



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

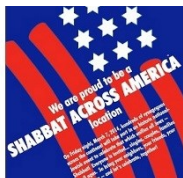
MARCH 2016 (ADAR I-ADAR II 5776)



Shabbat Services (Full Schedule on Page 2)

- Friday, March 4-
FAMILY SHABBAT

SERVICE for Shabbat Across America at 6:00 pm, followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:50 pm.



- Friday, March 11—Lay-led Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm
- Friday March 18—Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm.
- Friday, March 25-Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit at 7:00 pm.

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

**Ceremony of Burial of worn sacred books on
Sunday, March 6 at 11:30 am—See Page 5**



PURIM
Wednesday,
March 23, 2016
at 5:00 pm

Men, women, and children of all ages, costumed or uncostumed, are invited to a pizza dinner and Purim carnival (sponsored by BETY) followed by Purim songs, a Purimshpiel (at 6:30 pm) and chanting of an excerpt from the megillah.



“Meet-the-Artist” with violinist Yevgeny Kutik at Temple Beth-El on Wednesday,

March 2, 2016 at 7:00 pm.



Yevgeny Kutik, a Russian-American concert violinist, will present a “Meet the Artist” event at Temple Beth-El on Wednesday, March 2, at 7:00 pm. He will appear with the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra on the weekend of March 5-6, 2016 as well. Mr. Kutik will play a few unaccompanied short pieces and speak about his family’s emigration from Belarus. Mr. Kutik’s career debuted in 2003 with an appearance with the Boston Pops after being the 1st prize recipient of the Boston Symphony Orchestra Young Artists’ Competition. Since then, Kutik has appeared worldwide playing solo recitals and concertos with orchestras. He has won numerous awards, and his second album was featured on NPR’s “All Things Considered” and in the *New York Times*. In addition to being a concert violinist, Kutik is also a keynote speaker/representative for the Jewish Federations of North America Speakers Bureau. Hailed for his dazzling command of the violin, Kutik has become a highly sought-after artist on the concert stage and has captivated audiences worldwide. Refreshments will be served, and donations are graciously accepted. The event is sponsored by Temple Beth-El’s Adult Education Committee.

The Israel Committee of Temple Beth-El
presents *The Fourth Israel Roundtable*
**“SHARING THE EXTRAORDINARY
ACHIEVEMENTS OF MODERN ISRAEL”**

Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 7:00 – 9:00 PM,

In the Temple Beth-El Social Hall

Format: Mediated Public Discussion

Welcome: Phil Alkon

Moderator: Judith Sherman-Russell

*We invite the entire Las Cruces Community
to this event*

Light refreshments will be served

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, March 4

6:00 pm SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA—We will join with congregations around the country in hosting members of the greater Jewish community and congregants in celebrating Shabbat (feel free to invite someone to attend!). This service for all ages will take us through the Shabbat evening prayers with added insights and inspiration. The service will include birthday blessings for January, February and March. Allen Blum will represent the Board of Trustees.



6:50 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Dinner with brief prayer and song before and after dinner.

Saturday, March 5

9:00 am Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service
Parashat Vayakheil Exodus 35:1-38:20
(Shabbat Shekalim 30:11-16)
Haftarah II Kings 12:1-17

Friday, March 11

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Erich Zameret will lead the service. *Linda Kruger, Louise Baskey and Willie Pass will sponsor the Oneg Shabbat. Monika Kimball will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, March 12

9:00 am Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service led by Leora Zeitlin and Stuart Kelter, and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Pekudei 38:21-40:38
Haftarah I Kings 7:51-8:21

Friday, March 18

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Offering our best.” *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Marianne Panzini-Rosenthal and Alison Mann. Diane Fleishman will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, March 19

9:00 am Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Vayikra Leviticus 1:1-5:26
(Shabbat Zachor—Deuteronomy 25:17-19)
Haftarah I Samuel 15:2-34

Wednesday, March 23

PURIM CELEBRATION—5:00 pm

Join us for a Pizza Dinner and Purim Carnival followed by Purim songs and, at 6:30 pm, our annual Purimshpiel!

