



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



FEBRUARY 2019 (SHEVAT-ADAR I 5779)



Shabbat Services (See Page 2)

- **Friday, February 1**— Family Shabbat service at 6:00 pm, followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck dinner.
 - **Friday, February 8**—Shabbat service at 7:00 pm
 - **Friday, February 15**—Lay-led Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm
 - **Friday, February 22** —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

The Israel Committee of
Temple Beth-El
announces

A Public Community Forum on the topic:

“Israel and the Longest Hatred”

Date and Time:

Sunday, February 24, 2019 at 2:00 pm

Location: Temple Beth-El

Format: Films, Explanations and
Audience Participation

Refreshments and Informal Discussion
to Follow

We invite the entire

*Las Cruces and Dona Ana County
community*

*to participate in
this Free event!*

Immigration to the United States and New Mexico (How Did We Get Here, Anyway?)

Immigration is currently a topic of paramount importance nationally, and in



New Mexico. In response to ongoing concerns and questions, **Temple Beth-El is pleased to present a two-part series on Immigration. The program will take place at 7:00–9:00 pm on two consecutive Wednesday evenings, February 6, 2019 and February 13, 2019 at Temple Beth-El.** On the first evening, February 6, Nan Rubin from KTAL radio will make a presentation focused on immigration and the involvement of Emma Lazarus, author of the poem *The New Colossus*, mounted on the base of the Statue of Liberty. Participants will learn about Emma Lazarus' involvement with United States immigration in the late 1800's while also hearing and examining her poem and its meanings as it changed over time.

The second part of the series, on February 13, will be a presentation about the history of immigration and immigrants to the United States by Dr. Neal Rosen-dorf, Associate Professor of politics and international relations at NMSU. There will also be a panel discussion to provide information about the various roles of those involved in the current immigration system. The panel will include a Federal public defender, a Federal prosecutor, an immigration judge as well as an officer from Customs and Border Protection. Finally, in small groups, participants will be able to discuss the immigration histories of their own families, related to parents, grandparents, other relatives or themselves.



Save the date!

**Jewish Food and Folk Festival
Sunday, April 7, 2019**

11:00am-3:00 pm

See Page 5 for more information

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 commentary that offers insight based on the parashah for the week.

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.

Sue Brown and Marieka Brown will coordinate the 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

Friday, February 8

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service—Rabbi Karol will

speak on “What moves your heart to give?” *An Oneg*

Shabbat will follow the service. Jeff Brown will represent the Board of Trustees.

Saturday, February 9

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat morning Service and Potluck Kiddush

Parashat Terumah Exodus 25:1-27:19

Haftarah First Kings 5:26-6:13

Friday, February 15

7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service led by Monika Kimball,

Ruth Rubin and Alison Mann. *An Oneg Shabbat will*

follow the service. Dee Cook will represent the Board of Trustees.

Saturday, February 16

9:00 am Talmud Study

10:15 am Shabbat Morning Service, led by Leora Zeitlin and Stuart Kelter, followed by a potluck kiddush.

Parashat Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah Judges 4:4-5:31

Friday, February 22

7:00 pm Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit, including

prayers and music for healing and renewal. *An Oneg*

Shabbat will follow the service. Diane Fleishman will represent the Board of Trustees.

Saturday, February 23

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

Friday, March 1 –FAMILY SHABBAT

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service FOR ALL AGES.

Jeff Lewis will represent the Board of Trustees.

6:50 pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck Shabbat Dinner.

Alison Mann and Marianne Panzini-Rosenthal will coordinate the dinner.

Saturday, March 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

In case you are thinking ahead...

PURIM

begins on the evening of

Wednesday, March 20

PASSOVER

begins on Friday night, April 19

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018-2019

President-Ellen Torres

Vice-President-Jeff Lewis

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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, February 21, 2019



Message from Rabbi Karol

I have noticed a trend in Reform Jewish worship in recent years.

