



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

JANUARY 2019 (TEVET-SHEVAT 5779)



Shabbat Services (See Page 2)

- Friday, January 4—Family Shabbat service at 6:00 pm, followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner.
- Friday, January 11—Shabbat service at 7:00 pm
- Friday, January 18—Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm
- Friday, January 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

A NIGHT AT THE AUCTION Saturday, January 26, 2019 6:00-9:00 PM

- Expand your social life!
- Learn something new!
 - Develop skills!
 - Share your talents!
- Treat yourself to something special!
 - Make new friends!

Join us for an amazing evening of fun,
good food and unique happenings.

Everyone is invited!

Childcare will be provided.

RSVP Requested! Please e-mail

Cheryl Decker at

doubledeckerohio@msn.com

or Dee Cook at cookdee72@gmail.com

with your numbers of how many will attend.

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Cheryl Decker, Joanne Turnbull
and Dee Cook*



We will gather for
our Tu Bish'vat
Seder on
Sunday,
January 27 at
11:30 am (during
Religious School).

All are welcome!

Please respond to rabbi@tblc.org
or call 575-524-3380.

**Save the
date!**
Jewish Food
and Folk
Festival
Sunday,
April 7, 2019
11:00am-
3:00 pm



Jewish Federation®
OF GREATER EL PASO

Presents

After Pittsburgh... What We Need to Know

A Town Hall Q&A with
Secure Connect Network CEO, Michael Masters

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019 - 7:00 PM | Temple Beth El

or

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2019 - 7:30 PM | Congregation Bnai Zion

RSVP @ JewishElPaso.org/TownHall by Tuesday, Jan. 22



Worship Schedule

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

Friday, January 4 –FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES.

Luke Duddridge will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:50 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner..

Wendee Lorbeer and Cheryl Decker will coordinate the dinner.

Saturday, January 5

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service & Potluck Kiddush

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

Haftarah Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Friday, January 11

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on “Leadership in Challenging Times.” *An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service, sponsored by Cherri Hudson-Brown and Cheryl Decker. Jeff Brown will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 12

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat morning Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Bo Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah Jeremiah 46:13-28

Friday, January 18

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will speak on, “Do We Have A Dream? - What We Can Learn from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.” *An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service, sponsored by Ann Berkson and Dee Cook. Dee Cook will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 19

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service & Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah Judges 4:4-5:31

Friday, January 25

7:00 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit, including prayers and music for healing and renewal. *An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service, sponsored by Cheryl Decker. Dee Cook will represent the Board of Trustees.*

Saturday, January 26

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat morning service & Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Yitro Exodus 18:1-20:23

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

Sunday, January 27

11:30 am 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. This will be sponsored by the Religious School (which will meet at its regular time that morning).

Friday, February 1 –FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES.

Pearie Bruder will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:50 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner.

Saturday, February 2

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service & Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Mishpatim Exodus 21:1-24:18

Haftarah Jeremiah 34:8-22; 33: 25-26

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018-2019

President-Ellen Torres

Vice-President-Jeff Lewis

Secretary– Jeff Brown

Treasurer– Michael Mandel

Pearie Bruder Cheryl Decker Luke Duddridge

Diane Fleishman Ned Rubin

Ruth Rubin Joanne Turnbull

Art Lorbeer (Mensch Club)

Dee Cook (Sisterhood)

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol

**The next Board Meeting will be held
at 7:00 pm on**

Thursday, January 17, 2019



Message from Rabbi Karol
Listen...for the Oneness

Eternal God,
 I declared again that you are One
 as I prepared for worship with my
 congregation on this coming Shabbat.
 The Torah asks several times,

in the book of Deuteronomy,
 for "Israel" to listen.

I am Israel. I am one among many who are Israel.

I am Israel because my ancestry
 is filled with generations
 of members of the Jewish people.

I am Israel because I am a struggler with You
 as I look upon a world that does not always reflect
 the relationships You want us to develop,
 and the love You want us to extend to one another.
 And I am listening.

I hear words that direct me to love You
 and to love my fellow human beings.

I hear voices that cry for help and support.

I hear cries for freedom and
 desperate prayers that call for an end
 to oppression and hatred.

I hear the sounds of my own community in prayer
 singing together

Shema Yisrael: Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad.

No matter what the melody may be,
 this declaration guides me.

I call You our God, our YUD-HAY-VAV-HAY
 because I believe that the letters in Your name
 speak to the very essence of our existence:
 BEING and BREATH.

The root word of Your name
 means "is, was, will be": EXISTENCE.

The letters themselves
 can all be vowels that are quiet, even silent.
 When spoken, they are like breathing,
 expressing the self-contained rhythm
 of our individual lives,
 a rhythm which sustains all of us,
 connecting us within a Oneness
 that encompasses us all.

That Oneness is You.

Some say that only You are real
 and that we are actually inside of You.

Others say that You are an Intrinsic Presence
 inside and outside each of us,
 binding everything together

in ways which we recognize best
 only when we close our eyes,
 because we see only difference and division
 when our eyes are open.

