



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

JANUARY 2014 (TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR I 5774)



Shabbat Services in January

Friday, January 3

Shabbat Family Service at
5:45 pm, followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck
Shabbat Dinner.

Friday, January 10

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm—Shabbat
Shirah/Sabbath of Song, and *dedication of our
newly-received Torah scroll*

Friday, January 17

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm—
including readings for the birthday of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Friday, January 24

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm

Friday, January 31

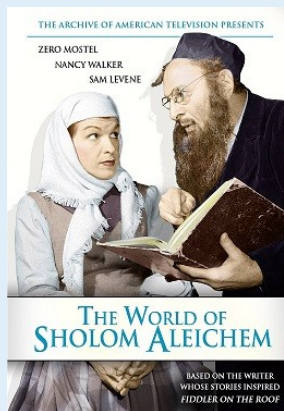
Shabbat Service, including
welcoming New Members, at 7:30 pm

Saturdays

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

**Tu Bish'vat Seder on
Wednesday, January 15 at 5:30 pm**
All are welcome—please respond to
rabbi@tbcl.org or 524-3380.

*The congregation is invited
to share in the simchah
of Ezekiel Swartz,
son of Ari and Carrie Swartz,
as he becomes a Bar Mitzvah
at our Shabbat Morning Service
on Saturday, January 25
at 10:00 am.*
A Kiddush luncheon will follow the service.



"The Yiddish Mark Twain"

You are cordially invited
to Temple Beth-El on
Sunday, January 12,
2014, at 2:00 PM for a
DVD viewing of "The
World of Sholom Alei-
chem." It will be pre-
sented (in period cos-
tume) by Eve and Allen

Palanker. Based on the writer whose stories in-
spired "Fiddler on the Roof", this trio of plays
will entertain us, make us laugh, make us think,
make us cry and make us shake our heads in
exasperation. The trilogy consists of "A Tale of
Chelm," with Zero Mostel and Nancy Walker,
about a man trying to buy a goat in a town of
fools, followed by "Bontche Schweig" in
which Jack Gilford has arrived in Heaven for
Judgment, and "The High School" in which
Morris Carnovsky and Gertrude Berg confront
anti-Semitism. (100 minutes).

Enjoyment is guaranteed! Popcorn and soft
drinks will be served. Donations are appreci-
ated.

For our full worship schedule, see page 2!

**For Adult Education, see page 5, includ-
ing Psalms study group, Tanakh Study,
Talmud Study, Judaism: Roots and Ritu-
als, Jewish Women's Spirituality Group,
and Jim Rosenthal's Book Group.**

For ongoing activities, see page 10!

**For Tzedakah and Tikun Olam
opportunities, see pages 11!**

Worship Schedule



Friday, January 3

5:45 pm Shabbat Family Service FOR ALL AGES led by Religious School parents and students, followed by a Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Saturday, January 4

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service (led by Erich Zameret)
and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Bo Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah Jeremiah 46:13-28

Friday, January 10

7:30 pm Shabbat Shirah/Sabbath of Song Service and Dedication of our newly-received Torah Scroll. Rabbi Karol will speak on: "Singing songs of triumph!" *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Dan Tapper and Judy Long.*



Saturday, January 11

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah Judges 4:4-5:31

Wednesday, January 15

5:30 pm TU BISH'VAT SEDER:

Join us as we celebrate the New Year of Trees with a modern adaptation of this ritual that celebrates our ties to nature and to the land of Israel. Open to all congregants—please respond to Rabbi Karol by email or call the Temple office.



Friday, January 17

THIRD FRIDAY SERVICE AT 7:30 PM THIS MONTH

Rabbi Karol will speak on "Guiding and Guidance: The Torah on Leadership." The service will include readings for the observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. *Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Dee Cook and Ann Berkson.*

Saturday, January 18

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Yitro Exodus 18:1-20:23

Haftarah Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 9:6

Friday, January 24

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service: Rabbi Karol will speak on "Respect your enemy."

Saturday, January 25

NO TALMUD STUDY

10:00 am Ezekiel Swartz, son of Ari and Carrie Swartz, will become a Bar Mitzvah during this Shabbat morning service. A Kiddush luncheon will follow the service.

Parashat Mishpatim Exodus 21:1-24:18

Special Haftarah Ezekiel 3:17-21

Friday, January 31

6:00 Congregational Shabbat Dinner by RSVP, presented by the Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees

7:30 Shabbat Service, including welcoming New Members. Rabbi Karol will speak on "Who We are, What We Can Give, Who We Can Be"

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by the Board of Trustees.

Saturday, February 1—ROSH CHODESH

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Terumah Exodus 25:1-27:19

Haftarah Rosh Chodesh Isaiah 66:1-24

**To plant a tree in Israel
for Tu Bish'vat through
the Jewish National Fund,
go to**



<http://www.jnf.org/support/tree-planting-center/>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2013-2014

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RABBIS

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane, Rabbi Emeritus

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Temple Board will be held on January 23 at 7:00 pm.