Friday, March 25

7:00 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit, featuring special music and prayers for healing within our Shabbat liturgy. *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Ellen Torres and Susi Kolikant. Renee Frank will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, March 26

9:00 am Talmud Study
10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service and Potluck Kiddush
Parashat Tzav Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Haftarah Jeremiah 7:21-8:3, 9:22, 23

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 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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2015-2016

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Erich Zameret
Ann Berkson
David Zeemont (Mensch Club)
Leslie Glater (Sisterhood)
Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

The next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24 at 7pm.



Message from Rabbi Karol
"What if the lights go out?" - D'var Torah for
Parashat Tetzaveh - February 19, 2016

"You shall further instruct the Israelites to bring you clear oil of beaten olives for lighting, for kindling lamps continually...L'HA-ALOT NEIR TAMID."

Aaron and his sons, the Israelite priests-to-be, would set up the lampstand of gold - M'NOROT ZAHAV - on which the lights would be kindled.

And, as the Torah tells us, so they did. And there was later a menorah in the Temple in Jerusalem, also with seven branches, that was kept lit with the same dedication and commitment.

That Temple did not endure, nor did the second Temple.

The Arch of Titus in Rome shows someone - likely a Jew from vanquished Judea after the failed Revolt - carrying the Temple menorah in Rome as one of the spoils of a difficult war. So what happened when the lights went out?

And they did go out - at least, the lights on the Temple lampstand (and lamps designated as perpetual lights in the Temple) did.



There were other lights that took their place.

There was the menorah image that began to grace the walls and floors of ancient synagogues, such as the one in the photo from the Beit Alpha synagogue in northern Israel.

The menorah, as well as the Eternal Light, the Neir Tamid, became standards symbol in Jewish houses of worship.

There were also physical candleholders or lamps and real lights that became part of each Jewish home, in the form of Shabbat and holiday lights. There were no Temple priests to kindle those candles or lights. The responsibility fell upon each family, especially the woman of the household, to be sure that those lights burned every week. Where the Torah said that the Israelites would be a dominion of priests, that designation comes true at every Shabbat dinner. When Shabbat blessings are recited at home on Friday night, the family members are like the priests of old.

There are other lights that could have gone out. But they didn't.

The light of faith in God continued because we learned that God's presence need not be confined to a Temple - it could be anywhere. We realized that it was possible to approach God through prayer wherever we might be, including when we gather in synagogues as a community. Prayer, the rabbis explained, was the offering of our hearts.

The light of learning could have stopped 2000 years ago, but it didn't. Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakkai, who escaped Jerusalem under Roman siege during the revolt of 66-70 CE, was granted the right to set up a house of study, a BEIT



MIDRASH, in Yavneh on the Mediterranean sea coast.

His persuasive powers enabled Jews to continue to discuss, debate, and develop their heritage, a practice that has come down to us today. Classes for members of all ages in modern congregations are a tribute to the rabbis who sustained our tradition against great odds so long ago.



There is a light of hope that could have been extinguished many times throughout history, but it wasn't.

So many places where Jews have lived were inhospitable to some degree. The communities survived because their traditions of prayer, celebration, study and performing acts of lovingkindness strengthened them throughout the centuries. If one country sent members of its Jewish community packing, they almost always found a new home and thrived once again. That would include, among other places, the United States and the State of Israel.

There is a light of freedom that has inspired members of Jewish communities to work for liberty wherever they have lived. There are scholars and leaders who claim that freedom may serve for some as a chance to leave Judaism behind. Others disagree.

Dr. Jonathan Sarna of Brandeis University noted that, in 1818, the United States Attorney General, William Wirt, declared that no Jews would



be left in our country in 150 years, or by 1968. In 1964, Look Magazine featured a cover bearing the title "The Vanishing American Jew." That article of the same title by Rabbi Max Schenk suggested that the American Jewish community would disappear in a generation or two. The last time I checked, we are still here.

Some predictions today claim that all liberal forms of Judaism will die out in the next 50 years due to a declining interest and participation in synagogue life and a decreasing birth rate.

Will our light, in fact, go out?

Not if we continue to gather as a community.

Not if we find new ways to learn from one another and teach each other. Not if we celebrate holidays and special life moments that demonstrate an infusion of new ideas and revitalized spirit.