We often forget that,
 when we say You are One,
 we are professing connectedness
 between one human being and another
 and affirming our collective presence
 in this world where we find ourselves,
 trying to coexist in ways
 that will prevent hurt and destruction.

Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad
 is an admission that we have a responsibility to
 reflect and practice, in all that we do,
 Your love, Your care, and Your compassion
 as we walk through our daily journey.

Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad
 demands of us not to shut each other out.

It challenges us to find paths to understanding,
 to turn conflict into cooperation,
 and to discover new ways to forge partnerships
 that will truly make us one as You are One.

Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad
 is a phrase that I have been saying and singing,
 Eternal One, from my youngest days until now.

The sounds of many voices singing these words
 as if they were one voice

stirs my soul

and reminds me that we have it within ourselves
 to truly connect with one another,
 to know one another,
 and to accept one another
 once and for all.

Be with us, Eternal, our God,
 in whom we are One,
 as we strive to create among us
 some measure of the Unity
 that is You.

L'shalom,
Rabbi Larry K.

*See rabbilarrykarol.blogspot.com for Rabbi Karol's
 articles, Divrei Torah and sermons.*

Rabbi Karol plans to attend the convention of the
 Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis on January 6-10, 2019
 in Palm Springs, California. In case of any urgent concerns
 during that time, please contact Ellen Torres at 510-676-3211.



Words of the President: Divrei HaNasi
Our Fabulous Events Highlight the
Importance of Community Engagement
Matzo Ball Open Golf Tournament

We were thrilled to present our selected charity, Mesilla Valley Hospice, with \$1,000 from the proceeds of our very successful 6th annual 2018 MBO Golf Tournament. Thank you to chair

Lynn Zeemont and the MBO committee of Dave Zeemont, Michael Mandel, Dee Cook, Ann Berkson, and volunteers Phil Alkon, Cheryl & Dave Decker, and Fred Torres, for all their hard work and dedication! This fabulous event underscores the importance of **community engagement**. Thank you also to Picacho Hills Country Club for their awesome job of decorating, preparing a delicious dinner, and providing us with such great staff support throughout the event.

Pastrami Booth at the Renaissance Faire

Thank you to the Pastrami Booth Coordinators, Dave Zeemont, Jeff & Avis Lewis, Michael Mandel, Dave Decker, and the entire Mensch Club and our Temple family of volunteers for again making this event a successful fundraiser and a great way to strengthen our **community engagement** here in Las Cruces at the 2018 Renaissance Faire. We again partnered with the Center for Spiritual Living, our Saturday partners, who also helped to make this fundraiser and **community effort** very worthwhile.

More Community Engagement
at our 4th Annual Interfaith Conversation

Thank you to Rabbi Larry Karol for organizing and hosting our well-attended 4th annual Interfaith Conversation, held on Sunday, November 18, and sponsored by the Social Action/Adult Education Committee. The title for the program was, "With Liberty and Justice for All—Leadership, Justice, and Unity: What Can We Achieve Together?" The Rabbi invited clergy and leaders in our local faith community to share their perspectives for this program, which was attended by 65 TBE and community members. This event provided a phenomenal opportunity for **community engagement** among members of temple and the Las Cruces interfaith community. In our discussions, we note that collaboration and cooperation are not only about being in agreement, but rather, about the desire to be together. These discussions definitely underscored the importance of how **community engagement** helps to bring us together to collaborate, communicate, and to enrich our friendships and our lives.

Chanukah Shabbat Was Fabulous!

We again enjoyed a beautiful, delicious Chanukah Family Shabbat Latke Dinner, Service, Menorah/Chanukiah lighting, and Dreidels & Dessert Oneg Shabbat on Friday, December 7, that brought out a large number of our congregants and friends for a fabulous night of **community engagement** and warmth. This annual event is a highlight in our Temple Beth-El traditions. Thank you to all who brought latkes, various dinner items, and delicious desserts!

Presentation on the Jewish Federation General Assembly
in Tel Aviv by Monika Kimball

We thank Monika Kimball for presenting information during our Shabbat service on Friday, December 14 about her October trip to Israel, where she participated in the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America in Tel Aviv. As one of our representatives to the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso's Board,

along with Bill Stein, Monika was selected to attend this special conference that took place in Israel, due to Israel's 70th Anniversary and the Federation's upcoming 80th anniversary. What a great opportunity she had, and we are thrilled that she was able to attend and share her experiences! Thank you, Monika.

Leadership Styles Workshop—2nd in Our Series

On Sunday, December 16, I facilitated an interactive and informative workshop on the personal styles of leadership in our TBE Social Hall. Thank you to the 25 people who attended and participated. I hope the information was useful and that the structure of the workshop was engaging.

December 25 Breakfast at Camp Hope

Thank you to Susan Fitzgerald for her coordination of this time-honored tradition of spiritual warmth, dedication to those in need, and **community engagement** with those who reside in the Tent City and the staff and people who are serviced by our local Community of Hope. This delicious breakfast is a dedication of the heart. Our participating members get up early on Christmas morning, and in the cold morning temperatures, they prepare and serve a delicious breakfast of eggs, casseroles, breads, fruit, desserts, coffee, and more to many people in need, who appreciate our presence every year. Thank you to our many volunteers who come out and those who can't attend but donate food, money, and warm clothes to our homeless brethren. Thank you also to our Religious School students who created "sweet treat" bags to hand out to the Camp Hope residents.

