would cost to replace them. The Library also has two new computers with an electronic card catalogue.

Marketing Committee Chair Renee Frank reported that the committee is working on a standard brochure and media packet, which will be used for all membership and community information about the Temple.

Security Chair Mark Saltman informed the Board about the purchase of six 2-way radios, a new doorbell camera, and three mobile panic buttons. The Security Committee was granted an addi-

tional \$5,000 for 7 exterior security cameras and motion detectors.

The Board further discussed the pending proposal to allow the installation of three small antenna towers on the Temple roof (for Verizon) as well as moving forward with the creation of a new front door with emergency panic bars. The upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting which will take place on May 10th at 7PM was also discussed. We all had a chance to see the new plaque in honor of David Steinborn. The dedication of the Steinborn Social Hall will take place on April 8th.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28th at 7PM.

Submitted by David Fishman

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 8:45 am, speaker presentations begin at 9:00 am. The cost is \$2.00 weekly or \$6.00 monthly. Please contact Phil Alkon for information. philipalkon@gmail.com or 575-524-6945)

**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

Mah Jong meets Mondays at 1-3pm. We choose to play in each other's homes or, when necessary, at the Temple. Please contact Gerie Muchnikoff at 575-521-3040.

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 the Temple office.

**Tzedakah Opportunities at TBE
*Giving to Casa de Peregrinos
& El Caldito***

Here are longer lists for items needed!

For Casa de Peregrinos:

Peanut Butter and the following Canned foods: Corn, Green Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Fruits, Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Tuna, Beans, and Meats

For El Caldito:

Spices, Regular Mayonnaise, Beans, Beef and Chicken Soup Stock

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 the Temple office.

**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@tbelc.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.

Donations for March 2016**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

- Dia Taylor, thank you to Rabbi Karol
- Ralph Orner, thank you to Rabbi Karol
- Kathy Fernald, thank you to Rabbi Karol

Religious School Fund

- Julie Seton, in memory of Dee Seton Barber
- Frima & Ramon Marquez, thank you for the Purim package
- Barney and Ruth Ann Sugarman, thank you for the Purim package
- Dee Cook, thank you for the mishloach manot gift

General Fund

- Grace Hammesfahr, in loving memory of Irv Rothman
- Jane Grider, in memory of her mother, Katherine A. Lathrop

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship

- Mike Batkin, building security and Religious School Scholarships

Biblical Garden Brick Walkway Fund

- Frances Williams, concrete bench
- Private donor, concrete bench

TEMPLE FUNDS—From the Treasurer

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

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

Fund 2004—For upkeep on our new building.

Biblical Garden Construction Fund—To provide the infrastructure for biblical plants and trees, and bricks in the fountain meditation area. Goal: \$6,000.

Campership Fund Scholarship—Providing scholarships for Temple students to attend Jewish summer camp programs.

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 support Jewish education for our children (especially need-based scholarships).

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.

Security Fund—provides support for the purchase of expanded security equipment for the Temple premises.

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund—Supports the regular and special programming planned by faculty, students and the Religious School Committee.

Beth El Temple Youth Fund—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.



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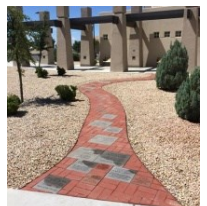
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JCC Preschool



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 and by adding bricks to our Brick Walkway.



Yahrzeits-March 27, 2016 through May 7, 2016

Read on Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2

Lillian Cooper, Sister of Ruth Ann Sugarman
 Reuben Friedman, Father of Teddy Weinglass
 Syd Friedman, Mother of Teddy Weinglass
 Edward Jacobs, Husband of Win Jacobs
 Lena Lieberman*
 Jacob Neidich*
 Birdsey Youngs, Father of Win Jacobs

Read on Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9

David Aboulafia*
 Dorothy Frieder*, Mother of Linda Fisher
 Muriel Heiman*
 Harold Mann, Father of Gary Mann
 Hattie Neidich*
 Marvin Siegel, Father of Carla Libby
 Clara Singer*
 Sima Tashlik, Grandmother of Allen Blum
 Benjamin White*, Father of Mike White

Read on Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16

Estelle Berger, Mother of Barbara Berger
 David Leeser, Brother of Helen Raphael
 Mark Edwin Rosenberg, Husband of Julie Rosenberg
 Charles Rothschild*
 Eleanor Williamson, Aunt of Barbara Mandel

