



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

JANUARY 2017 (TEVET-SHEVAT 5777)



Shabbat Services (See Page 2)

**Friday, January 6- Family
Shabbat Service at 6 pm—
Potluck Dinner following**

Friday, January 13-Shabbat Service at 7 pm

Friday, January 20-Shabbat Service at 7pm

**Friday, January 27-Shabbat Service for
Renewal of Spirit at 7 pm**

Saturdays

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



*Join us for a
special program with
renowned performer
Robyn Helzner
on Monday,*

***January 23, 2017 at 7:00 pm
at Temple Beth-El***

***“Kreplach & Dim Sum –
Yes, There are Jews in China!”***

In this lively presentation, renowned vocalist and storyteller Robyn Helzner shares stories, photos, video, and music to explore the extraordinary history of the Jewish communities in Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Kaifeng, and traces their emergence as the fastest growing Jewish region in the world.



Robyn served as the Cantor for the United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong and officiated at the first bar Mitzvah celebrated in Beijing, China. Robyn also leads Jewish Heritage Tours to China.

Robyn Helzner radiates a passion for Jewish music that captivates listeners. A leading interpreter of World Jewish Music, Robyn has appeared in concerts in Amsterdam, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and throughout North America. The moving story of her underground performances in the Soviet Union, which led to sold-out concerts in Moscow and St. Petersburg, was told on the Public Television program, *Chanukah—A Celebration of Freedom*. Robyn has released five recordings. *Hearts Awaken*, *A Fire Burns*, and *Signs & Wonders*, feature the Robyn Helzner Trio. *Clap Your Hands* and *I Live in the City* are beloved by children worldwide.

This event is sponsored by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso.



Your Board of Trustees invites you and your family to

The TBE Family FestivUS Celebration

WHEN
January 21, 2017
Havdalah Service 5:30
FestivUS to follow

WHERE
**Temple Beth-El
Social Hall**

fun for all ages

music, friendship, buffet dinner, sparkling drinks, noshes, wine, frivolity, free cheer, tradition, dancing, jewish culture, casual

Please respond by January 16, 2017
Email or call Ellen Torres: ellen4332@gmail.com 510-676-3211

See Page 7 for more on FestivUS 2017!

See inside this Adelante for more information on:

- Discussion Series on Wise Aging (Page 5)
- Performances of a play on Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Las Cruces (Page 5)
- State Senator and Representative Constituent Meeting to be held at Temple on January 10 (Page 6)
- Short Story Discussion Group (Page 5)

Worship Schedule

Please note: All 7:00 pm services will include either a Torah reading and a 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, January 6-FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES.

Susan Michelson will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, January 7

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service
& Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayigash Genesis 44:18-47:27

Haftarah Ezekiel 37:15-28

Friday, January 13

7:00 pm Rabbi Karol will speak on "Preserving our Legacy." *Terri Sugarman and Ruth Ann Sugarman will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Renee Frank will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 14

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat morning service
& Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Vayechi Genesis 47:28-50:26

Haftarah I Kings 2:1-2:12

Friday, January 20

7:00 pm Rabbi Karol will speak on "Struggling for Freedom." *Rebecca Martinez will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Michael Lieberman will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 21

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat morning service
& Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Shemot Exodus 1:1-6:1

Haftarah Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23

Friday, January 27

7:00 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit, featuring special music and prayers for healing within our Shabbat liturgy. *Sally Alkon will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Ned Rubin will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 28

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service &
Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Va'era Exodus 6:2-9:35

Haftarah Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Friday, February 3-FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES.

Allen Blum will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:45 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, February 4

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service
& Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Bo Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah Jeremiah 46:13-28

**Look for more
photos of our
Chanukah
celebration on
December 30
in the February
Adelante!**



BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2016-2017

President-Ellen Torres

Vice-President-Ned Rubin

Secretary-Renee Frank

Treasurer-Allen Blum

Ann Berkson Sue Brown Pearie Bruder

Diane Fleishman Michael Lieberman

Susan Michelson Erich Zameret

Jeff Lewis (Mensch Club)

Dee Cook (Sisterhood)

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

**The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on
Thursday, January 19 at 7pm.**



Message from Rabbi Karol
D'var Torah for Parashat Vayeitzei
December 9, 2016

What is it that gives life meaning? It might be our relationships, our hobbies and personal interests, our past accomplishments, or our continuing involvement in the greater community.

We may realize what has meaning to us while we are moving through an experience or, only afterwards, when we have a moment of peace.

Sometimes the realization that something significant has happened to us hits us in the silence that follows a moment of joy or satisfaction.