Please Join Us at the Upcoming and Inspiring
Community Engagement Events Below:

*If you're concerned about our future security,
 please attend this event!*

"After Pittsburgh...What We Need to Know" – Wednesday, January 23, 7:00 pm, TBE—Please attend a Town Hall Question & Answer session with Secure Connect Network CEO, Michael Masters, on Wednesday, January 23 at 7:00 pm at Temple Beth-El. RSVP @ JewishElPaso.org/TownHall by Tuesday, January 22 for the TBE Las Cruces session. This event is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso.

Please Join Us for our New Fundraiser:
"A Night at the Auction"

On January 26, 2019 from 6:00-9:00 pm at the Temple, we hope you will join us for "A Night at the Auction," a new addition to our fundraising efforts, sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Dee Cook, Cheryl Decker, and Joanne Turnbull. For an entry fee of \$5.00, this festive night will include a light supper, entertainment, and two auction opportunities—a silent auction and a live auction—where we will have the chance to bid on an amazing array of events, services, learning opportunities, and some pre-planned party packages. Join us for some fun, **TBE community engagement**, and support a great, innovative fundraising effort!

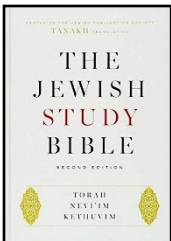
Our Next Leadership Workshop—3rd in Our Series

On Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 2:00 pm in the TBE Social Hall, Sue Brown and Ann Berkson will present a workshop on "Exploring our Temple." This event will be an informative and engaging workshop on the history of Temple Beth-El. Refreshments will be served. Please join us!

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ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs

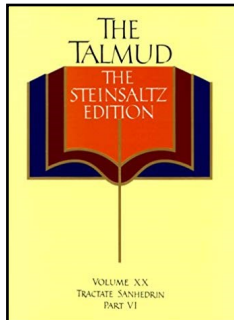


TANAKH STUDY

Sessions meet on Wednesday at 10:15 until 11:15 am. We are now studying the books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

LAY-LED TALMUD STUDY

Talmud study (in English) has been meeting every Saturday at 9:00 am for the past 25 years. New students are always welcome. No previous background or Hebrew knowledge is necessary. Contact Tanah Hemingway (524-4329) or Erich Zameret (ezmrt35@yahoo.com). with any questions. The Saturday morning service immediately follows.



State Representative Joanne Ferrary and State Senator Bill Soules will hold a joint community town hall meeting at Temple Beth-El on Tuesday, January 8, at 6:00-8:00 pm. The public is invited to attend.

Judaism: Roots and Rituals An Introduction to Judaism Course presented by Rabbi Larry Karol.

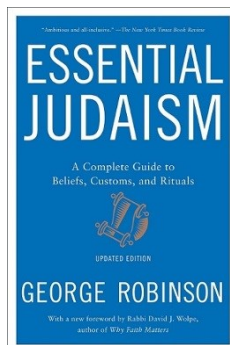
This course meets on selected Tuesday nights at 7:30-9:00 pm.

Planned sessions:

January 15, 22 and 29; February 5, 12, 19 and 26; March 5, 12 and 19 (schedule subject to change)

Text: **Essential Judaism**, by George Robinson (newly revised version).

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



The Social Action/Adult Education committee is planning a series of two community programs on immigration. The first will examine the poem *The New Colossus*, by Emma Lazarus, and Emma Lazarus' personal immigration story, as well as how her poem came to be inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty. This will be presented by Nan Rubin.

The second program will briefly look at the history of immigration into the United States over the past century, and then focus on the various roles and responsibilities of the parts of the immigration system through a panel presentation and discussion. Hold the dates of Wednesday, February 6 and Wednesday, February 13 at 6:30 - 8:30 pm. More details will follow soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 24, 2019

(Tentative date—time to be announced soon)

“What We All Need to Know About Anti-Semitism and Israel”

A Community Forum

Sponsored by the TBE Israel Committee

Sunday, March 10, 2019

2:00-4:00 pm

Dr. Richard Melzer will speak on “The Swastika in New Mexico History and Culture.”

A Very Happy Sixth Night of Chanukah (and Shabbat)—Friday, December 7, 2018



The Standing Committees of Temple Beth-El Social Action and Adult Education Committee

This is the first in an occasional series of articles to introduce and describe the various standing committees of Temple Beth-El. Although a brief description of each committee is provided in the Temple by-laws, it seemed that more detailed information about the makeup and function of each committee might be useful for congregants to be more fully informed about Temple and Board activities.