At some regional and national conventions I have attended, leaders of some of the worship services leave out a prayer that expresses a sentiment which I believe to be all-important and foundational to

Judaism. That prayer is about hope.

I can hear and see in my mind the words of the prayer on this theme that we recited when I was a child. It followed “Va-anachnu” (we bend the knee...) and preceded “Bayom Hahu” (on that day, the Eternal shall be One and God’s name shall be one.”

Here is the paragraph from the 1940 revision of the Union Prayer Book (published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis/CCAR) that became ingrained in my memory and my soul (with a few emendations): *“May the time not be distant, O God, when Your name shall be worshiped in all the earth, when unbelief shall disappear and error be no more. Fervently we pray that the day may come when all people shall invoke Your name, when corruption and evil shall give way to purity and goodness, when superstition shall no longer enslave the mind, nor idolatry blind the eye, when all who dwell on earth shall know that to You alone every knee must bend and every tongue give homage. O may all, created in Your image, recognize that they are brothers and sisters, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before You. Then shall Your dominion be established on earth and the word of Your ancient prophet be fulfilled: The Eternal will reign forever and ever.”*

Gates of Prayer (CCAR, 1975) and *Gates of Repentance* (CCAR, 1979) featured a slightly revised version of this prayer. *Mishkan T’filah* (CCAR 2007) also includes a new rendering based on the texts of past prayerbooks.

No matter what the specific wording might be, this reading acts as a bridge between “We will bend our knee and bow and give thanks to the Holy One” and “On that day.” In fact, in my view, it makes no sense to move from the first prayer to the second one without a reading in between that specifies what we believe to be the nature and character of “that day.”

I am certain that the omission of this prayer by some worship leaders is a matter of timing, based on a sense that, at that point, it is best to quickly press forward to conclude the service.

While leading music at a service at a regional rabbinic conference last year, I led my musical setting of an alternative “hope” prayer, written by Rabbi Richard Levy, which was included in *Mishkan T’filah*. Before I sang it, I said, “We are going to sing my melody to Rabbi Levy’s reading before moving on to the Kaddish prayer. There is always time for hope.” And we joined together, intoning these

words: *“May we gain wisdom in our lives, overflowing like a river with understanding. Loved, each of us, for the peace we bring to others. May our deeds exceed our speech, and may we never lift up our hand but to conquer fear and doubt and despair. Rise up like the sun, O God, over all humanity. Cause light to go forth over all the lands between the seas. And light up the universe with the joy of wholeness, of freedom, and of peace.”*

When I created the melody, I incorporated the Hebrew of “on that day” into the song as a refrain in the middle and at the end.

So what “hopes” for humanity and our world do these two readings have in common?

- Wisdom and understanding.
- An end to corruption, evil, and all types of idolatry, coupled with the ability to conquer fear, doubt and despair.
- A sense of godliness and goodness in the belief and actions of all humanity
- Recognition of our common humanity in a spirit of unity and fellowship, that can lead to peace.

Should we really gloss over or omit these convictions from our worship? Is it possible that we do so because we no longer believe we can attain them?

Any service that I lead includes some version of this prayer for hope. These prayers offer us inspiration to engender empathy and compassion within our communal life. They direct us to overcome fear of “the other” and to try to discover the common threads that can bring together people who come from different backgrounds, faiths and viewpoints. Even if the goals expressed in a prayer for hope seem to be out of our grasp, we can’t throw up our hands and give up.

In a song they wrote in 2010, folksingers Pete Seeger and Lorre Wyatt offered one reason why we can’t give up: “When we look and we see things are not what they should be, God’s counting on me, God’s counting on you....Hoping we’ll all pull through.”

And, in the Sayings of the Rabbis/Pirkei Avot, Rabbi Tarfon offered another reason: “It’s not your duty to complete the work, but neither are you free to neglect it.”

God IS counting on us to keep working and hoping, so that others can continue our efforts in the future.

And I truly believe, even now, that we will all pull through.