Message from Rabbi Karol
Reflections on the Union for Reform Judaism
2013 Biennial (from Rabbi Karol's D'var
Torah on Friday, December 20, 2013)

It's always hard to come back from the Union for Reform Judaism biennial and give you a sense of what it was really like.

Unlike past decades, though, you can go on line to see you tube videos (on the YouTube channel URJWeb) of many of the major programs and services at Biennial 2013 held in San Diego, California. The Friday night song session for which our son Adam (see photo of Adam and me!) and I were on stage, worship services, the live message via Satellite feed from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and the address by URJ President Rabbi Rick Jacobs are all there and you can watch them at your leisure.

However, what I can tell you about that you won't get on YouTube is the overwhelming sense of awe that comes from sharing worship and Shabbat dinner with 5000 people. I can only describe as amazing the feeling I had during the biennial as I encountered people from every part of my life at every turn: my home Temple and my youth group, my high school: people I knew from the previous congregations I have served: the head of the Reform student group at college; rabbinic school classmates: music colleagues; friends – and family, as I roomed with my brother, Rabbi Steve Karol, and visited my cousin Greg at a booth where he was selling his special t-shirts throughout the convention (see photo with my brother on the right and my cousin). Also, Joel Allan, who grew up at Temple Beth-El (son of Daniel and Simy Allan), was a delegate from Leo Baeck Temple in Los Angeles (see photo).



The sessions I attended were about leadership, the rabbinic-congregational partnership, religious school enhancement, the new High

Holy Day prayerbook *Mishkan Hanefesh*, and engaging people from families with many different backgrounds. I heard former NAACP director Julian Bond speak about how he got started in civil rights activism and how he partnered with American Jews along his journey of advocacy. Mindy Finkelstein, a victim of the Los Angeles North Valley Jewish Community Center shooting in August of 1999, spoke about the need to curb gun violence on a day when there was yet another shooting at a Colorado school, 364 days after the attack at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

There were some central lessons and themes that emerged from the session I attended.

- We were encouraged to assure that religious education for children (and all ages by extension) address the whole person: knowing, believing, living/doing and belonging.
- A panel discussion on the Pew Study "Portrait of Jewish Americans" recommended that our congregations create space where people can show us who they are. We should ask people, one by one, "What moves you?"
- High Holy Day worship (and Shabbat worship as well) should give congregants something to expect and think about, including learning, discussion, and meaningful readings that enable us to explore the themes of that time of introspection.
- What touched me the most was a session led by Cantor Susan Caro and Rabbi Rex Perlmeter about sharing our own stories of challenge, hurt or despair and finding God in the midst of those experiences. We were encouraged to go out and seek God in the varied contexts and moments in our daily lives.

The Torah portion for this week tells how Moses found God in one unexpected moment, even though he almost didn't. Look at the ark doors behind me – that is what the Torah says Moses saw – a bush, likely a simple thornbush, that appeared to be burning. Moses had to look even harder to see that the bush was not turning to cinder – it was still whole. The Torah noted that Moses had to "turn aside" to see this wondrous sight. Earlier, says the Midrash, Moses had to turn aside to bring a stray sheep back to the flock. It was that act of concern and compassion that demonstrated to God that Moses would be an appropriate leader for the Israelites.

Wonder, concern, compassion, and the willingness to "turn aside" can bring us back to God – to recognize the Oneness that links all of us together and which is always available to us as a source of strength. The people that we see from our past at any time, not just at a convention, with whom we have shared pivotal experiences, can signify for us not just that they were there with us in our lives, but that God was there as well, in our times of challenge and our moments of celebration.

In his session on engaging all types of Jewish families, Rabbi Kerry Olitzky quoted the last line of the liturgical hymn Adon Olam: "Adonai Li V'lo Ira - God is mine, I will not fear." In a congregational community, we can be present for one another as a source of strength and support, so that "we will not fear," but, rather, we will move forward with a sense of confidence and hope.

That feeling of connectedness and fellowship is an essential part of the energy that emerges from the Union for Reform Judaism biennial and from any time we gather together at Temple Beth-El. I look forward to seeing you soon as we continue to sustain our own special communal spirit!

L'shalom,

Rabbi Larry K.

See rabbilarrykarol.blogspot.com—Rabbi Karol's blog featuring Divrei Torah from recent Friday night services.



President's Message

I forgot how many meetings this job entails, but I am so fortunate to be working with people who are willing to put so much time in, for the sake of our congregation.

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for us again to have a hand-held directory. For those who do not yet have one, they are available in the office. If you are not able to pick one up, please let us know and we will get one to you.

Thank you to those who purchased a leaf or leaves for the Tree of Life. Even though the sale is over, the leaves will continue to be something that can be purchased to honor or thank someone etc. in the future. Please keep the Tree of Life in mind.

Shortly, you will be receiving an envelope with 2 important messages. One is a commitment form for the purchase of bricks for our brick path. Michael Mandel came up with the idea for a trifold brochure and Bob Kimball went forth and designed a great brochure for us. The board decided to start this way to make sure we are committed to purchase enough bricks to make the project viable. I hope that you will find the time to consider this seriously and return the form to the temple, so that we can follow through with phase one. Our committee has been working hard to make this project possible.