The material about each of the committees will be provided by the committee chair. If you are interested in joining the committee or would like additional information, the committee chairs' contact information will be included. Here is the list of permanent committees in the Temple Beth-El by-laws:

1. Acquisition, Specific Gifts, and Aesthetics
2. Adult Education
3. Budget
4. Building and Grounds
5. Cemetery
6. Dues
7. Executive
8. History
9. Library
10. Marketing and Public Relations
11. Membership and Outreach
12. Nominating
13. Religious Practices
14. Religious School
15. Security Management
16. Social Action
17. Strategic Planning
18. Technology
19. Ways and Means
20. Youth

This first article is about the combined Social Action and Adult Education committees. These committees were combined earlier this year, as there seemed to be a great deal of overlap between their interests and activities, and we found ourselves often collaborating on sponsored programs. The work of this combined committee addresses educational objectives as well as relevant social action and social justice concerns. Ideas arise from committee members and congregants, and then the committee works on the development of a project or program to address these issues. Projects and programs may be just for the congregation, but are also often open to the entire Las Cruces or Doña Ana community. As an example, earlier this year, the committee, in conjunction with the local NAACP, developed a community-wide program celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, which was attended by about 200 people. During election season, the Temple has become known and respected for the various candidate forums it sponsors. Currently, the committee is working on developing a two-part program about immigration, which will first focus on the immigration and history of Emma Lazarus and her poem, *The New Colossus*, inscribed at the base of the Statue of Liberty. A second part of the program is currently being discussed by the committee.

The committee meetings are open to all, and all are invited to attend. The meeting times and dates vary based on the availabil-

ity of committee members. Currently, we have almost a dozen regular, very active and lively committee members. If you want more information or would like to know the next meeting date, please contact Ned Rubin, committee chair, at erubin47@comcast.net.

Words from the President—Continued from Page 4

The Extraordinary Julie Silver Comes to Temple Beth-El!

On Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at TBE, join us for a sure-to-be outstanding performance by **Julie Silver**, an American Jewish singer/songwriter who has been creating music for three decades, including the release of 8 albums. Julie's work on social justice gives her music a depth of meaning and relevance that is based firmly in Jewish tradition. This event is sponsored by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso. We will probably charge an entrance fee, so be on the lookout for more information. Again, this will be a phenomenal opportunity for **community engagement** with our TBE members, our friends and community partners, and the community at large. Please plan to attend this once in a lifetime opportunity! (Time to be set soon).

Batkin Scholarship Funds for 2019

The Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund at Temple Beth-El will again be available in 2019. Our members can apply for funds for Jewish educational opportunities. Please talk with the Rabbi to find out more about it and to get an application. A total of \$1,280.00 will be available, which is our fund's share of the total distribution. Last year, we were able to give scholarships to three of our religious school students for Jewish educational programs that they wanted to attend. In order to fulfill the mission of this scholarship fund, the foundation must continue to grow its asset base so that the distributions we receive increase. Please consider making contributions to the Batkin Scholarship Fund so that this goal may be accomplished. Our continued support helps direct the earnings of the fund to sustain Jewish life through education and meaningful programming.

"In This Turning: A New Year's Day Meditation"

by Alden Solovy (from Jewish Prayers of Hope and Healing)

Darkness and grace, mourning and thunder
Light and rejoicing, daybreak and open sky
Here I surrender to the chance for love
Your warm breath, your loving hands
The fire in your eyes, the hope in your heart
What gifts wait in this turning
To you, to myself, this joy, this adventure
What gifts wait in this turning
And this yearning, this new year, this new wonder
Let blessings rain down upon me/us from heaven
And let hope settle softly upon this open heart
Let this be the time to sing, to dance, to play
And to delight in another glorious day.

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

Happy New Year! Happy 2019 to All!

***In Sacred Partnership,
Ellen Torres***

A Very Big Thank You! (From Susan Fitzgerald)

Thank you so very much to every one of the Temple Beth El congregants who helped make our 7th Annual Christmas Day Breakfast at Camp Hope an amazing event. Some of you donated food, some gave money, and others gave their skills, presence and voices to make the morning such a success. We had planned to feed 50 and we ended up feeding almost 100. It was nonstop for more than an hour including dealing with electrical outlets that didn't work, runs for additional eggs, plates, plastic implements and for more coffee. The Temple Beth El Carolers provided entertainment and there were lots of conversations with Camp Hope residents. An especially big thank you goes to the organizing committee, Avis and Jeff Lewis, Diane Fleishman, and Rose Jacobs. Thanks as well to Rhonda Karol for coordinating our Religious School students to create posters and gift bags, and to Rabbi Karol for his support. It was gratifying to see so many congregants involved in creating full bellies, warm hearts and warm bodies. It was an effort to be proud of. Until next year!



A Special, Splendid Journey By Monika Kimball

On December 14, 2018, at TBE, I gave a brief summary of my trip to Israel on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso. I wanted to be sure that congregants were informed about the Federation and TBE's association with it, which began when I was president of our temple. The mission of the Federation is to raise funds for Jewish organizations here and abroad. At the service, I mentioned Bill Stein's faithful service on the Federation Board and its Grant Committee, and the fact that I had joined the Board this year and gladly accepted the offer of being a delegate to the **General Assembly, the (GA)** in Tel Aviv in October, along with nine others. Funds for the conference were provided through special grants written for this purpose. The 142 Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) and Canada meet annually to discuss the Israel-Diaspora relationship, and every five years the meeting takes place in Israel. This year, there were about 3000 delegates who met in Tel Aviv "to talk".