Not if we remember that the principles of "loving our neighbors" and "loving the stranger" as ourselves direct us to act with kindness towards one another and to engender partnerships with people of all faiths and backgrounds.

Our light will not go out as long as we pray, and sing, and sustain the ideas and values that lead us along a path of creating a community, a nation, and a world based upon justice and peace.

May we keep these lights burning continually as preservers of our faith and tradition and as compassionate members of the human family.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Larry K.

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



President's Message March 2016

Ever since Las Cruces experienced the bomb incidents last year, communities of faith have struggled with assessing their places of worship in terms of security management. Temple Beth-El is no exception. An ad hoc committee, chaired by board member Mark Saltman and congregants Jim Rosenthal, Brad Jenkins, Terry Sugarman, Jerry Silverman, and Dia Taylor, has done an outstanding job on our behalf. They have met with local security experts, including the Las Cruces Police Department, and conducted research utilizing sources such as the Department of Justice, Homeland Security and the Anti-Defamation League. Their detailed findings and recommendations will be sent to you via temple email. If you agree that safety and security of our temple is of great importance, I urge you to read it and provide your support. Should you have questions, you may contact one of the committee members for further clarification.

I think that, in these volatile times, we must be vigilant even in a seemingly safe environment such as Las Cruces, New Mexico. Therefore, I feel compelled to make this ad hoc committee a standing committee, because the topic of security is not a temporary one and continued vigilance is necessary. While we cannot eliminate all dangers, I believe that it is our duty to provide a safe place of worship for congregants and our children, now and for the future.

There are initially two components to begin the process of creating a more secure temple environment. The first one focuses on building security and the second one entails educating congregants about the new features and how to behave in a possible volatile situation. The LCPD is committed to assisting us with this task. In the meantime, I have suggested that we establish a specific fund to which you can donate money to offset security related expenses. It will be added to the list of funds we presently have and Paypal may be used to make contributions. You will see it listed in this edition of the Adelante along with the

other fund choices. At its next meeting, the board of trustees will vote on the proposal and on fund allocations. At that time, we may have to establish a hierarchy of needs, because not all recommendations might be financially feasible all at once. In any case, I strongly recommend that we start the process of creating a safer, more secure worship environment at this time. After all, it is our second home, a place we love. I hope you concur, and as mentioned above take a look at the committee's report or request a hard copy from Mark Saltman.

May peace reside in your head and in your heart.

Monika

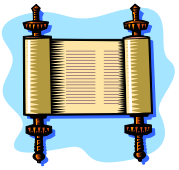
Rhonda Karol's 4th-5th Grade class, while determining which books in the storage room near the bimah would need to be buried, came across an extensive collection of photographs and scrapbook from past Temple events, going back several decades.

Here are two photos from the dedication of our new building in January 2007. Carrying the Torah scrolls in the photo are Stuart Kelter and the late David Steinborn.



ADULT EDUCATION

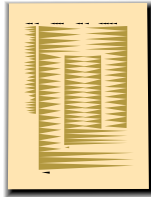
Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs



TANAKH STUDY (ISAIAH):

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

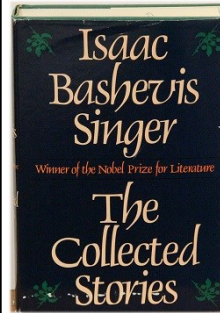
Talmud study meets every Saturday in the Social Hall at 9:00 am before the Saturday morning service. Prospective students are welcome. Contact Erich Zameret or Tanah Hemingway for more information.



When Jewish sacred books—those that have God's name in Hebrew (YUD-HAY-VAV-HAY)—printed in them get worn and can no longer be used, Judaism has a tradition of burying those books in a designated place. Sometimes, that spot has been inside or near a synagogue and, when it is, it is called a GENIZAH (meaning a "hidden place").

We have a number of prayerbooks, old Torah commentaries and other texts that are ready to be placed in a GENIZAH. Rhonda Karol's 4th-5th Graders screened the books in our storage room to choose which ones will need to be buried. Congregants who have sacred books that are worn and would like to have them buried should bring them to Temple by March 4.