**L’shalom,
Rabbi Larry K.**

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

Rabbi Karol will be away on February 14-18. In case of any urgent concerns during that time, please contact Ellen Torres at 510-676-3211.



Words of the President: Divrei HaNasi
TBE Events Continue to Highlight the
Importance of Community Engagement

Jewish Food and Folk Festival Planning is
Underway: JFFF is Sunday April 7!

Planning for the Seventh Annual JFFF is in full swing, with Chair Rose Jacobs and Co-Chair Francine Feinberg at the helm. They have held two full committee meetings and several individual meetings thus far. Francine is developing a manual with committee job descriptions, lists of purchases, vendors, sponsors, ads, etc, to help everyone involved know the details of their responsibilities. Thank you to Rose, Francine, and all JFFF committee chairs for all your hard work. The JFFF is the epitome of **community engagement** as we bring in approximately 700 community members and friends who join us for this wonderful event. We look forward to a fabulous JFFF for 2019!

“After Pittsburgh...What We Need to Know”

Many congregants and community members attended a Town Hall Question & Answer session with a representative of the Secure Community Network (SCN) on Wednesday, January 23. We had the opportunity to discuss our security concerns and share our thoughts and ideas about improving the security at our numerous events. Thank you to Robert French, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso, for bringing SCN to Las Cruces. Also, thank you to Mark Saltman, Chair of the Security Committee, for being our liaison to the Las Cruces Police Department, and having them station security cameras in our parking lot for two weeks in December, during which time they detected no unusual activities.

“A Night at the Auction” on January 26

On January 26, 2019, close to 85 TBE members joined us for “A Night at the Auction,” a new addition to our fundraising efforts, sponsored by the Ways and Means Committee. This festive night included a light supper, and two auction opportunities—a silent auction and a live auction—where people bid on an amazing array of events, services, learning opportunities, and some pre-planned party packages. Thank you for participating in this wonderful event as we supported this innovative fundraising effort! Thank you to our Ways and Means Co-Chairs, Dee Cook, Cheryl Decker, and Joanne Turnbull for their magnificent organization and dedication!

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

Immigration Forums: Wednesday February 6 and
Wednesday February 13 at 6:30 pm

We thank the Adult Education/Social Action Committee, chaired by Ned Rubin, for organizing a series on immigration. The first evening, February 6, will be spent discussing and evaluating the poem “The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus, with an opportunity for participants to look at their own immigration histories in small group discussions. The second evening, February 13, will consist of a brief presentation of immi-

gration in the United States, and a panel presentation by several speakers, who will be representing aspects of the immigration system. Join us for these in-depth programs that will help to **engage us in valuable community interaction**.

Israel and the Longest Hatred

This community forum, on Sunday, February 24 at 2:00 pm, is sponsored by the TBE Israel Committee. The group will present videos on Anti-Semitism, information on the BDS movement, and questions and comments from the audience. Please plan to attend and join in more **community engagement!** Thank you to Chair Phil Alkon and the Israel Committee for organizing this important event!

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 details and history about Temple Beth-El. Refreshments will be served. Please join us! Thank you to Chair Jim Rosenthal and the Nominating/Leadership Committee for organizing these engaging leadership workshops for the TBE community!

The Extraordinary Julie Silver Comes to
Temple Beth-El! (Date Has Changed!)

On Wednesday, May 15, 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 supported by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso. Be watching 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!

From “For Winter” by Alden Solovy in
This Grateful Heart

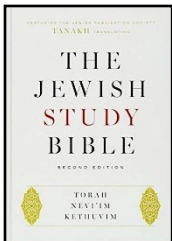
God of time and space,
 May this season be a blessing and a teacher.
 Make me like the long, deep night,
 A blanket of solace and comfort.
 Make me like the returning sun,
 A source of quiet hope.
 Bless my days with service and my nights with warmth.
 Make me like a new day
 Dawning from the darkness.

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.