I added pre- and post-trip excursions to the convention dates, and explored Tel Aviv, including a Shabbat service at Reform shul Beit Daniel, a congregation of 300 plus families, many of whom attended the service and extended a warm welcome to this stranger. I enjoyed a day trip to the Western Galilee, traveling all the way up to Rosh Hanikra, where Hizbollah tunnels were recently discovered by the IDF, passing date palm orchards and lovely views of the Mediterranean Sea. A post GA trip via public bus service took me to the Eternal City of Jerusalem, where I enjoyed a weeklong stay in Baka, filled with exhilarating walks and moments of discovery. My Jerusalem days took me to Yad Vashem, the City of David, the Kotel (twice), and Shabbat service at Congregation Kol HanesHEMA in Baka. Kol HanesHEMA is a 350 member Reform congregation which was within walking distance of my hotel. Prior to a very spiritual lay led service, several visitors, including myself, were able to ask questions of the leadership. Bottom line, it's not easy being a Reform congregation in Jerusalem. After the service, I had a chance to chat briefly with Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President of the Union for Reform Judaism, who also happened to be visiting, and then it was off to Shabbat dinner at the Kelters (brother and sister-in law of our own Kelter/Zeitlin & Lapid families), who had joined me for the service. My Kotel visits were emotional, as in the past, and I was able to deposit the messages from our Religious School children as well as my own into the few available slots in the outside wall, and the rest, in crevices beneath the wall inside the tunnel during my tour there. Call me crazy, but I then hired a driver who took me to East Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Ramallah, where I enjoyed the best ever Falafel at a downtown food stand. People there were friendly, and despite a lot of schmutz all around they seemed happy and busy with their daily tasks, as I had observed in other Arab countries. To my surprise, I saw an Ashley Furniture store on the main street of town.

Leaving Jerusalem, I visited Masada (no cable car service due to severe winds) and experienced a rare start of waterfalls descending from the mountains, which would eventually flood the roads before emptying into the Dead Sea. Next, Qumran was an interesting place, not only for the history of the Scrolls where scribes had written the books of our bible, but that of the Yahad community and their quest for purity.

GA Conference:

The topic of the conference was ISRAEL and the DIASPORA: WE NEED TO TALK. It attempted to address the ever widening disparities between attitudes of American Jews and those of Israelis. For Example:

- Identify as Liberal: 50% of American Jews vs 8% of Israeli Jews.
- Think non-orthodox Rabbis should officiate at Jewish ceremonies: 80% of American Jews vs. 49% of Israeli Jews.
- Think that Israel and an independent Palestinian state can coexist: 61% of American Jews vs. 43% of Israeli Jews.
- Are proud to be Jewish: 95% of both!

There were four Plenaries with a special address given by Pres. Reuven Rivlin (Ruvi), who cautioned against changing Israel from an inclusionary, secular, democratic society, as envisioned by the Founders, to a nationalistic, religious fervor-driven country. He also noted that Israelis need to start looking more at the concerns of the diaspora and suggested a Reverse Birthright movement so that young Israelis are more in tune with their "relatives" worldwide.

Individual session topics included:

- Israeli Arabs: Leveling the Playing Field (racism, discrimination)
It's Complicated: Israel Education & the Next Generations
- The Israeli Mosaic: Building Social Cohesion in Israel
- Israelis Work the System: The Plan for Greater Pluralism
- Overall, the conference spirit was high, but it was clear that much must be done to address the rift between the "relatives." For instance:
- The Western Wall for All
- The (non) Conversion Bill
- Young US Jews distancing from Israel and Jewish Identity
- Young Israelis' lack of knowledge about the Jewish World and the Political State of Affairs, e.g. their response to the new Nation State law and its implications. (They live in a bubble).
- Call for Religious Equality Among All Jews.
- The Haredi's Lack of Contribution to Society (IDF, Welfare).
- Ultra-Orthodox Rabbis' benefits compared to those of progressive Rabbis.

I enjoyed Koolulam, a musical experience at Hayarkon Park attended by hundreds, all learning a song together that was taped for YouTube viewing.

Cocktails at the Knesset included (yes, drinks) speeches by the Speaker of the Knesset Yuli Edelstein, and Opposition Leader Tzipi Livni, among others, and a debate by Israeli Parliamentarians from across the political spectrum, which was most enlightening. Strolling the ancient streets with a complete sense of safety and recalling ancient history was truly a memorable daily routine I will not ever forget.

I thank Robert French, Executive Director, and Janet Wechter, President of the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso, for having given me the opportunity to be a JFNM GA delegate in The Land.