On Sunday, March 6, at 11:30 am, join us as we hold a ceremony of burial of the sacred books at Temple that have served us well in the past. Our Religious School students will lead the ceremony that is open to all congregants. The GENIZAH will be located outside the building, just to the east of the wall that houses the Aron Hakodesh (Holy Ark) inside the sanctuary. PLEASE JOIN US ON MARCH 6 FOR THIS SPECIAL CEREMONY!



From Jim Rosenthal

The Temple Beth-El short-story discussion series will continue on Mondays at 10:00 am.. This series will focus on *The Collected Stories of Isaac Bashevis Singer*. The book is widely available in paperback (published August 1, 1983 by Farrar, Straus and Giroux with an introduction by Singer. The first of 47 stories is *Gimpel the Fool*.) **In addition, we are reading and discussing newly-published short stories by former Las Cruces and Temple member Gabriel Lampert, who is now living and writing in San Francisco. If you are interested in joining us or have questions, send me an email at jar529@gmail.com or call me at 522-6478.**

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.

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.

This year's TBE **Jewish Food and Folk Festival** is coming up on **Sunday, April 17**. As you know, it's a fun and positive event where we get to showcase our Temple and Jewish culture to the Las Cruces community and the surrounding area. Last year, we raised over \$14,000 (before expenses) and we want to make it more successful than ever! This won't happen by itself, and we need help from everyone!

Please sign up to help to volunteer here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4dabac23a3f94-jfff>. Or you can contact JFFF Volunteer Coordinator Ellen Torres at ellenhowerton@comcast.net / **Cell: 510-676-3211**.

The desserts that we sell at the JFFF are immensely popular. Please contact Debbie Levy at dvrhl@aol.com or 650-7799 if you can bake macaroons, mandelbread, hamentaschen, honey cake or matzo brittle. Items can be baked at home in advance and frozen.



**Sunday,
April 17, 11am-3pm**

Let Debbie know what you would like to make and she can tell you how many servings we need of that item. Use your favorite recipe or ask for one. There will also be "group bakes" at the Temple, about which you

can ask Debbie for dates and times.

We always need sponsorships and donations to help set off the costs to put on the festival. Please help acquire these much-needed sponsorships and contact JFFF Sponsorship Coordinator Terri Sugarman at terrisugarman2@gmail.com or 805-231-5413.

And lastly we need people to **come** to the JFFF! Invite your friends, co-workers, neighbors and more. Help get the word out. Tickets are currently being printed and flyers that you can post will be available.

As always, JFFF co-chairs Rebecca Berkson and Aggie Saltman are happy to answer any of your questions. You can reach both of them at lcjewishfestival@gmail.com or 708-655-8448 (Rebecca), 649-4356 (Aggie).

SAVE THE DATE!



Come eat, dance and enjoy live music at the 2016 Jewish Food and Folk Festival!

April 17, 2016

11:00am-3:00pm

Rain or shine we'll be here!

• Jewish Food • Live Klezmer Music From Di Kavene Kapelye • Folk Dancing • Kids' Area with Games and Crafts • Spin the Bagel • Raffle • Silent Auction • Fun!

• Pastrami Sandwiches • Knishes • Falafel • Kosher Hot Dogs • Challah • Matzo Ball Soup • Hamentaschen • Mandelbread • More!

LCJewishFestival.weebly.com

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 TBEIcpublicrelations@gmail.com.

Rabbi Karol's invocation for the February 25 Board of Trustees Meeting—based on the Torah portion Ki Tisa
Eternal One,