The other message in the envelope is an invitation by your Board of Trustees to a Shabbat dinner on Friday, January 31st. It will be held before the 7:30 evening service. We hope you

will be able to join us for this get together. It's necessary to RSVP, as this will be a sit down dinner served by your Temple Board of Trustees.

Bob Kimball and I had the privilege of meeting Rabbi and Rhonda's son Adam in December. He showed us some sites for web pages that other congregations are using. They are user-friendly and have great potential for keeping us updated on the ongoing and special events at the Temple.

Your temple board voted to bestow honorary membership status to David and Vivian Steinborn for their tremendous support of the temple.

I hope the new year brings you good health and wisdom to meet the challenges that life brings us. I look forward to continue working with so many dedicated people.

Thank you,
Dee Cook

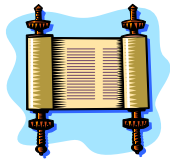
Rabbi Karol will be joining Rhonda and her family in St. Louis on January 2-7 following the death of Rhonda's mother. In case of any urgent concerns, please contact Dee Cook at 521-7319.



As seen on the large video screen in the front of the convention hall, Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President of the Union for Reform Judaism, spoke to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (via Satellite Feed) at the URJ Biennial in San Diego on December 15. The Prime Minister addressed the assembled delegates a few moments later.

ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs



TANAKH STUDY

Led by Rabbi Larry Karol
on Wednesdays at 10:15-11:30 am

TALMUD STUDY

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



Sweet Songs: A Journey into the Book of Psalms

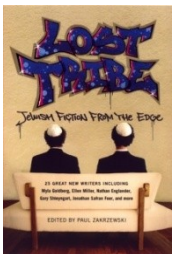
Meeting on Monday nights
January 13 and 27 at 7:00 pm
and continuing on selected Mondays
throughout the coming months.

Please let Rabbi Karol know if you plan to attend by email (rabbi@tblc.org) or by calling Temple.

Attention Temple Beth-El fiction lovers:

You are invited to join us for our weekly short-story discussion group starting **Monday, Jan. 27 at 10 a.m.** in the social hall and continuing each **Monday in February** at the same time. I have selected as our book *Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction from the Edge*, edited by Paul Zakrzewski. It includes 25 stories from contemporary writers, some of whom are familiar to me and others who are not. While my head is still spinning from the wealth of stuff out there, I decided that a Jewish-American anthology is the way to go this time, exposing us to different writers' styles. I was especially impressed by this editor's thoughtful approach to choosing authors and themes, which, by the way, he explains in great detail in an introduction to the collection. The book is widely available only in **paperback** in all the usual places. So, if you are interested (or have any questions) please send me an email at jar529@gmail.com or call me at 522-6478 so that I can include you on the group's mailing list. I will send out a note with our first reading assignment in a few weeks. As always, this discussion group is sponsored by the temple's Adult Education Committee and participants are asked to make an \$18 contribution to the temple to help support future programs.

Jim Rosenthal



Aging with Grace

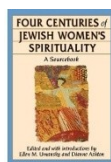
On Sunday, December 15, the Social Hall of Temple Beth-El was humming with the happy chatter of about seventy women who had come to learn about a book *The Privilege of Aging: Portraits of Twelve Jewish Women*, describing the lives of twelve Jewish women beyond the age of seventy-five, about their experiences, and lessons learned. Visitors included Sisterhood members from Congregation B'nai Zion and Temple Mount Sinai in El Paso and attendees from the general community. In addition to "introducing" some of the grandmothers in her book, the author Patricia Gottlieb Shapiro solicited input from audience members for their answers to some of the most salient questions



related to the passage into old age. Much wisdom was shared, books were sold and autographed, refreshments enjoyed, and hugging and kissing by "Sisters" who had not seen each other in a while was a joyful sight. The crowning event of the afternoon however, was the presence of Bea Klein, who was the subject one of the book's chapters. Bea had not been able to come to the temple for over two months due to surgery and rehabilitation, and it was her first time back. She was happy to once again be in our little Holy Place, looking good with her infectious smile and positive attitude. Her wisdom shone brightly across that beautiful face and it was a lovely Sunday afternoon in the warm glow of Sisterhood.



Monika Kimball



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, zeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu.

Judaism: Roots and Rituals

An Introduction to Judaism

presented by Rabbi Larry Karol - Meeting at 7:00-8:30 pm on January 14, 21 and 28 and February 4, 11 and 25

Text: *Essential Judaism*, by George Robinson

The course has already begun. If you want to enter "midstream," please contact Rabbi Karol (575-524-3380 or rabbi@tblc.org).



Ways and Means Committee

I personally thank Arthur Berkson, Mark Saltman, Michael Stowe, Joshua Rosenberg and Rebecca Berkson for their efforts in orchestrating a successful Golf Tournament. This was the first formal fundraising event of 2013-2014 and \$5,000 toward our \$30,000 goal. Their efforts are applauded!!! This was a huge commitment to Temple Beth-El and the Jewish presence in our community. Please thank them personally when you have the opportunity to do so.