AM ISRAEL CHAI!
Monika Kimball
aka Michal Sarah

*At left—Monika Kimball
with Rabbi Rick Jacobs,
President of the Union for
Reform Judaism.*



Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees Meeting Summary—December 13, 2018

Lynn Zeemont, Nina Salmon (Executive Director, Mesilla Valley Hospice,) and Lorraine Padilla (Director of Human and Community Relations, Mesilla Valley Hospice) met with the Board to receive a \$1,000 donation to Mesilla Valley Hospice that was funded by the Matzo Ball Open Golf Tournament's profits. Mike Lieberman made a presentation about hearing loops that could be installed in the Temple. The Board agreed to test the system. The Board approved the annual maximum sum that the Rabbi can attribute to parsonage expenses. The Temple had a net profit of \$6,125.50 from the Matzo Ball Open and a \$1,350.57 net profit from the Renaissance Faire, and may receive some additional revenues from the sales of more pastrami.

Sue Brown is stepping down from the Board. The Board elected Luke Duddridge to complete her term, which lasts until the May 2020 congregational meeting. Art Lorbeer will replace Luke as the Mensch Club representative to the Board. President Ellen Torres discussed the December 16 and March 3 leadership workshops, and noted that the Batkin Scholarships will receive \$1,280 from the overall Batkin Endowment's proceeds for this year. The Board voted to shift TBE funds from Merrill Lynch to Charles Schwab.

Dee Cook, Cheryl Decker and Joanne Turnbull gave an update on the January 26 "A Night At The Auction" event. Ned Rubin will work with Steve Haydu to see if our website can handle video streaming. The Board discussed at length the Strategic Planning Committee's report. Some suggested changes will be reviewed by the Religious Practices Committee. The Board moved to begin the process of interring Temple Beth El's older and unused prayer books, which take up much space. The Board agreed to buy 10 more sets of our current *Mishkan HaNefesh* High Holy Day prayer books once sufficient donations have been raised. The Board supported providing space in a classroom for a History Committee carrel (for scanning historical records) and for storing historic documents. Committee reports included a discussion that the Mensch Club will provide volunteers to assist with security needs on Friday nights.



At the beginning of the Board of Trustees Meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2018, Temple Beth-El presented a \$1000 donation to Mesilla Valley Hospice from fund raised by the Matzo Ball Open Golf Tournament. In the photo are, left to right: Rabbi Larry Karol; Nina Salmon (Executive Director, Mesilla Valley Hospice); Lorraine Padilla (Director of Human and Community Relations, Mesilla Valley Hospice); Lynn Zeemont, chair of the Matzo Ball Open Golf Tournament; and Temple President Ellen Torres.



On Sunday, December 16, Nicole Martinez, executive director of the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope, spoke to Rabbi Karol's Machon class about the programs of the agency, including Camp Hope, where Temple Beth-El members served breakfast on December 25. Nicole also spoke to the Religious School assembly at 10:00 am before the students made "sweet treat" bags to be distributed to the residents of Camp Hope at the December 25 breakfast. (Note: Machon student Kaila Brown is on the left in the photo).



WEEKLY TEMPLE BREAKFAST

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



At the second session of the Leadership Series, held on December 16, 2018, participants engaged in discussion about their personal successes in past experiences as leaders and defined their own leadership style and orientation using materials provided. A brief text study, based on a statement by the 12th Century sage Moses Maimonides, sparked conversation on what it means to bear the burden of the community as leaders. The third session in the Leadership series will be held on Sunday, March 3, at 2:00 pm, and will be led by Ann Berkson and Sue Brown.

Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso Jewish Film Festival 2019

ANNOUNCING 2019 JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL



Act of Defiance

Sunday, January 6



(English)

The historical drama, *Act of Defiance*, tells the story of Nelson Mandela, his Jewish attorney, and others as they face a possible death sentence for conspiracy against the apartheid South African government.

Three Identical Strangers

Sunday, January 20



(English)

Three Jewish strangers are reunited by astonishing coincidence after being born identical triplets, separated at birth and adopted by three different families. The fairy-tale reunion takes a dark turn when the unimaginable is revealed.

1945

Sunday, January 27



(Hungarian, English subtitles)

In 1945, an Orthodox man and his son return to a post-Holocaust village in Hungary while the villagers prepare for a wedding. The townspeople, guilt-ridden, fear the men may be heirs of the village's deported Jews, and expect them to demand their property back.

CO-SPONSOR: EL PASO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND STUDY CENTER.

The Insult

Sunday, February 10



(Arabic, English subtitles)

The Oscar-nominated *The Insult* starts with a minor incident between a Palestinian refugee and a Lebanese Christian that explodes into a dramatic trial, dividing the two communities. The film depicts the tensions in Lebanon that profoundly impact Israel and the Middle East.

LUNCH SERVED PRIOR TO FILM AT 12:30 PM.

Be a Sponsor!

Executive Producer: \$500
Producer: \$250
Director: \$100

All sponsors receive two tickets for each film.

Screenwriter:

\$10/ ticket or \$36 for the series of 4 films

Seniors, Students and Military Personnel:

\$7/ ticket or \$25 for the series of 4 films

No Reserved Seating

Films begin promptly at 2:00 PM.
Alamo Drafthouse Cinema

Tickets

Online: JewishElPaso.org/films
Checks: JFed of Greater El Paso
7110 N. Mesa,
El Paso TX 79912
Call: (915) 842-9554 with CC info.