We read in the Torah
That when Moses ascended Mount Sinai,
To receive a second set of tablets
Of *Aseret Had'varim* (*aseret hadib'rot*),
The Ten Central standards for our behavior
As Jews and as human beings,
That Your essence was made known to him
So that he could lead other human beings
In reflecting Your ways in their actions.
He heard in his mind's ear
That You are the One who always exists
And whose eternity supports our existence.
You are merciful and compassionate,
So that we should open our hearts
To understand what may motivate others to
Think as they think or do as they do
So that we will show them a generosity of spirit
with the hope that the result will be
a meeting of the minds and unity of action.
You are gracious - which means that you give us
Second, third and even fourth chances
Whether deserved or undeserved
So that, by being gracious with others,
We will earn the grace You show us every day.
You are slow to anger
And so should we be as well
Even when we are disappointed in or upset by others,
Even when we know that what made us angry could have
easily been avoided.
You are full of kindness based in faithfulness and truth
And you call on us to be kind in a way
That will extend Your love to all people
Whether they are family members, friends, neighbors or
strangers.
You forgive sin and wrongdoing
Especially when we realize that we have erred.
You trust that we will be forgiving
And you remind us that the consequences of one mistake
Can last not one but several lifetimes
Affecting people we don't know as well as people
Whom we know well and love.
Guide us in our daily lives, in our leadership,
in our community partnerships
To be like You, for if we are like You
We will add to our own character
and to our community and to our world
a touch of holiness that is so needed
So that we will make our days fulfilling and even joyous.
As we share our knowledge,
Our unique talents, our visions, our dreams and our hopes
Watch over us so that we can be one
As You are and will always be One.
Amen.



Stuart Kelter led a Hagbah workshop on Monday, February 22 for interested members to learn the particulars of lifting the Torah (from the lighter to the heavier scrolls) and tips for doing it safely and successfully. Thanks to all who participated (Allen Blum, Jeff Lewis, Bryan McCuller and Tanah Hemingway)!



While attending Songleader Boot Camp in St. Louis on February 14-16 (a conference for Jewish leadership and learning for Jewish clergy, educators, and music specialists), Rabbi Karol was reunited with NMSU graduate and former Las Cruces resident Jon Swann. Jon worked with the Temple choir briefly while he attended NMSU. He is now teaching music in various venues in Houston, Texas.

During this gathering that covered all aspects of Jewish life, Rabbi Karol attended sessions on the teachings of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, sustaining congregational choirs, the essence of Jewish worship, creating a welcoming and compassionate community, and the nature of ritual.



We hope you will take a look at the Brick Walkway and Meditation area when you are next at the Temple. With the help of the TBE Board, your brick donations, the generous donations of Linda Kruger, Frances Williams and Mike Batkin, and the outstanding efforts of Dee Cook, Bob Kimball, Jerry Silverman, Norm Mazer, Frances and Linda all of whom join Howie Dash and me on the Biblical Garden and Brick Walkway Committee, we have completed Phase One and a good portion of Phase Two of the project envisioned two years ago.

We are delighted to announce that Wendee and Art Lorbeer are donating two benches, which Art is making, for the meditation area. How wonderful that even outdoors we can keep the TBE tradition of its membership making beautiful objects for the Temple! Art will be pouring concrete into his forms, and will install the benches by the end of March. We are so grateful for this generous effort on the part of the Lorbeers.

And now that those benches are taken care of, we can thank Frances Williams for replacing one of the wooden benches at the outside entry way with a beautiful polished granite bench which will be installed toward the beginning of March. Frances gives so much to the Temple, and we thank her for this gift, and so many other donations she has made.

What's next? The planting of the Biblical Garden, the replacement of the bare bricks with more donated bricks, and the search for a pergola design to shade the meditation area will be the next goal. Howie Dash, who is a Master Gardener, will lend his expertise to the plant selection and placement, and Linda Kruger will be looking for pergola plans as well as donating a beginning sum to help get the pergola built.

How can you be involved? We have loads of space for more donated inscribed bricks, so please buy

a brick! And if you wish to donate a tree and have it planted, that would be great. The trees/plants will range from \$100-\$250. A small plaque stating the name of the tree and the donor's name will be placed near the tree. Please call Alison at 575 521-7793 if you are interested in bricks or plants. And there are forms for bricks at the Temple, too, near the front door.

Thank you!

Alison Mann, Chair



The Mensch Club met on February 7 and February 28 to begin to plan its next steps for programming and leadership in the coming months. The group will meet again at 12:00 Noon on April 3.

Adelante Deadline

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the April 2016 Adelante is March 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 rabbik@tblc.org or rablprkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!