This past weekend, I heard one of our Youth group members talk about the feeling that participants have once they return home from regional events shared with their peers, including many friends. They call it “withdrawal,” something that, when I was a youth group member many years ago, would have been referred to as “letdown.” It is that sense of having been present in moments unlike what we encounter in everyday life that can make a re-entry into our routine harder than we might expect.

The special, perhaps, even holy, nature of a particular experience may become clear to us afterwards because it is only when we do come back to our usual activities that we understand the lasting impact of where we were and what we did.

Such was the experience of Jacob at the place that would become known at Beth-El.

The description of Jacob’s dream, of a ladder to the sky with angels going up and down on it, has inspired artists as well as biblical commentators for centuries.

They have, in their own way, attempted to portray the contents of the dream and to communicate what this vision meant to Jacob and what we can learn from it.

The greatest lesson of this passage may not have to do with the identity or purpose of the angels on the ladder.

The central message is likely in Jacob’s reaction to it after he awoke. He declared: “Why, ADONAI is in this place, and I, I did not know it! How awe-inspiring is this place! This is none other than a house of God, and that is the gate of heaven!”

Jacob set up a stone as a remembrance of his dream and named the place, “House of God/Beit El/Beth El.” That marker demonstrated that Jacob realized that what came to him that night was incredible, inspiring, and even life-changing.

Nowadays, we don’t tend to put up stones after something amazing happens to us. We might tell a story of the event, or write about it, or create an artistic piece that might reflect its impact on us.

Or, these days, our marker for remembrance might be photographs that we have placed in an album on our coffee table or in a picture frame.

That means that the collected photos of weddings, bar/bat mitzvah celebrations, special birthdays, or retirement parties,



or other images that we treasure, enable us to relive memories of those events not just as milestones, but as HOLY moments. They are holy because we want to remember them. Framed images are all around us as reminders of someone special or an important time. They are like the pillar Jacob put up at Beth-El.

Judaism teaches that God is with us at all times. It may be that, at or after those special occasions, we feel a touch of the divine in our lives more keenly.

But the story of Jacob has one more lesson for us about how special any particular experience or place can be.

Think about the setting in which Jacob found himself. He was likely concerned about his future after leaving behind an angry brother from whom he stole a birthright and blessing, and a father who was likely aghast at what had occurred. Jacob was alone, or so he thought.

He laid down for the night with a plain stone as his head-rest. It was just a non-descript location outdoors along his journey. The Torah says VAYIFGA BAMAKOM – he came upon the place. It was specific, but it was also generic. It could have been anywhere.

But this story tells us that the stone was more than a routine rock, the place was unlike any other, and that what could have been a simple and mundane moment in the life of a patriarch bore pivotal significance in Jacob’s personal tale.

This passage uses the Hebrew word MAKOM for place.

The Rabbis turned that word into HAMAKOM, “the place,” a name for God that means the “omnipresent One,” God who is in everyone, and in every seen and unseen location in our world.

That means that, if we keep our eyes, ears, minds and hearts open, we will be able to see something significant happen at almost any moment, even if the full understanding of its meaning comes only later.

Or, perhaps, our sense that God is with us wherever we are may lead us to make something special happen. We, as God’s partners, always have the capacity to infuse sanctity into our little corner of the universe.

Every minute of our lives and every place where we find ourselves carry the secret and the promise of Jacob’s dream: that we are always connected to what is holy in the world and in ourselves. That holiness is borne out in memories and mementos that we associate with our own pinnacle experiences.

And so, may we, like Jacob, seek and find what is meaningful and sacred all around us, and may those discoveries direct us to approach every place and every person in the world with gratitude, wisdom and joy, so that our mutual inspiration will take us to a holy place.

L’shalom,
Rabbi Larry K.

(Stained Glass Window above from
 Temple Beth Shalom, Topeka, Kansas)





President's Message

In the past month, the following events occurred: 1) many wonderful Shabbat services; 2) a visit and presentation by Lynne Butner, Senior Regional Director for NFTY Southwest (North American Federation of Temple Youth) on December 4 at TBE with our teens, youth, and parents; 3) a Leadership Meeting facilitated by Jim Rosenthal on December 4; 4) the funeral of our beloved Budget Committee Chairperson and member Steve Halper on December 13; 5) the dedication of our new front doors on December 16; 6) Shabbat Chanukah Dinner, Service, Driedels & Dessert (December 30); 7) the Judaica Shop Boutique for Chanukah from December 11 until Chanukah; and 8) breakfast for residents of Camp Hope on the morning of December 25 provided by members of TBE.