Bricks for the Biblical Garden and Brick Walkway

will be ordered again in the coming months. Please consider ordering one to mark that special occasion of yours or a loved one. Call Dee Cook or Alison Mann, and they will send you the form and even help you design the brick, if you wish. And take a few minutes to sit in the meditation area of the walkway...it's a lovely spot!



Donations through December 30, 2018

General Operating Fund

- Erich Zameret, in memory of Tova Zameret
- Frima Marquez and Jeff Marquez, in memory of Dr. Alvin Krasner and Mr. Carlin Marquez
- Nina Rothman, in memory of Irving Rothman
- Bob Seaton, in honor of Murray and Evelyn Bruder
- Dee Cook, in memory of Clinton Cook
- Deana Kessin, in memory of Kenneth Kessin
- Michael Morales

Rabbi's Discretionary fund

- Joan Glickler, in memory of Joel Glickler
- Bob and Juanita Stern
- Louise Feldman-Baskey, in memory of Jay Feldman
- Abraham and Amy Fiszbein, in memory of Aron Fiszbein and George Gorelick
- Jeff Brown and Cherri Hudson-Brown, in memory of Elaine Brown
- Art and Wendee Lorbeer, in memory of Morris Goldstein
- Irv Ross, in memory of Sam Ross
- Stan Muchnikoff, in memory of Jesse J. Muchnikoff
- Ruth Rubin, in memory of Zeena Audrae Geller

Irving M. Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Allen and Michele Blum, in memory of Miriam Cutler and Joseph Tashlik
- Allen and Michele Blum, in memory of IMO Harry Segal, Michele's grandfather

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund

- Gary and Alison Mann, in memory of Stanley S. Bergman
- Ann and Burt Berkson

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund

- Gary and Alison Mann, in memory of Dottie Weisel, a dear friend
- Yossi and Susan Lapid, in memory of Ilona and Shmuel Farkas

Campership Fund

- David and Lynn Zeemont, in memory of Evelyn Roselinsky
- Bryan McCuller and Lisa Ehlers McCuller, in memory of Laura Metzger

Adult Education Fund

- Allen and Eve Palanker, in honor of Ann, Burt, Rebecca, Arthur, Mia and Lilah Berkson—thank you for a lovely Chanukah evening.

Social Action Fund

- Allen and Eve Palanker, in memory of Edward Palanker (Allen's father) and Dorothy Palanker (Allen's mother)

TEMPLE FUNDS

Donations are gratefully accepted for the following:

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

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

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

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

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund—To broadly support Jewish education, based on merit or need, through participation in the TBE Religious School, camperships, and/or pursuit of Jewish collegiate studies or rabbinical studies.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Have you considered a bequest to Temple Beth-El?”

An important part of our future is represented by bequests made by members.

Thoughtful bequests enable Temple Beth-El to retain a future of Jewish life for generations to come. From funding our Rabbi to scholarships at our religious school, your generous gift maintains our financial health.

A simple codicil can be added to your existing will, if you wish to make a bequest, such as:

“I give and bequest to Temple Beth-El, located in Las Cruces, New Mexico, the sum of \$ _____ [or _____ percentage of my estate as finally determined for federal estate tax purposes].

A will or codicil should be prepared by an attorney. Please call the Temple office at (575) 524-3380 to discuss including Temple Beth-El in your estate.

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 and Biblical Garden.



JANUARY 2019 (TEVET-SHEVAT 5779)**Yahrzeits-December 30, 2018
through February 2, 2019**

(Listings include the name of the loved one
on the yahrzeit list and the name of the congregant or
congregants remembering that loved one—asterisks indicate loved
ones remembered with memorial plaques)

Read on Friday, January 4 and Saturday, January 5

Jerome Deutschman* (Ellen Torres)

Jack Frank*

Bernard Gluck*

Henry Greenberg (Cyrille S. Kane)

Faige Jacobs (Rose Jacobs)

Harris B. Libby (Robert Libby)

Jeanette Marks (Rhonda Karol)

Leon Markson (Linda Kruger)

Laura Metzger (Bryan McCuller)

Frances Pass*

Read on Friday, January 11 and Saturday, January 12

Avi Boaz (Tanah Hemingway)

Elaine Brown* (Jeff Brown)

Phyllis Orner Chonoles

Miriam Cutler (Michele Blum)

Shmuel Farkas* (Yosef Lapid)

Herman B. Golden (Darlene Goldberg)

Morris Goldstein (Wendee G Lorbeer)

Pearl Greenfield Higgins*

Eva Isaacson (Louise Feldman-Baskey)

Irene Neidich*

Phyllis Orner Chonoles*

Evelyn Roselinsky (Lynn Zeemont)

Joseph Tashlik (Allen Blum)

Barbara Yalkut*

Read on Friday, January 18 and Saturday, January 19

Clinton Cook* (Dee Cook)

Richard Garner (Carrie Swartz)

Zeena Audrae Geller (Ruth Rubin)

Coleman Greenberg (Cyrille Kane)

Warren Klein (Deborah Levy)

Isaac Kruger (Linda M. Kruger)

Hesh Langner (Bernice Langner)

Margret Leverett* (Margot Leverett)

Jesse J. Muchnikoff (Stan Muchnikoff)