In Sacred Partnership,
Ellen Torres

ADULT EDUCATION

Culture תורה Holidays עברית Customs

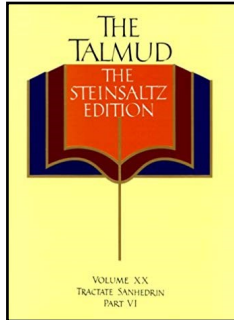


TANAKH STUDY

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.



As a follow-up to Father Gabriel Rochelle's recent Wednesday breakfast talk, "How Can Jews Read the New Testament," Rabbi Karol and Father Gabriel may plan an interfaith study session on a selected passage from Amy Jill-Levine's *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* in early April. Stay tuned!

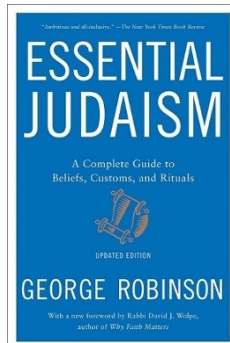
Judaism: Roots and Rituals An Introduction to Judaism Course presented by Rabbi Larry Karol.

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

Planned sessions: 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.



**Jewish Food and
Folk Festival**
April 7, 2019
11:00 am-3:00 pm
UPDATES!

Paula Kramer, Babka Chair, thanks those who have volunteered for the Babka Bake on February 17 (she has a full complement of participants!).

Start thinking BAZAAR!

We need your gently loved items for the JFFF Bazaar. Art, household items, jewelry, crystal, silver, miscellaneous and unique items. Call Cheryl Decker at

575-640-9559 or email to

doubledeckerohio@msn.com.

Pickup can be provided.

Sponsorship Request to Congregants

We are looking for your help! In addition to the money raised at the Jewish Food and Folk Festival (JFFF) event, we also solicit sponsors and ads for the program book and provide recognition to these businesses throughout the year. If you know someone who owns a business, please contact them to see if they would be interested in becoming a sponsor or in placing an ad in our program book.

You can give them Beth Tierney's contact information or better yet, you can call Beth yourself with the name of the business (with their permission, of course), so she can contact them directly. We are offering congregants one free admission ticket to JFFF for each new business that becomes a sponsor as a result of a referral. Please get your information to Beth by March 7th.

Do you own a business that would like to receive recognition by being a sponsor or placing an ad? Beth would love to hear from you. **Beth can be reached at Cambrien73@gmail.com or 575-635-2673.**

To join our effort at the JFFF as a volunteer,
please contact Susan Quinn

(susankayequinn@hotmail.com or 301-928-3561)

OR Susan Michelson

(susanm6025@gmail.com - 575 373-8027)

New short story series begins Monday, February 4

I'm pleased to announce that our next Temple Beth-El short story series begins **Monday, Feb. 4 at 10:00 a.m.** in the social hall. We will be reading and discussing stories from *The Oxford Book of Jewish Stories, edited by Ilan Stevens*. For the lowest prices on this great anthology, I suggest searching Amazon or other sites for **used copies, either hardcover or paperback.**

Our Monday morning discussions are open to anyone who is interested in fiction, enjoys relaxed, stimulating conversation and would like to see old friends or make new ones!

I chose the Oxford anthology for two reasons: First, there's something here for everyone! This is, I believe, one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date Jewish short story anthologies available, containing the stories of more than fifty notable Jewish writers from around the globe from the mid-1800s up to recent times. It includes such writers as Sholem Aleichem, the father of Yiddish literature; Franz Kafka, Saul Bellow, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Grace Paley, Cynthia Ozick, Stanley Elkin, Delmore Schwartz, Dan Jacobson, Francine Prose, Allegra Goodman, Philip Roth, Isaac Babel, Italo Svevo, Primo Levi, Elias Canetti, Amos Oz, and Danilo Kis.

Secondly, I would like to continue to use this important anthology, either by itself or as a supplement to any newer books or authors of interest in the future.

(Also, it seems to me, this is one of those books that all short story lovers would want to own and read for years to come.)

As always, an \$18 fee goes to the Adult Education Committee to support its activities.