Thank you to those who purchased leaves for the Tree of Life in recent weeks. Please consider this act of Tzedakah for Temple Beth-El. A leaf on the Tree of Life can honor a mitzvah or create words of remembrance for family and friends. Friends of Temple Beth-El also are encouraged to purchase leaves in support of Temple Beth-El. Some other ideas: Sunday school classes, bar/bat mitzvah classes/ individuals, in honor of graduations, births, new jobs, new homes, awards...be creative. Look for information about our April Jewish Food and Folk Festival and answer the call when the committee approaches you for support.



I hope that your Chanukah was special and that you enjoy a safe, healthy, happy 2014.

Elissa Poel

Chair, Ways and Means

Thank you to our Oneg Shabbat sponsors in December:

December 13 Jim Rosenthal

December 20 Terri Sugarman

December 27 Lynn Zeemont and Michele Blum

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.



SAVE THE DATE

And lend a hand!

Temple Beth-El's

first

Jewish

Food and Folk

Festival

will be on

April 6, 2014

from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We are working to make this a successful and memorable event, and we still need help in many areas, including:

- Ads, Silent Auction Items, or Sponsorships: please help us by asking businesses you frequent if they would sponsor our event. We have sponsorship packages explaining the different sponsorship levels.
- Food
- Ticket Sales
- Volunteers: We will need many hands the day of the event!

If you would like to help, please contact event chairs Rebecca Berkson and/or Aggie Saltman. Thank you and we look forward to pioneering this new event with you!

Temple Beth-El is on Facebook!

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

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



Chanukah at Temple Beth-El on Friday, November 29 (Night #3) and Wednesday, December 4 (Night #8)



The Christmas Morning Breakfast at Community of Hope was a huge success and the credit for the success goes to many people who donated food, money and time and showed up at 7 AM to help serve and mingle with the Camp Residents. Residents came up to many of us and hugged us and thanked us which truly warms my heart. Rabbi Larry and Rhonda were a huge part of promoting the event and spreading the word of what we needed. They both came to the event, Rabbi played his guitar and entertained and talked with residents while Rhonda was greatly involved with organizing and helping to coordinate the food service.

Many thank you's to all of the following people who donated food, money and time: Elissa and Marty Poel, Gerie Muchnikoff, Nancy Rushforth, Marianne Rosenthal, Shelly and Jerry Silverman, Irv and Barbara Ross, Allen Blum, Dave Zeemont, Nancy Rosen, Allen and Eve Palanker, Aida Samaniego and her children, Melissa Miller and her children, Matt Mercier, Bill the

Camp Manager, Diane and Stuart Fleishman, Susan and Pat Fitzgerald, and Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol for so much support, and Nicole Martinez, Executive Director, who supported the event from the get-go. And a huge thank you to my amazing husband Tom Olson, who patiently suffered through all of the planning to make the event a success, who generously donated and then made egg bake dishes with me into the wee hours of the morning on Christmas Day.

As we all know, these events are truly an example of a team effort. Thank you all again for your generous mitzvot to the homeless of our community. They greatly appreciate Temple Beth El.

L'Shalom,

Liz Lewis-Olson



New Members:

Nan Rubin, Ned Rubin and Francine Feinberg

Nan Rubin

I moved to Las Cruces at the beginning of October 2013 from New York City, where I lived for almost 25 years in Northern Manhattan. (Before that I lived in Denver and Washington DC.) I was diagnosed with MS in 2005, and as my mobility declined, it became harder and harder for me to get by in the city. My brother Ned (Rubin) and sister-in-law Francine (Feinberg) bought their house here with the specific plan that I would join them, so after they moved here in July, I followed a short time later.

Professionally, I've been a community media activist and consultant for more than 35 years, working with groups all around the country supporting community-based media projects and promoting progressive telecommunications policy. I built 2 community radio stations from scratch (KUVO in Denver and WAIF in Cincinnati) and was a founder of several national and international community radio organizations.

I've been deeply involved with promoting ethnic and minority public media projects, in particular Native radio, and I've also been instrumental in helping create the contemporary media reform movement and establishing a growing national network of media justice organizations.

In 2002, I started managing a sizable project for the Library of Congress to preserve digital public television programs, and it also involved working with a European team based in Paris and Amsterdam. This immersed me in the technology and access issues of digital libraries, and I am still actively working with clients in community media and digital archives in both the US and Europe.

Politically, I've been committed to social justice since I was in junior high school (a close friend in HS was Jeff Zinn, Howard's son) and have used that value to express my Judaism, first as the head of the New Jewish Agenda chapter in Denver, and then as a Founder and long-term Board Member of Jews for Racial and Economic Justice in New York City. (We started JFREJ in part to welcome Nelson Mandela to New York when he came in 1990.)