Read on Saturday, April 23

Molly Aboulafia*
 Dvora Alkon, Mother of Phil Alkon
 Jennie Hackman, Aunt of Tanah Hemingway
 Ann Hansen*
 Bill Hemingway, Husband of Tanah Hemingway
 Leonard Hurwitz, Father of Susan Fitzgerald
 Maxine Markson, Mother of Linda M. Kruger
 Terry Petty*, Husband of Brenda Parish
 Michael Resnick*, Nephew of Frances Williams
 Joel Roth, Cousin of Tanah Hemingway
 Paulina Salopek, Mother of Vivian Steinborn
 Morty Steckler*, Husband of Selda Steckler, Father of
 Amy Fox

Read on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30

Dorothy Blumkin*
 Ethel Bond*
 Gail Evans Kiteley, Sister of Dia Taylor
 Carl Hansen*
 Judy Harary*

Rose Leeser, Mother of Helen Raphael
 James McCuller, Father of Bryan McCuller
 Shirley Muffs*, Mother of Carol Bernstein
 Jack Petrowsky*, Husband of Margaret Petrowsky
 P.M. Pollack*
 Daniel Seton Barber, Brother of Julie Seton
 Ernest Siegmeister, Grandfather of Jamie Bronstein,
 Great-grandfather of Evan Zigmond
 Sadie Sugarman, Mother of Barnett Sugarman

Read on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7

Ida Bass*, Mother of Harry Bass, Sister of Abe Pomerantz
 Max Bruder*, Father of Murray Bruder
 Helen Capin*, Sister of Bea Klein
 Tessie Dash, Mother of G. Bernard Dash
 Norma Dorfman*, Mother of Peter Dorfman
 Lily Edwards, Mother of Peter Edwards
 Shirley Greenberg, Aunt of Cyrille S. Kane
 Sarah Kellner*
 Jack Landau, Father of Zuki Fishman
 Alice Mazer*, Mother of Norman Mazer
 Jacob Mazer*, Father of Norman Mazer
 Ida Desgun Nachison, Mother of Jerry Nachison
 Byron Saltman, Father of Mark Saltman, Grandfather of
 Jacob and Hannah Saltman
 Ann San Filippo, Mother of Philip San Filippo
 Isador Edward Tapper, Father of Dan Tapper

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.



HAIR DESIGNS
522-3959 (next to the Hilton)
 Telshor Tower Plaza, 755 Telshor Blvd., Bldg. C, Ste. 201, Las Cruces, NM

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 in our Facebook community!
 Visit the Temple Beth-El Website—www.tbcl.org for in-depth information about Temple and its programming and updates on current Temple events

Willman
 CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Editing:
 Books, scientific papers, theses, dissertations
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 (for accuracy, continuity, organization, style
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APRIL 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Adar II 22 1 Family Shabbat Service - 6:00 pm Dairy Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm	Adar II 23 2 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Parah)
Adar II 24 3 Religious School 9:00 am	Adar II 25 4 Short Short Group 10:00 am Mah Jong 1-3pm	Adar II 26 5 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Adar II 27 6 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm	Adar II 28 7	Adar II 29 8 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Nisan 1 9 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Hachodesh)
Nisan 2 10 Religious School 9:00 am	Nisan 3 11 Mah Jong 1-3pm	Nisan 4 12 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Nisan 5 13 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am <u>No Tanakh Study Session</u> Hebrew School 4:45 pm JFFF Volunteer Meeting 6:30 pm	Nisan 6 14	Nisan 7 15 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Nisan 8 16 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Hagadol)
Nisan 9 17 JEWISH FOOD AND FOLK FESTIVAL 11AM-3PM	Nisan 10 18 Mah Jong 1-3pm	Nisan 11 19 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Nisan 12 20 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm	Nisan 13 21	Nisan 14 22 FIRST NIGHT OF PASSOVER NO SERVICE SEDER IN HOMES	Nisan 15 23 Talmud Study 9:00 am First Morning of Pesach Service 10:15 am Passover Seder 6:00 pm
Nisan 16 24 Religious School Matzo Brei Brunch 10:30 am	Nisan 17 25 Mah Jong 1-3pm	Nisan 18 26 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Nisan 19 27 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm	Nisan 20 28 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Nisan 21 29 Shabbat and Last Night of Pesach Service 7:30 pm	Nisan 22 30 Talmud Study 9:00 am Last Morning of Pesach Service 10:15 am

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The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol. Copy Editors: James Rosenthal, Tanah Hemingway. Circulation: Administration Office. We welcome Adelante sponsorships by or for Temple members and non-members. Sponsorships can be mailed to the Temple; receipts are provided upon request. We reserve the right to edit all sponsorships. Nonmember sponsorships \$25/year. One month sponsorship insertions \$108. Annual sponsorship rates as follows: 2x3 business card \$150; Quarter page \$300; Half page \$600. For information about sponsorships or insertions, please contact the Temple Office.

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

April, 2016



Temple Beth-El
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Las Cruces, NM 88011