I was extremely saddened by the loss of our friend and member, Steve Halper, who was taken from us so suddenly in early December. He was such a dedicated member and able Budget Committee Chairperson, who took the time to help us with our finances and assist in so many capacities throughout his years here in Las Cruces. We give our deepest condolences to his wife, Jane, and family. He was so helpful to me in my role as president, and I will always appreciate his support. May his memory be for blessing.

Thank you to our Leadership Committee for their involvement in trying to define who we are and where we need to go. Our meetings, facilitated by Jim Rosenthal, are extremely insightful and educational. We will continue to keep you posted on our progress.

This year's congregational dinner, the FestivUS event, will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2017. All congregants are invited to attend and we hope to see you there! Dee Cook, Ann Berkson, and I are planning the details with support from the Board. Invitations to everyone will be sent out on January 8. Please RSVP to me and plan on being there to partake in this fun, welcoming, congregational celebration with lots of delectable dinner items—hors d'oeuvres, cheese selections, pasta, lasagna, desserts, coffee, tea, sparkling drinks, and wine. We plan to celebrate our new members as well, so join us in the festivities!

I continue to thank you all for your dedication and work on behalf of Temple Beth-El, to remind you to embrace inclusiveness and tolerance, and to continue working together to strengthen our Wisdom, Community Spirit, Tzedakah, and Sacred Purpose.

Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year!

*Shalom,
Ellen Torres*

From the dedication of our new entry doors

December 23, 2016

THE MENORAH—Exodus 25:31-33:

You shall make a lampstand of pure gold: the lampstand shall be made of hammered work; its base and its shaft, its cups, calyxes, and petals shall be of one piece. Six branches shall issue from its sides: three branches from one side of the lampstand and three branches from the other side of the lampstand. On each branch there shall be...cups shaped like almond-blossoms.

LIGHT: I, the Eternal, in My grace, have summoned you, and I have grasped you by the hand. I created you, and appointed you a covenant people, a light of nations. Opening eyes deprived of light. Rescuing prisoners from confinement; from the dungeon, those who sit in darkness. I am the Eternal One, that is My name. [Isaiah 42:6-7] The Eternal One is my light and my help; whom should I fear? [Psalm 27:1] The human spirit is the lamp of the Eternal One. [Proverbs 20:27] The commandment is a lamp, the Teaching is a light. [Proverbs 6:23] Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path. [Psalm 119:105]

The rabbis believed that the menorah from the Temple was so sacred that no effort should be made to reproduce it. Depictions of the menorah over the centuries sometimes had five branches, six branches, or eight branches, but artistic representations still often bore the seven branches.

These doors bear a stylized Menorah. Some see a seven-branched Menorah in the wood, if you allow your eyes to see six branches floating on a sea of glass. Some see a Chanukiah, both in the wood and in the glass, where the space between the two doors holds the place of the middle branch. The menorah represents the oldest continuous Jewish symbol, our bearer of light from ancient times. The Chanukiah brings light to a dark time of the year. It reminds us of a crucial fight for freedom and how rekindling the light in the ancient Temple illustrates for us how we can rekindle our faith today, at any time, when we allow our heritage to inspire us.

During the day, these doors allow light to come in and for us to sense when someone has a desire to enter our space to join us. At night, we can see the light from within shine forth into the night.

As these doors allow light in, may we be open to the lights of learning, freedom, friendship, love, hope and God's presence so that they can suffuse our spirits. As these doors reveal the light within to the darkness of the outside world, may we share our lights with our community, the lights of wisdom, wonder, creativity, commitment, kindness, and peace. May we enrich ourselves every time we walk through this entryway, and may our personal and communal growth offer new and unique gifts to the world. We recite this verse from the book of Psalms to consecrate these doors and all that they represent:

בְּנֹדָהָ אֶזְבַּחַהּ לָךְ אֹדָה שְׂמֶיךָ יְהוָה כִּי־טוֹב

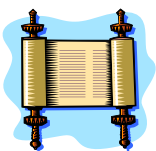
Bi-n'davah ez'b'chah lach - Odeh shimcha Adonai ki tov.

With a generous gift, I make an offering to You, O God; I give thanks to Your name, for it is good. (Psalm 54:8)



ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs

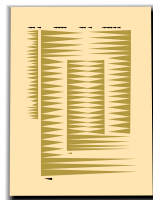


TANAKH STUDY (ISAIAH):

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

LAY-LED TALMUD STUDY

Talmud students have been meeting every Saturday at 9:00 am for the past 23 years. New students are always welcome. Contact Tanah Hemingway (524-4329) or Erich Zameret with any questions. The Saturday morning service immediately follows.