**The Israel Committee
of Temple Beth-El**
presents *The Fourth Israel Roundtable*
**“SHARING THE EXTRAORDINARY
ACHIEVEMENTS OF
MODERN ISRAEL”**

Sunday, March 6, 2016
at 7:00 – 9:00 PM,

In the Temple Beth-El Social Hall
Format: Mediated Public Discussion

Welcome: Phil Alkon

Moderator: Judith Sherman-Russell

*We invite the entire
Las Cruces Community
to this event*

Light refreshments will be served

**After Kotel compromise,
dramatic changes still needed
by Rabbi Uri Regev**

There is much to rejoice over when considering the details of the Kotel compromise agreement. For the first time, there is going to be a section of this ancient site open to egalitarian and non-Orthodox worship alternatives, as well as partnership and women's *minyanim*. It's the first time that non-Orthodox representatives will be appointed as part of a governmental authority overseeing such an important site. It presents an option for the general public other than the Charedi-controlled Kotel area.

With all of this significant progress in mind, we should also recognize that, until it reaches full implementation, there will be obstacles and much time elapsing. Moreover, the painful sacrifice involved is mostly on the part of Women of the Wall (WOW) and the non-Orthodox movements that are now removed from the historic Kotel site — a move WOW leadership has fiercely criticized in the past, and which some of its members, as well as many Modern Orthodox women who are not part of WOW, resent because it denies them their free religious expression without their consent and without consulting them. Furthermore, the compromise cements the ultra-Orthodox control over the historic Kotel section while giving their challengers a section behind a tall

partition, which was never under Orthodox authority. The key concern, though, is over the larger challenge of religious freedom and equality in Israel. The celebratory messages expressed by the parties to the agreement will undoubtedly be used by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as a demonstration and actualization of his promise “to ensure that every Jew will feel at home in Israel,” while in truth it avoids addressing the real issues that impact the lives and dignity of so many Israeli and Diaspora Jews. So, as welcomed as the Kotel compromise is, it must not distract world Jewry from the need for dramatic changes in Israel in such critical arenas as freedom of marriage and divorce, who qualifies as a Jew, and state-sanctioned, religiously based gender discrimination. Stanley P. Gold, chairman of Hiddush — Freedom of Religion for Israel, pointed to an important lesson to be drawn from this change in Israeli governmental policy. Namely, that Diaspora — and especially Jewish-American — pressure is an effective vehicle when applied in partnership with Israeli activists and organizations to bring about changes to the problematic alliance of religion, state and politics.

“It should encourage us,” Gold said, “not to treat Israel as if it were some delicate china doll, too sensitive to touch, let alone criticize.

“On the contrary,” Gold continued, “the progress made over the Kotel should convince our fellow communal leaders that we need to further engage in the religion-state clash, and that Israelis need our support and partnership in advancing the Jewish state's own core founding principles of religious freedom and equality for all.”

Rabbi Uri Regev is president of Hiddush — Freedom of Religion for Israel, an organization fighting for religious freedom in Israel.



Temple Mount Sinai of El Paso
will sponsor
a fundraiser featuring
the A Capella Vocal Band Six 13
*on Wednesday, March 16, 2016
at 7:00 pm.*

General admission tickets are \$36 per person,
and student tickets are \$10 per person.
Tickets may be purchased by calling
915-532-5959
or by going to this web address:
templemountsinai.com/donate

SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING**February 25, 2016**

The meeting began with a moving invocation written by the Rabbi, which was read by some of the Board Members.

Jerry Silverman then advised the Board about the Building and Grounds committee's annual budget, building and grounds repairs and maintenance needed, both immediate and in the future. In addition we were told that new granite benches were ordered for the Temple entry way and that they would arrive by March 6th.

The Rabbi reported on his successful trip to St. Louis and reported on the upcoming Shabbat Across America event on Friday, March 4th at 6PM. The general public is encouraged to attend. There will also be a special service on March 6th, 11:30 AM, when old and worn out religious books will be buried according to Jewish Law.

Monika Kimball talked about the success of the FestivUS celebration. She also reminded us that the Nominations Committee will be meeting on March 3rd to discuss the 8 nominees, 6 of whom will replace outgoing Board Members.

Paul Feil gave his Treasurer's report along with the most up-to-date figures for the fiscal year so far. A Chart of Accounts will be emailed to the Board Members shortly.