Personally, although most of my media organizing has been focused on operations and infrastructure, I have also enjoyed occasional radio production projects. While producing the hugely popular 3-part radio series *"The Hidden Jews of New Mexico"* heard on NPR, I developed an avid interest in me-



Left to Right: Francine Feinberg, Nan Rubin and Ned Rubin

dieval Jewish history and started making papercuts. (I almost appeared on the Martha Stewart Show to demonstrate papercutting, but my appearance was cancelled when she went to jail!). Also, as a member of the small volunteer group that produces *"Beyond the Pale"*, a weekly program on progressive Jewish politics and culture sponsored by JFREJ and aired each Sunday on WBAI, New York's Pacifica radio station, I've produced specials on Emma Lazarus and on the Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, plus have had the pleasure of interviewing Art Spiegelman, Grace Paley, Jules Pfeiffer, Letty Pogrebin, Tony Kushner, Arthur Was-kow, and Suzanne Heschel, among many others.

Through the temple I hope to plug into local social justice issues, and discussions around strengthening the Jewish experience outside major Jewish urban areas.

FRANCINE FEINBERG

I was born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island in New York. Strange as it may seem, I actually went to Wisconsin to get a Bachelor's degree in classical ballet. The next thing I knew, I was living in Whitefish Bay, a lovely suburb of Milwaukee, with a husband (Ned Rubin), a daughter who was attending the Milwaukee Jewish Day School, several cats and a doctorate in psychology. As a psychologist, my area of interest is women and gender differences and inequity. My specialty is women and substance abuse as well as its impact on their children.

For 29 years, I was the Executive Director of a non-profit comprehensive residential and out-patient program, where I developed very successful programs for women with substance use disorders and their children. The triumphs of this program led me to achieve several national appointments and opportunities to consult with and publish manuals on behalf of the U.S. federal government's Office of National Drug Control Policy and Health and Human services as well as and governments in other countries. Now in retirement, I still do some work for the U.S. government as well as consult with other agencies regarding gender, substance abuse and mental health and programming.

Our daughter is a speech and language pathologist and works with autistic children. She is married and lives in Boston, Ned's hometown. We also have an adorable two year old grandson. In all my spare time, I travel to Boston and continue to love (and of course analyze) the performing arts, gymnastics, ice skating, etc. I am also an avid knitter and dabble a bit in the fiber arts. I am looking forward to the much warmer weather here in Las Cruces and traveling to see lots of faraway places.

I haven't yet decided how I will participate in temple activities, but I do tend to lean toward social action types of opportunities especially those that have implications for women and girls.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

ISRAEL UPDATE**Year-end Look at the Israel-Palestinian****Peace Process**

by Phil Alkon

We're now more than one-third of the way into the nine-month Israel-Palestinian peace process promulgated and doggedly pursued by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. Despite the initial reluctance of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) to enter the fray, and near-universal doubt by Middle East "experts" of all stripes for its success, Kerry did manage to get the parties together, and now has them seriously wrestling with the full array of thorny and divisive "core" issues. Because the parties wisely resolved to avoid public commentary on on-going negotiations, it's difficult to know what is being dealt with and how much progress is being made. The U.S. and Israel are staying mum; and public utterances from Palestinian sources - often of "the sky is falling" variety - are belied by the PA's continued participation in the process.

So how do we assess what is actually happening in the negotiations themselves? I previously suggested that we focus on two keystone issues. The first concerns Israel's security needs in the event of an independent Palestine, especially along the Rift Valley section that would comprise Palestine's eastern border with Jordan. Israel must prevent this narrow but strategic zone from serving as an entryway to invading Arab armies or to smuggled weaponry by terrorist groups, *a la* Hamas in Gaza. Because the Palestinians will not accept an Israeli-only security force within their future domain, how is border integrity to be assured? Enter Kerry's security team, led by four-star Marine general John Allan, former deputy head of the U.S. Central Command, and a military "superstar" very familiar with the Middle East and widely respected by the IDF. Kerry has charged General Allen's team with developing innovative, realistic measures that will assure Israel's long-term security needs in any peace agreement with the Palestinians. We'll see what Kerry and his team come up with. It is clear that Kerry considers Israel's security a bedrock component of any peace settlement.

A second keystone issue pertains to the Palestinian leadership's inability to accept the legitimacy of a Jewish homeland in Eretz Yisrael. This reflects a widespread Arab worldview that only Muslim Arabs are entitled to national sovereignty in the Middle East. Notwithstanding the great ethnic, racial, religious and cultural diversity of the Arabian Peninsula and North Africa, Israel is the only non-Arab Moslem state in the

region. Accepting of Israeli sovereignty may be especially hard for Palestinian Arabs because a) an Arab Palestinian state never existed, b) the Jews have a verifiable national history in Palestine, and c) modern Jews have created the only civil and democratic state in the region.

Now that Israel actually exists and thrives, the PA leadership has responded by falsifying history to its own people and by discrediting Israel's legitimacy throughout the world. One might ask: "How can Israel trust a settlement with 'peace partners' that deny it's right to exist in the first place?" Conversely, "how can the PA, in good faith with entrenched Arab sensibilities, even think of accepting Israel as a legitimate partner for peace?" Something has to give.