Judaism: Roots and Rituals—

An Introduction to Judaism

presented by Rabbi Larry Karol

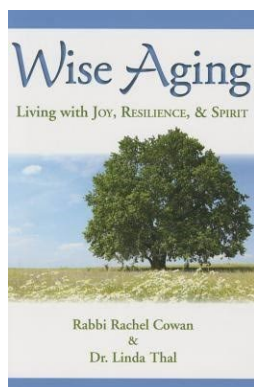
A course on selected Tuesday nights at 7:30-9:00 pm on January 3, 17, 24 and 31 (and Wednesday January 11); and February 7, 13 (Monday) and 21. (schedule subject to change)

Text: *Essential Judaism*, by George Robinson

This course is especially designed for adult learners, seekers and explorers who want to know more about 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@tbcl.org.

Wise Aging Discussion Group

Join us on Thursday, January 12 and Wednesdays, January 18 and 25 at 7pm as we continue a discussion series on the book *Wise Aging*, by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal. Rabbi Karol will lead these conversations. The book is available from Behrman House publishers as well as on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. Please let Rabbi Karol (rabbi@tbcl.org) know if you plan to attend.



Yossi and Susan Lapid visited our younger Religious School classes on Sunday, December 11, 2016 to speak about Yossi's new children's book series, *Snowman* Paul. Susan read the stories while all joined in discussion about the meaning of these delightful stories.



A play about Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran theologian in Germany during Nazi rule who worked in the resistance to aid in the efforts of rescuing Jews, will be performed in Las Cruces during January, 2017.

At First Christian Church, 1809 El Paseo Road
Saturday, January 14 at 7:00 pm
Sunday, January 15 at 2:00 pm

At Isabel M. Crouch Readers Theatre
at New Mexico State University
located next to the entrance to Speech and Hearing
across the parking lot from Barnes and Noble.
Saturday, January 21 at 7:00 pm
Sunday, January 22 at 2:00 pm

The Short Story Discussion group, led by Jim Rosenthal, will meet at 10:00 am on January 2, 9 and 16 (Mondays).

Temple Beth-El'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, zeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu.

Lynne Butner, Regional Director of NFTY Southwest, visited Temple Beth-El on Sunday, December 4 and met with parents, faculty and students from the morning through the early afternoon. She led nine students on a field trip to buy items to be donated to Jardin de los Ninos. \$150 was raised for these purchases. Nine students participated in the field trip, including three from BETY, two from BEMY and two younger students. Lynne's visit generated interest in upcoming NFTY Southwest events. We anticipate three students attending the Winter Kallah in January. Several parents showed interest in sending their children to a regional event scheduled in April for the 7th and 8th graders.



On Tuesday January 10, 2017, State Senator Bill Soules and State Representative Joanne Ferrary will be holding a constituent meeting from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Temple. Several other local elected officials may be in attendance. Temple members are invited to attend. Stay tuned for more information.

Your Board of Trustees invites you and your family to

The TBE Family

FestivUS Celebration

WHEN
January 21, 2017
 Havdalah Service 5:30
 FestivUS to follow

WHERE
Temple Beth-El
Social Hall

fun for all ages

music friendship buffet dinner sparkling drinks
 noshes wine
 frivolity free cheer tradition dancing jewish culture casual

Please respond by January 16, 2017
 Email or call Ellen Torres: ellen4332@gmail.com 510-676-3211

Happy Birthday! If you receive an email from sunshineclub@tbelc.org around the time of a birthday or anniversary, do not fear! Open it! It is a greeting from Temple Beth-El on your special day! It is not spam or junk mail. Hopefully, the message will add to your celebration!

Happy Anniversary!



WEEKLY TEMPLE BREAKFAST

Weekly breakfasts and discussions of topics of Jewish and general interest 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 at philipalkon@gmail.com or 575-524-6945)

Adelante Deadline

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the February 2017 Adelante is January 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 at 10:30am until 11:15 am. Please call before you come (575-524-3380), or email Rabbi Karol at rabbi@tbelc.org or rablpkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!

From Susan Fitzgerald (whom we thank for coordinating this effort at Camp Hope on December 25)

Thank you to those who helped on a chilly morning at the Camp Hope Christmas Breakfast. This was the first time that we have done this breakfast "short order style" and you all helped to figure out what we had to do to make it work. Clean up went quickly and efficiently, and we finished while there was sort of warm sun and before the wind started. Please let me know if you have any thoughts on how we can make this better next year.



Our TBE Religious School Pre-K through Fourth Grade Students decorated a S'vivon Gadol (A Large Dreidel) for the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso Chanukah Celebration on December 28, 2016 (seen in the photo on the left below). Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol attended the event. Rabbi Karol presented thoughts on the celebration of Chanukah and joined with Rabbi Royi Shaffin of Congregation B'nai Zion in leading the candleblessings (El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser lit the candles) and added his voice to the Shir Chadash choir of Temple Mount Sinai in a presentation of Chanukah songs (photo at bottom right).