Leslie Glater, representing the Sisterhood, advised us that this year the Passover Seder will start at 6PM on Saturday, April 23 and that the cut-off dates will basically be the same as last year. She also mentioned that the kitchen ovens were in need of an overhaul.

Dave Zeemont reported that at the upcoming Mensch Club Meeting, this Sunday at noon, a new constitution will be proposed and elections will take place. As part of the Technology Committee he also stated that the 2 new computers in the Library were up and running, and that some 2,000 volumes have now been entered into the system.

Adult Education Chair Ellen Torres stated that Yevgeny Kutik, Belorussian violinist, who will perform with the Las Cruces Symphony on March 5-6, will present a "Meet the Artist" event at Temple on March 2 at 7PM. In addition, the Di Kavene Kapelye Klezmer group from Albuquerque has agreed to perform at this year's JFFF.

Chair Renee Frank reported that her Marketing and Public Relations Committee has met with the Membership Committee in order to design a user friendly spot on the Temple website for new members. They are also

working on a media and press release template which will incorporate a uniform design for future announcements.

Mark Saltman, Chair of the now standing Security Committee, has received approval to move forward on the first phase of priority installations of the front door intercom and doorbell camera. Additional funds and installations will be forthcoming.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the name change of the social hall to honor past president David Steinborn. It will now be known as the David Steinborn Social Hall. The Board also approved the creation of a new separate fund which will handle all present and future gifts and bequests to the Temple in excess of \$5,000.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24th, 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 February 2016**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

- Leslie Glater, in memory of Marnie Leverett, Margot Leverett's mother
- Dorothy Klein
- Helen Raphael, in honor of Fran Zimes
- Jeff & Avis Lewis, in memory of Rita Herman
- Sue & Marieka Brown, in memory of George Cohen
- Suzanne & Charles Hamwee, thank you!
- Leonard Pritikin, in memory of Neysa Pritikin
- Jake & Susi Kolikant, in memory of Itzhak Kolikant & Margaret Gantert
- Barnett & Ruth Sugarman, in memory of Bea Gibbs
- The Leverett Family, Thank you to Rabbi Karol

Religious School Fund

- Leslie Glater, in memory of Leonardo Oczon, Aggie Saltman's father

General Fund

- Dia Taylor, in memory of Clifford V. Evans, Jr. & Sr.
- Dee Cook, in memory of Leonardo Oczon & Alvin Phinick
- Grace Hammesfahr, in loving memory of Irv Rothman
- Stan and Gerie Muchnikoff, in memory of Neysa Pritikin
- Jeff Brown, in memory of Dolly Zabin
- Ann & Burt Berkson, in memory of Fay Berkson, mother of Burt Berkson
- Ann & Burt Berkson, in memory of Alvin Phinick & Leonardo Oczon

Building Fund (2004)

- Sharon & Peter Dorfman, in memory of Ruth N. Brooks, beloved mother of Sharon

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship

- Dee Cook, in memory of Agnes Schussler

Send a Kid to Israel Program

- Bryan McCuller, in memory of Patricia Collier Ehlers

Biblical Garden and Brick Walkway Fund

- Leslie Glater, in memory of Fred Ruttenberg, Ellen Torres' cousin
- Alison & Gary Mann, in memory of Charlotte Mann

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.

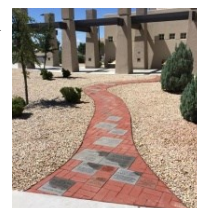
Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund—Supports the regular and special programming planned by faculty, students and the Religious School Committee.

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.



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.