I have long hoped for any evidence that, after 100 years of futile opposition, Palestinian leaders are finally capable of accepting Israel (and Jews) as legitimate partner(s) for peace. My prayers may have been answered. Only last week, in response to a reporter's question, President Mahmoud Abbas of the PA stated in public that he opposes the anti-Israel boycott movement, an incredible revelation by the leader of the organization that practically invented the idea. Abbas did exempt products from Jewish settlements in the "occupied" West Bank from his blessing. But if he intended his anti-boycott message to be heard, Abbas may be signaling a significant moderation in the PA's public stance towards Israel. That in turn, may reflect some real progress along the peace negotiation track. Is Abbas beginning to prepare his people for peace?

Several other related events also may bode well for the New Year. First, Saeb Erekat, chief Palestinian negotiator, publically opined that an "initial framework agreement" for peace would be attained by the April deadline, and that further negotiations for a full peace agreement were acceptable to the PA. This "out of the blue declaration" is the first public hint of a likely peace deal from the Palestinian side. Second, an Arab League source reports that Secretary Kerry will submit a proposed peace treaty to the parties by Dec. 31st. That item, published by a Palestinian news agency, also identifies seven key issues supposedly addressed in the Kerry plan. Third, a recent spate of attacks on Jewish targets in Israel is being attributed to Palestinian elements intent on disrupting looming peace prospects. (A typical Middle East "bad news-good news" story.) Finally, the EU has promised substantial economic aid to both Israel and Palestine in the event of a peace treaty. Hang on. The winds of change may be a blowin'.

NEW MEMBERS—Continued from Page 8**NED RUBIN**

Originally from the Boston area, where I grew up and attended high school, I left home after graduation to attend college in the midwest, at Lake Forest University. Upon graduation, I moved to Milwaukee, WI to attend Marquette University for graduate school. I got an M.S. in clinical psychology, working for a while for Jewish Vocational Services. I then returned to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, obtaining my MSW. After working for a while at a large addiction treatment program, I returned to school again to obtain my Psy.D. in clinical psychology. I continued to work for DePaul Hospital during this time, ending my employment there as director of the Impaired Professionals program and Inpatient clinical supervisor.

I then worked for Jewish Family Services for several years as their addiction specialist, and for the past 20+ years, prior to my retirement, I worked for Aurora Healthcare, in Milwaukee, as both an addiction specialist and a health psychologist. I also had a teaching appointment to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Francine and I decided to move to Las Cruces for a number of reasons. We both had gotten REALLY tired of the cold weather (I hated having to plug my car into the outlet to assure my that it would start in the morning, when the temperature dropped below 0 degrees at night!). Las Cruces had been well represented in a number of articles about places to retire, and we also knew we wanted to live with my sister, Nan (about whom you can read on Page 8). Her medical needs require certain architectural accommodations and southwest architecture is perfect for that (e.g., everything is on one floor). So, what brought us here is BOTH retirement and family. Our daughter and two year old grandson live in the Boston area.

Although it was difficult to do, I tried to become a regular, outdoor bicycle rider in Wisconsin. For me, it was only possible about four or so months of the year. Since moving here, I have been able to ride several times/week up to about a week or so ago. So, that has been wonderful for me. Now, that it is colder, I have started spinning...OY! I am also an avid reader of science fiction and have just recently discovered Jason Hough. I sometimes sneak a read of David Baldacci, as well. I am interested in computers, too. I am currently licensed as a psychologist in New Mexico, and have done a great deal of teaching, writing, supervision, consultation and training in the past, as well as therapy. I am interested in perhaps pursuing some of these things, but not seeing patients again.

I am not sure about that, yet, although I must say that the last synagogue to which we belonged had over 1,200 families and the size of Beth-El certainly seems "haimish" to me.

I was having lunch in the cafeteria of the hospital where I worked, Aurora Sinai Medical Center, just before I retired. I looked up to see the cantor of my synagogue, Karen Berman, standing there, and coming to say "Hello." We schmoozed a few minutes and I told her of my plans to retire and move to Las Cruces. She suddenly smiled broadly and told me that she knew Larry Karol, as they had worked on some musical projects together at a conference that they had both attended. She insisted I give him my regards, so, Rabbi Karol, warm regards from Karen Berman in cold, cold Milwaukee.

Ongoing Events at TBE**WEEKLY TEMPLE BREAKFAST**

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

**MENSCH CLUB**

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

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

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THE CHESED GROUP

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

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

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

Ladies Clothing Contributions for La Tienda de Jardin

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

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

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

Congratulations to:

- Adam Karol, son of Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol, on his recent engagement to Juliana Schnur, daughter of Steven and Nancie Schnur (of Scarsdale, New York).
- Bea Klein, on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Avery Marie Klein, on July 20. The proud parents are Adam and Michelle Klein of Oceanside, California.