ISRAEL UPDATE

AN ISRAEL NEWS GUIDE by Phil Alkon

There may be no better way of gaining important insights into the nature of a country or a society than by examining its media – how it functions, what it says about itself and how it sees the world at large. This is especially true for a society like Israel that prides itself as a haven of free speech and that boasts of a vibrant, contentious press. Given the dearth of objective, let alone sympathetic, coverage of events dealing with Israel in world media, Israeli news sources offer many unique insights not otherwise available to the average reader.

Here I critique some English language media sources that I rely on regularly to help fix my addictive Israel news habit. This is an admittedly personalized and selective sample of the many, readily available, Israel-based information sources. My choices do not represent the full array of political and philosophical viewpoints represented in Israeli media. But I hope they are a useful starting point for the interested reader. And most are free, on-line sites.

As hinted above, much routine media coverage of Israel is selective, incomplete and biased, especially when dealing with the Israel-Palestinian conflict. It has become axiomatic in world news coverage that Israel can do nothing right and the Palestinian Arabs can do nothing wrong. I don't recall a single opinion piece in the New York Times over the last decade, for example, that has not cast a negative shadow on Israeli policies and actions. This bias extends into reporting itself, where positive events are simply ignored and even neutral events are negatively one-sided. My first reading recommendation, therefore, deals with a corrective to false media coverage of Israel. That source is **Honest Reporting** (honestreporting.com) a well-informed, professional watchdog dedicated to the principle that Israel is "entitled to fair treatment by the world press according to the same standards applied to any other country." Hardly a radical call to action. HR vigorously examines a wide swath of English-language news sources, informs them directly of demonstrably unfair and erroneous coverage, and very often achieves corrective revisions in the news items. Originally founded by a group of British university students and faculty, and now based in Jerusalem, HR is an essential counterbalance to what has been an increasing trend in anti-Israel bias in the world media. I urge you to check it out regularly and support their work.

Now to Israeli news sources, and my take on three newspapers that I read on a daily basis. **Haaretz** (haaretz.com) has long represented the "progressive left" of the Israeli political spectrum and, as a former Labor Party supporter, I continue to follow its English edition. But to my mind **Haaretz** has fallen on hard times. Having hitched its political star almost entirely to achievement of an Israeli-Palestinian peace, it faces the growing reality that Palestinian leadership

is organically incapable of peacefully accommodating a sovereign Jewish state under any tenable conditions. **Haaretz** speaks for a shrinking political left that now lacks a credible national political program and credible national leadership. Its news coverage and commentary is heavily weighed to shrill and tiresome attacks on the political center and right, especially as personified by Prime Minister Netanyahu. One hopes that this old-line champion of Israeli liberalism can discover positive visions and aspirations that resonate with the Israeli people.

My other regular online newspaper reads are the **Jerusalem Post** (jpost.com) and the **Times of Israel** (timesofisrael.com), both of which offer wider viewpoints than **Haaretz**. Created as the **Palestine Post** in 1912—the Yishuv's first English-language daily—I would characterize the **Post** as providing broad and accurate news coverage with a politically right-of-center editorial perspective. **The Times of Israel**, founded in 2012, reports comprehensively on "developments in Israel, the Middle East and around the Jewish world," and is published online in six languages, including Arabic and Persian. It is independent and intended to not "have any political leanings." This according to Editor and Founder David Horvitz, a prominent newsman, formerly with the **Jerusalem Post**. Its coverage reflects a wide range of political, social and religious views.

Two Israel-based periodicals that the Alkons subscribe to are the weekly **International Jerusalem Post** newspaper and the slick bi-weekly **Jerusalem Report** magazine. Both offer well-written, thoughtful reports and commentary on a wide range of current events and issues. Either one should satisfy the interested beginner.

For computer addicts, two daily on-line news broadcasts are available in English - a morning news summary on **ILTV.TV** and a later daily update on **jerusalemonline**. Each provides brief and easy to digest headline reporting of major daily events.

In summary, my suggestions here represent a fraction of the remarkable array of English-language news sources emanating from Israel. Please let me know of your favorites, including those not acknowledged here, that you would like others to know about. Finally, at the risk of totally overwhelming the uninitiated, I must mention that various Israeli government agencies also produce excellent on-line information dealing with important aspects of life in what may be the most remarkable country on Earth. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for example, has excellent pieces on Israel's international relations at mfa.gov.il.

Meanwhile, happy trails on the path to enlightenment!