Edward Schoenbrun*

Stanley Skigen*

William Stein (Bill Stein)

Arthur Stern* (Heshel Wolf Ben Mair and Yentl)

(Ann Berkson)

Leah Williamson (Barbara Mandel)

Read on Friday, January 25 and Saturday, January 26

Lola Davis*

Jennie Davison*

Janet Kane (Cyrille S. Kane)

Samuel Klein*(Bea Klein)

Samuel Klein* (Melvin "Sonny" Klein)

David Kloss*

Benjamin Lampert*

Ethel Paul*

Neysa Pritikin

Harold Rabinovitch (David Rabinovich)

Edward F. Resnick* (Frances F. Williams)

Dena Solomon (Tanah Hemingway)

Dr. Edward Weiss* (Diane Bass)

Read on Friday, February 1 and Saturday, February 2

Shirley Backman (Judy Kirschner)

Henrietta Bruder* (Murray Bruder)

Marilyn Chaifetz

George Cohen*(Susan C Brown, Marieka Brown)

Louis Druxman*

Alexander Edwards*

Wade W. Gardner (Brenda Parish)

Irving Glater (Leslie Glater)

Raphael Gordon (David Zeemont)

Pauline Lemelin (Stacey Hyman)

Leonardo Oczon (Aggie Saltman)

Alvin Phinick (Karen Currier)

Samuel Rabkin*

Christine Radcliff*

Yetta Resnick* (Frances F. Williams)

Dee Seton Barber* (Julie Seton)

Milton Zeemont (David Zeemont)

*The Temple Beth-El community
extends condolences to
Cherri Hudson-Brown and Jeff Brown
on the death of Cherri's father,
Ira Hudson III,
on December 21, 2018
in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.
May his memory be for blessing.*

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

- The Hebrew dates for each week's Yahrzeits are listed in each Newsletter.
- Names are read on the Shabbat **following** the Yahrzeit, or on the day, if it falls on that Shabbat.
- Hebrew vs. conventional (Gregorian) 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 (Gregorian) calendar date are asked to please email or call the Temple office 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.



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



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

Temple Beth-El is on Facebook!

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

(It is open for all to see!)

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

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

Kevin Horner
khorne@ptsofficesystems.com

VISITING CONGREGANTS WHO ARE ILL **OR HOME-BOUND**

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

Adelante Deadline

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the February, 2019 Adelante is January 20, 2018. 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 Wednesdays at 10:00-10:30 am. Please call before you come (575-524-3380), or email Rabbi Karol at rabbi@tbcl.org or rablpkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!



Tanah
Hemingway

(575) 524-4329

most nights

P.O Box 16318

Las Cruces

NM 88004

Editing:

Books, scientific papers, theses, dissertations

Technical documents of all sorts.

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

Tzedakah Opportunities at TBE

Giving to Casa de Peregrinos & El Caldito

Here are longer lists for items needed!

***For Casa de Peregrinos:* Peanut Butter and the following
 Canned foods: Corn, Green Beans, Mixed Vegetables,
 Fruits, Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Tuna, Beans, and Meats
For El Caldito: Spices, Regular Mayonnaise, Beans, Beef
 and Chicken Soup Stock**

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



JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Tevet 24 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	Tevet 25 2 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am	Tevet 26 3	Tevet 27 4 Shabbat Family Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian Potluck Dinner following	Tevet 28 5 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Tevet 29 6 Hebrew School 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am	Shevat 1 7	Shevat 2 8	Shevat 3 9 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am	Shevat 4 10	Shevat 5 11 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Shevat 6 12 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 7 13 Hebrew School 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am	Shevat 8 14	Shevat 9 15 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Shevat 10 16 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am	Shevat 11 17 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Shevat 12 18 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Shevat 13 19 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 14 20 NO Religious School	Shevat 15 21 TU BISH'VAT MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY	Shevat 16 22 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Shevat 17 23 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Town Hall— After Pittsburgh.... 7:00 pm	Shevat 18 24	Shevat 19 25 Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:00 pm	Shevat 20 26 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am A NIGHT AT THE AUCTION 6:00-9:00 PM
Shevat 21 27 Hebrew School 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am TU BISH'VAT SEDER 11:30 am	Shevat 22 28	Shevat 23 29 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Shevat 24 30 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am	Shevat 25 31	Shevat 26 Feb 1 Shabbat Family Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian Potluck Dinner following	Shevat 27 Feb. 2 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am

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

Phone: 575.524.3380
Fax: 575.521.8111

President: Ellen Torres

Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol
rabbi@tbelc.org

The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Rabbi Lawrence P. Karol . Copy Editors: James Rosenthal, Tanah Hemingway. Circulation: Administration Office. We welcome Adelante sponsorships by or for Temple members and non-members. Sponsorships can be mailed to the Temple; receipts are provided upon request. We reserve the right to edit all sponsorships. Non-member sponsorships (with no ad) are \$25/year. Annual sponsorship rates are as follows: 2x3 business card \$150; Quarter page \$300; Half page \$600. For information about sponsorships, please contact the Temple Office.

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

January, 2019



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