MARCH 2016 (ADAR I-ADAR II 5776)**Yahrzeits-March 6, 2016 through
April 2, 2016****Read on Friday, March 4 and Saturday,
March 5**

Ralph Alkon, Brother of Philip Alkon
 Betty Brankman, Mother of Sally Alkon
 George Burstein, Father of Laini Burstein
 Samuel Chapman, Father of Diane Fleishman
 Clifford Evans, Jr., Father of Dia Taylor
 Lawrence Friedman, Brother of Teddy Weinglass
 Abigail Palanker, Cousin of Allen Palanker
 David Andrew Steinzig*

**Read on Friday, March 11 and Saturday,
March 12**

Sidney Berger*, Father of Barbara Berger
 Shirley Burstein, Mother of Laini Burstein
 Katherine A. Lathrop, Mother of Jane Grider
 Richard Palanker, Cousin of Allen Palanker
 Gertrude Silverston*
 Anthony Thelkan*
 Joel Ziegler*, Husband of Lila Ziegler

**Read on Friday, March 18 and Saturday,
March 19**

Joshua Mordechai Batkin, Son of Mike Batkin
 Tessie Rose Bergman, Grandmother of Nancy Bergman
 Leonard Edwards*, Father of Peter Edwards
 Alma Ruth Feil, Mother of Paul Feil
 Forrest Gantz, Father of Patricia Selanikio
 Dori Gorsky*
 Marco Selanikio, Father of Sol Selanikio

**Read on Friday, March 25 and Saturday,
March 26**

Sheldon Schoenbrun*
 Elaine Silberman, Sister of Cyrille S. Kane
 Helen Troy, Mother of Marsha San Filippo
 Leonard I Weinglass, Cousin-in-Law of Teddy Weinglass

**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

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

***Karen Currier and family,
on the death of Karen's father,
Alvin Phinick, on February 2, 2016
in Melbourne, Florida***

***Stacey Hyman and Family,
on the death of Stacey's father,
Jean Lemelin, on February 26, 2016
in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.***

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.



HAIR DESIGNS
522-3959 (next to the Hilton)
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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




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Editing:
 Books, scientific papers, theses, dissertations
Technical documents of all sorts.
 (for accuracy, continuity, organization, style
 grammar, readability, supportability, etc.)



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MARCH 2016

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| Adar I 19 Feb 28 Religious School 9:00 am | Adar I 20 Feb 29 Book Discussion Group 10 am Mah Jong 1-3pm | Adar I 21 1 Knitting Group 10:15 am | Adar I 22 2 Wednesday <u>Breakfast 8:45 am</u> Tanakh Study <u>10:15am</u> Hebrew School <u>4:45 pm</u> Yevgeny Kutik Meet-the-Artist 7:00 pm | Adar I 23 3 | Adar I 24 4 Shabbat Family Ser- vice for Shabbat Across America 6:00 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat dinner 6:50 pm | Adar I 25 5 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Shekalim) |
| Adar I 26 6 Religious School 9:00 am Book Burial Ceremony at 11:30 am Israel Roundtable at 7:00-9:00 pm | Adar I 27 7 Book Discussion Group 10 am Mah Jong 1-3pm | Adar I 28 8 Knitting Group 10:15 am | Adar I 29 9 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm | Adar I 30 10 | Adar II 1 11 Shabbat Service led by Erich Zameret 7:00 pm | Adar II 2 12 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service—led by Leo- ra Zeitlin and Stuart Kelter 10:15 am |
| Adar II 3 13 NO Religious School (Spring Break) | Adar II 4 14 Book Discussion Group 10 am Mah Jong 1-3pm | Adar II 5 15 Knitting Group 10:15 am | Adar II 6 16 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am No Tanakh Study No Hebrew School | Adar II 7 17 | Adar II 8 18 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm | Adar II 9 19 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Zachor) |
| Adar II 10 20 NO Religious School (Spring Break) | Adar II 11 21 Book Discussion Group 10 am Mah Jong 1-3pm | Adar II 12 22 Knitting Group 10:15 am | Adar II 13 23 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am PURIM CELEBRATION Purim Carnival 5 pm Purim Shpiel at 6:30 pm | Adar II 14 24 Board Meeting 7:00 pm | Adar II 15 25 Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:00 pm | Adar II 16 26 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am |
| Adar II 17 27 NO Religious School (School break) | Adar II 18 28 Mah Jong 1-3pm | Adar II 19 29 Knitting Group 10:15 am | Adar II 20 30 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15am Hebrew School 4:45 pm | Adar II 21 31 | Adar II 22 Apr. 1 Family Shabbat Ser- vice - 6:00 pm Dairy Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:45 pm | Adar II 23 Apr. 2 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am (Shabbat Parah) |

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

March, 2016



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