Temple Board of Trustees**Meeting Summary – December 15, 2016**

The December 15, 2016 Board of Trustees' meeting was called to order by Ellen Torres at 7:07 pm. Rabbi Larry Karol gave the invocation. The minutes of the November 17th meeting were accepted.

Rabbi's Report: Rabbi Karol reported that he is continuing to keep track of congregants who have gone through surgery and those in recovery. The Adult Education program, "Humble Enough? An Interfaith Conversation," brought 50 people together for presentations and small group discussions. The event was covered on the front page of the LC Sun News on Thanksgiving Day and featured in photos in the LC Bulletin on December 9. The Rabbi made presentations on Chanukah at Valley View Elementary School, at Amistad Advanced Pre-School of the Las Cruces Public Schools, and at J. Paul Taylor Academy.

The Rabbi reported there are 4 B'nai Mitzvah coming up in 2017. He recounted a conversation with Amy Asin, the URJ Vice President for Strengthening Congregations, who said there is a good possibility that the URJ can send someone to do leadership consultation and training for us this coming year. And he announced that his and Rhonda's first grandchild is to be born in 2017 as well!

President's Report: President Ellen Torres remarked on the loss of Steve Halper and how deeply she felt about honoring him at his funeral. She also reported, as did the Rabbi, that the visit by Lynne Butner, the SW Regional Director for NIFTY, in which she met with the youth groups, parents, and board members, was quite successful and should result in renewed energy and hopefully greater participation in youth activities. She reported that the ad hoc Leadership Committee continues to meet to discuss what leadership actually means for TBE. Plans for the FestivUS, a Board-sponsored event to be held on Saturday, January 21, right after Havdalah service, are continuing to unfold. The Board is planning a very special event to honor and appreciate the TBE congregation.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Allen Blum reported that to date we have received 55.8% of budgeted member pledges, and 60% of budgeted donations and fundraiser receipts. The Matzoh Ball Open brought in about \$5500 in net income. He reported that there are still a number of pledges that have not been paid and that efforts are being made to reach out to those who are past due.

Bill Stein reported on the outcome of the Jewish Federation Grant Proposal: TBE's proposal for "Beth-El

Scholars-in-Residence", received a grant amount of \$13,142.86 to bring in high profile Jewish speakers/performers to Temple Beth-El during the coming year.

Michael Lieberman reported on an hoc committee meeting to evaluate needs for inductive loop hearing support devices at TBE, and made a motion for a short term solution of purchasing hand receivers, headsets and loops along with an ear-mounted microphone for the Rabbi. This motion was seconded and approved by the Board. Information about the availability of this equipment will be added to the Accessibility page of the TBE website. Longer term solutions for those who are hearing impaired will continue to be evaluated.

Allen Blum reported that Jeff Brown has approached him regarding a number of TBE artifacts and historical items he has and would like to provide to the Temple. Other congregation members also have historical items. The Board discussed re-activating the History Committee mentioned in the TBE Constitution, and to ask Jeff Brown to chair it. There was also discussion to consider writing a grant proposal requesting funds to cover bringing in a historian/archivist.

The Board discussed a request made by politicians Bill Soules and Joanne Farrary to hold constituent meetings at TBE. Renee Frank moved to approve the request so long as the customary fee is charged. Jeff Lewis seconded, and the motion was passed.

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:06, and adjourned at 9:23.

***Upcoming B'nei Mitzvah at
Temple Beth-El***

Sadie Carvlin

Saturday, February 18, 2017

Mateo Garcia-Bryce

Saturday, June 24, 2017

Casey Rosenberg

Saturday, July 29, 2017

Michael Bruder

Saturday, December 2, 2017

Diocese of Las Cruces Project Oak Tree

The Social Action Committee of Temple Beth-El is giving congregants an opportunity, if they so desire, to participate in Project Oak Tree, again coordinated by the Diocese of Las Cruces. The project involves hosting refugee families of Central American women and children at Holy Cross Retreat Center. They stay for several days and are given clothing and toiletries as well as help in arranging transportation to their destinations (they all have family here already). Right now they need the following items: winter clothing for women and children (jackets, hats, mittens, scarves), women's hygiene supplies, deodorant (travel size), children's and women's underwear (preferably cotton), baby and toddler toys (stuffed animals are much appreciated), and bilingual books (Barnes and Noble has a good supply). There is a bin in the lobby of the Temple for your donations.

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.