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

The food for January

for Casa de Peregrinos is

spaghetti sauce and tomato sauce

Foods for January for El Caldito are

**Tuna fish, rice, pasta and peas. El Caldito also needs
jars with lids and plastic bags.**

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

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

The Candle Blessing Project

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OF REFORM JUDAISM

**“The Candle Blessing Project”**

Rabbi Karol's voice is one of 66 featured on Nashville-based Jewish singer/songwriter Stacy Beyer's "Candle Blessing Project." Proceeds from this CD and digital sales will support the URJ's Religious Action Center in Washington, DC. Stacy invited Jewish singers from around the country to send her vocal tracks to add to the recording. On Wednesday, December 11, at the opening of the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial 2013, some of the featured singers gathered to perform the song live with Stacy Beyer. Left to right in the foreground of the photo below are: Rabbi Larry Karol, Todd Herzog, Rick Recht, Stacy Beyer, Julie Silver, Steve Dropkin, Susan Colin and Judy Caplan Ginsburgh. The song is available as a digital download at www.urjbooksandmusic.com.



Donations through December 24, 2013

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Joseph Bell, in memory of Toma Marie Garner Bell
- Leslee Alexander, thank you to Rabbi Karol
- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood
- Alexander & Katherine Fernald, thank you to Rabbi Karol
- Abraham & Amy Fiszbein, in memory of Aron Fiszbein (Abraham's father) and George Gorelick (Amy's father)
- Irv & Barbara Ross, in memory of Sam Ross

Temple Beth-El Religious School

- Selda Steckler, in honor of Bea Klein becoming a great-grandmother

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane Adult Education Fund

- Lynn Zeemont, in memory of Evelyn Roselinsky

General Donations

- Patrick and Susan Quinn, in memory of James and Dorothy Quinn and Sidney and Florence Kaye
- Frima and Ramon Marquez, in memory of Lenore Snyder Gross
- Joan Glickler, in memory of Joel Glicker and Michele Murdoch
- Ann Hansen, in honor of Bea Klein and in memory of Emily Cohen and Dell Zuckerman
- Grace Hammesfahr, in honor of Nina & Irv Rothman
- Ann Hansen, in honor of Mel Taylor
- Deana Kessin, in memory of Ken Kessin
- Helen Gluck, in memory of Morris Gluck
- Dee Cook, for support for our Temple Directory
- Louise Baskey, in memory of Jay Feldman
- Lester Frank, in support of Temple Beth-El
- Allen & Eve Palanker, in memory of Dorothy & Edward Palanker
- Allen & Eve Palanker, in support of Temple Beth-El's effort at Camp Hope
- Deborah Levy, in memory of her grandparents, Lillian & Charles Klein
- Jane Grider, in memory of Barbara Siegel
- Diane & Harry Bass, in memory of Sylvia & Edward Weiss
- Michele & Allen Blum, in memory of Miriam Cutler, Michele's mother; Harry Segal, Michele's grandfather; and Joseph Tashlik, Allen's grandfather.
- Linda McPherson, in memory of Estelle Stern

Tree of Life Donors (there will be a complete listing of those honored and remembered in a future Adelante)

Allen and Michele Blum; Ann and Burt Berkson;
Sue Brown, Marieka Brown, Jeanne Abkes, Kaila and Liana Brown; Ron and Pearie Bruder; Dee Cook;
Emily Cohen's Mahj group; Ann Hansen;
Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol; Bob and Monika Kimball;
Bernice Langner; Tom Olson and Liz Lewis-Olson;
Marty and Elissa Poel; Nina and Irv Rothman;
Julie Seton; and Terri Sugarman.

From the Treasurer

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

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

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

Fund 2004—For upkeep on our new building.

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



Send a Kid to Israel Program (S.K.I.P. Fund)—To send Temple youth to Israel.
Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund—To provide a Jewish education for our children. Earnings from this fund are used mainly to offset the cost of operating our Religious School.

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

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

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

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

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



Memorial plaques honor the memory of loved ones who have died. A plaque can be purchased for \$300 (\$450 for those who are not Temple members). We read in perpetuity on our yahrzeit list the names of loved ones remembered with a memorial plaque.

JANUARY 2014 (TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR I 5774)

**Yahrzeits-December 29, 2013 through
February 1, 2014**

Read on Friday, January 3 and

Saturday, January 4

Miriam Cutler, Mother of Michele Blum
Shmuel Farkas*, Father of Yosef Lapid
Hazel Fischlein, Mother of Shirley Ipsen
Herman B. Golden, Father of Darlene Goldberg
Henry Greenberg, Uncle of Cyrille Kane
Pearl Greenfield Higgins*
Eva Isaacson, Mother of Louise Feldman-Baskey
Phyllis Orner Chonoles*
Evelyn Roselinsky, Mother of Lynn Zeemont
Joseph Tashlik, Grandfather of Allen Blum
Barbara Yalkut*

Read on Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11

Elaine Brown*, Mother of Jeff Brown
Richard Garner, Father of Carrie Swartz
Harris B. Libby, Father of Robert Libby
Jesse J Muchnikoff, Father of Stan Muchnikoff
Irene Neidich*, Wife of Ezra Neidich
Edward Schoenbrun*
Stanley Skigen*, Father of Michelle Skigen
Jean Taylor, Mother of Mel Taylor
Leah Williamson, Mother of Barbara Mandel