Temple Beth-El has now become part of Amazon Smile, which offers members of Temple Beth-El an opportunity to participate in Smile Amazon and donates 0.05% of all purchases back to the Temple. To date, we have received \$22.54 in donations. The process is very simple – go to www.smile.amazon.com. You will be required to enter the charity you wish to donate to – just type in Temple Beth-El, Las Cruces in the charity box and this will set the Temple as your charity of choice. Then just shop – pretty easy and also, since many people today shop online via Amazon, it becomes a win-win situation for all.

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 and put your donation in the marked containers in the hallway opposite the Library. 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 December 2016
(through the first half of the month)**

General Fund

- Diana and Monte Blum, in honor of Dan Tapper's birthday
- Lila Ziegler, in memory of Melvin Kirschner
- Joan Glickler, in loving memory of Joel Glickler
- Joan Glickler, in loving memory of Michele Murdoch
- Joan Glickler, in memory of Steve Halper
- Joan Glickler, in honor of Dia Taylor

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Gerie and Stan Muchnikoff, in memory of Leo Bienstock
- Gerie and Stan Muchnikoff, in memory of Etta Muchnikoff

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund (BETY & BEMY)

- Yossi and Susan Lapid, in memory of Ilona Farkas and Shmuel Farkas

TEMPLE FUNDS—From the Treasurer

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

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

Biblical Garden Fund—To provide the infrastructure for biblical plants and trees, and bricks in the fountain meditation area and on the brick walkway.

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

Social Action Fund—For projects that benefit our community and Las Cruces and Southern New Mexico.

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 Fund—Provides funds to help further adult education and cultural programming at TBE.

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

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund—Support for Youth activities at TBE.

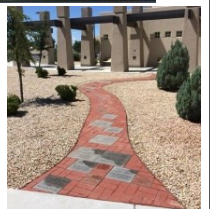
Periodically the temple may list short-term projects or needs. Contributions that do not specify a project or fund will be added to the General Operating Fund. If you have a question or wish to contribute to a project not listed here, please contact our Temple Beth-El Treasurer, Allen Blum.



Congratulations to Temple member Leonard Pritikin, who received an honorary degree from Western New Mexico University in Silver City during the fall commencement ceremony on Friday, December 9, 2016. His active participation in and presence at WNMU events has endeared him to the college community. Area newspapers noted that Leonard, due to his service in World War II, including a year-long recovery from an injury, was unable to take the time to work towards a college degree. He made an impact with his work as a rotogravure photo engraver. Leonard specialized in recoloring and worked on many notable publications. Mazal tov!!!!.



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.

JANUARY 2017 (TEVET-SHEVAT 5777)**Yahrzeits-Janaury 1, 2017 to February 5, 2017****Read on Friday, January 6 and Saturday, January 7**

Abraham Bongar, Grandfather of Steven Elias

Baruch Freedental*

Leopold Gluck*

Morris Gluck*, Husband of Helen Gluck

Henry Greenberg, Uncle of Cyrille Kane

Dorothy Leibson*

Harris B. Libby, Father of Robert Libby

Dorothy Moss, Sister-in-law of Linda M. Kruger

Michele Murdoch*, Daughter of Joan Glickler

Harry Segal, Grandfather of Michele Blum

Barbara Zenz Siegel*

Sonia Silverman, Mother of Jerald Silverman

Lois Stern*

Sylvia Weiss*, Mother of Diane Bass

Evelyn Willman*, Mother of Elliott Willman

Read on Friday, January 13 and Saturday, January 14

Ed Entin, Father of Maxine Weber, Grandfather of

Jason Rosenberg

Ilona Farkas*, Mother of Yosef Lapid

Aron Fiszbein*, Father of Abraham Fiszbein

Gerard Frieder*, Father of Linda Fisher

Sarah Jacobs*

Alvin Krasner, Brother of Frima Marquez

Harry Kuznekoff*, Father of Chuck Kuznekoff

Dorothy Palanker, Mother of Allen Palanker

Sam Ross, Father of Irwin Ross

Sarah Selanikio, Mother of Solomon Selanikio

Ronia Van Stellingwerf*

Read on Friday, January 20 and Saturday, January 21

Jerome Deutschman*, Father of Ellen Torres

Ruth Gluck*

George Gorelick*, Father of Amy Fiszbein

Coleman Greenberg, Cousin of Cyrille S. Kane

Faige Jacobs, Mother of Lionel Jacobs

Warren Klein, Father of Debbie Levy

Leon Markson, Father of Linda Kruger

Laura Metzger, Grandmother of Bryan McCuller

Lee Moss, Aunt of Rachel Stevens

Frances Pass*, Wife of Willie Pass

Nancy Rees Brown, Step-mother of Marieka Brown

Read on Friday, January 27 and Saturday, January 28

Jack Frank*

Bernard Gluck*

Herman B Golden, Father of Darlene Goldberg

Pearl Greenfield Higgins*

Jeanette Marks, Mother of Rhonda Karol

Evelyn Roselinsky, Mother of Lynn Zeemont

Barbara Yalkut*

Read on Friday, February 3 and Saturday, February 4

Edward Don Arkin, Husband of Anita Rosan

Elaine Brown*, Mother of Jeff Brown

Phyllis Orner Chonoles*

Miriam Cutler, Mother of Michele Blum

Shmuel Farkas*, Father of Yosef Lapid

Richard Garner, Father of Carrie Swartz

Morris Goldstein, Father of Wendee Lorbeer

Eva Isaacson, Mother of Louise Feldman-Baskey

Irene Neidich*

Leonardo Oczon, Father of Aggie Saltman

Stanley Skigen*, Father of Michelle Skigen

Joseph Tashlik, Grandfather of Allen Blum

***The Temple Beth-El Family
extends condolences to:******The Family of Steve Halper, on Steve's death
on December 8, 2016 in Las Cruces.******Linda Kruger, on the death of her nephew (and
nephew of the late Charles Kruger), Jonathan
Kruger, who died on December 10, 2016 in
Palmetto, Florida******Linda Kruger, on the death of
Frederick Bearman, her close friend and
professional colleague, on December 12, 2016.******May their memories 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.

**Visit the Temple Beth-El
Website
www.tbcl.org
for in-depth information about
Temple and its programming
and updates on
current Temple events**

Temple Beth-El is on Facebook!
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Temple-Beth-El/115816285166004>
(It is open for all to see!)

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



Buy the Kid
HAIR DESIGNS
522-3959 (next to the Hilton)

Telshor Tower Plaza, 755 Telshor Blvd., Bldg. C, Ste. 201, Las Cruces, NM

KYOCERA

COPIERS, PRINTERS, FAX

PTS
OFFICE
SYSTEMS INC.
The Future of Office Technology



PTS Office Systems, Inc.
2840 N. Telshor
Las Cruces, NM 88011
575.524.4384
575.524.9818 FAX
www.ptsofficesystems.com

Kevin Horner
khorne@ptsofficesystems.com



Willman
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Lisa J.O. Willman
(575) 522-3882
Fax: (575) 522-3889
Email: willman@zianet.com
1744 S. Triviz Dr.
Las Cruces
New Mexico
88001



**Tanah
Hemingway**

(575) 524-4329
most nights
P.O. Box 16318
Las Cruces
NM 88004

Editing:

Books, scientific papers, theses, dissertations

Technical documents of all sorts.

(for accuracy, continuity, organization, style
grammar, readability, supportability, etc.)



Ron Bruder
ASSOCIATE BROKER

ronbruder@topproducer.com
Cell: 575-312-7330
Office: 575-532-2211



Dr. Paul Feil, M.D., ABSM
Pulmonary Medicine
Sleep Disorders

2437 S. Telshor Boulevard
Las Cruces, N.M. 88011
sleepc.com

(575) 522-2777
Fax: (575) 522-4532

JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Tevet 3 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY LAST DAY OF CHANUKAH	Tevet 4 2 Short Story Discussion Group 10:00 am	Tevet 5 3 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Tevet 6 4 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am	Tevet 7 5	Tevet 8 6 Family Shabbat Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner 6:45 pm	Tevet 9 7 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tevet 10 8 Religious School 9:00 am	Tevet 11 9 Short Story Discussion Group 10:00 am	Tevet 12 10 State Senator & State Representative Constituent Meeting 6:00 pm	Tevet 13 11 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Tevet 14 12 Wise Aging 7:00 pm	Tevet 15 13 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Tevet 16 14 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tevet 17 15 No Religious School	Tevet 18 16 Short Story Discussion Group 10:00 am MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	Tevet 19 17 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Tevet 20 18 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm Wise Aging 7:00 pm	Tevet 21 19 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Tevet 22 20 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Tevet 23 21 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am TBE FestivUS 6pm Havdalah 5:30 pm
Tevet 24 22 Religious School 9:00 am	Tevet 25 23 KREPLACH AND DIM SUM WITH ROBYN HELZNER 7:00 PM	Tevet 26 24 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Tevet 27 25 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm Wise Aging 7:00 pm	Tevet 28 26	Tevet 29 27 Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:00 pm	Shevat 1 28 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 2 29 Religious School 9:00 am	Shevat 3 30	Shevat 4 31 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Shevat 5 Feb. 1 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm	Shevat 6 2	Shevat 7 3 Family Shabbat Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner 6:45 pm	Shevat 8 4 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: Ellen Torres

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol
rabbi@tbelc.org

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**

January, 2017



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