Read on Friday, January 17 and Saturday, January 18

Clinton Cook*, Husband of Dee Cook
Lola Davis*
Jennie Davison*
Harold Alvin Dresser, Father of Andrea Dresser Fisher
Susan Friedman, Cousin of Stefani Singer
William Friedman, Grandfather of Stefani Singer
Zeena Audrae Geller, Mother of Ruth Rubin
Janet Kane, Mother of Rabbi Gerald Kane
Warren Klein, Father of Debbie Levy
David Kloss*
Isaac Kruger, Father of Chuck Kruger
Hesh Langner, Husband of Bernice Langner
Ethel Paul*
Edward F Resnick*, Brother of Frances Williams
William Stein, Father of Bill Stein
Arthur Stern*, Father of Ann Berkson, Grandfather of Arthur Berkson

Read on Friday, January 24 and Saturday, January 25

Marilyn Chaifetz
Alexander Edwards*, Brother of Peter Edwards
Lillie Friedman, Aunt of Stefani Singer
Wade W Gardner, Father of Brenda Parish
Raphael Gordon, Father of Dave Zeemont
Samuel Klein*, Father of Sonny Klein, Father-in-law of Rosie Klein and Bea Klein
Benjamin Lampert*, Father of Gabriel Lampert

Harold Rabinovitch, Father of David Rabinovich
Samuel Rabkin*
Christine Radcliff*
Rose Segreto, Mother of Vera Schwartz
Dr Edward Weiss*, Father of Diane Bass
Milton Zeemont, Step-father of Dave Zeemont

Read on Friday, January 31 and Saturday, February 1

Shimson Alkon, Father of Philip Alkon
Shirley Backman, Mother of Judy Kirschner
Jeanne Brancato, Partner of Joseph Bell
Ruth N. Brooks*, Mother of Sharon Dorfman
Henrietta Bruder*, Cousin of Murray Bruder and Ron Bruder (and families)
George Cohen*, Father of Susan Brown, Grandfather of Marieka Brown and Jeanne Abkes
Louis Druxman*
Clifford Evans Sr., Grandfather of Dia Taylor
Margaret Gantert, Grandmother of Susi Kolikant
Rita Herman, Mother of Avis Herman Lewis
Bella Krushen*
Yetta Resnick*, Mother of Frances Williams
Charlotte Schwartz*
Sonia Seigel*
Dee Seton Barber*, Mother of Julie Seton
Reba Tapper, Mother of Dan Tapper
Roxy Violin, Uncle of Stefani Singer

The Temple Beth-El family extends condolences to:

Frima Marquez and family, on the death of her brother, Alvin Krasner, in Burbank, California on December 19.

Ellen Torres and Rick Deutschman, on the death of their father, Jerry Deutschman, on December 25 in Las Cruces.

Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol, on the death of Rhonda's mother, Jeanette Marks, on December 30 in St. Louis, Missouri.

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.



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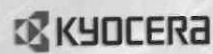
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JANUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Tevet 29 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	Shevat 1 2	Shevat 2 3 Family Shabbat Service—5:45 pm Potluck Dinner Following	Shevat 3 4 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 4 5 No Religious School	Shevat 5 6	Shevat 6 7 Knitting Group 10:15 am	Shevat 7 8 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Hebrew 4:45 pm	Shevat 8 9	Shevat 9 10 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Shevat 10 11 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 11 12 Religious School 9:00 am Adult Education 2:00 PM “World of Sholom Aleichem”	Shevat 12 13 Sweet Songs: A Journey into the Book of Psalms 7:00 pm	Shevat 13 14 Knitting Group 10:15 am Judaism: Roots and Rituals 7:00 pm	Shevat 14 15 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Hebrew 4:45 pm TU BISH’VAT SEDER 5:30 PM	Shevat 15 16 Sisterhood Council Meeting 6:30 pm	Shevat 16 17 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Shevat 17 18 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 18 19 NO Religious School Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend	Shevat 19 20 DR, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY	Shevat 20 21 Knitting Group 10:15 am Judaism: Roots and Rituals 7:00 pm	Shevat 21 22 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Hebrew 4:45 pm	Shevat 22 23 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Shevat 23 24 Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Shevat 24 25 NO TALMUD STUDY Ezekiel Swartz Bar Mitzvah 10:00 am
Shevat 25 26 Religious School 9:00 am	Shevat 26 27 Book Group 10:00 am Sweet Songs: A Journey into the Book of Psalms 7:00 pm	Shevat 27 28 Knitting Group 10:15 am Judaism: Roots and Rituals 7:00 pm	Shevat 28 29 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Hebrew 4:45 pm	Shevat 29 30	Shevat 30 31 Congregational Dinner by RSVP 6:00 pm Shabbat Service 7:30 pm	Adar I 1 Feb. 1 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am ROSH CHODESH

Temple Beth-El, Las Cruces, New Mexico JANUARY 2014 (TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR I 5774)

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The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol. Copy Editors: James Rosenthal, Tanah Hemingway, Rabbi Gerald M. Kane. 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**

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

January, 2014



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Las Cruces, NM 88011