Please email me or call me at 522-6478 if you have any questions. I will be sending out an email soon with our first story assignment.

See you then and . . . by the way. . . I make the coffee!

Jim Rosenthal
Jar529@gmail.com

Batkin Scholarship Funds for 2019 **(From Temple President Ellen Torres)**

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. 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.

Hear Better in Our Sanctuary!

In an effort to provide better sound in the sanctuary to those with hearing issues, we are experimenting with a possible solution. Our sanctuary has now been equipped with a temporary hearing loop that will allow you to hear the service by using the telecoils in your hearing aids.

Facing the bimah, the left front area of seating is set up with an Induction Loop System. It turns hearing aids into loudspeakers, delivering sound right into the ear.

How an Induction Loop System works:

1. Person speaks into a microphone.
2. Current is amplified and sent to a magnetic cable loop surrounding the listeners, creating a zone.

A magnetic field delivers the amplified, high-quality signal to the listener's hearing aid.

If you have telecoils but the loop signal seems weak, turn up the volume on your hearing aids.

If you do not have a manual volume control on your hearing aids, go to your hearing care provider and request that the telecoils be adjusted to provide sufficient volume and proper tone when used with a Hearing Loop System.

Many hearing aids are equipped with telecoils when they are manufactured. If you don't know whether your hearing aids are equipped with telecoils, consult your hearing aid provider, as telecoils may be in the devices but simply not activated.

We welcome your feedback on using the system.

Please feel free to contact

Mike Lieberman at ml.lcnm@gmail.com,

Art Lorbeer at artlorbeer@roadrunner.com or

Klim Maling at biallelic@gmail.com

with your comments or concerns.

Wendee G. Lorbeer mathwendee@gmail.com

The Standing Committees of Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El

Building & Grounds Committee

By Jerry Silverman

The B&G committee is chaired by myself (a Snow Bird) and supported by David Decker, Norm Mazer and Jeff Lewis.

We are responsible for the physical maintenance of the Temple interior and exterior areas. This includes the 5 air-conditioning/heating systems on the roof, annual inspection and certification of the sewer/backflow system, and fire detection and alarm warning systems (100 sensors).

I took on this position in January, 2012, despite the fact that I am Minnesota bound when the snow has melted (May). During my summer vacation (6 months) David Decker makes sure that all is well when I return.

Since I became involved, the major maintenance has included extensive repair of the rock walls, replacement of deceased trees and shrubs, repainting of the playground and sidewalk perimeter fencing, and playground mulch replacement.

The installation of LED lighting for the parking lot and community room was implemented last year. This change was not only an environmental action but also very financially positive. The cost of the parking lot bulbs and labor to maintain them was becoming prohibitive.



Congregants gathered at the Desert Willow unit of the Villages at Northrise on Saturday, January 26 to join Lucien Baltuch (at left in the photo) in marking his 85th birthday and to bid him farewell. His son David arranged the gathering and successfully transported his father to Brussels, Belgium on January 27-28. We wish Lucien well!



Frances Williams, the Las Cruces Sun News distinguished resident of 2018, Friday December 21, 2018 on the patio of her house.

(Photo: Josh Bachman/Sun-News)

Congratulations to Frances Williams, on being named the Las Cruces Distinguished Resident for 2018 by the *Las Cruces Sun-News*. A feature article in the newspaper on December 30, 2018 announced this special recognition!

Two History programs in March at Temple

Dr. Richard Melzer, a retired historian from the University of New Mexico-Valencia, will speak at Temple Beth-El at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 10 about "The Swastika in New Mexico History and Culture." The swastika is most often remembered as a symbol of extreme hate and barbarism under the Nazi regime in Germany. However it has had a completely different meaning in New Mexico. Dr. Melzer will focus on the swastika as an Indian symbol of good luck and as the name of New Mexico State University's yearbook until the early 1980s. His presentation is sponsored by the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society and the Historical Society of New Mexico's Speakers Bureau. Refreshments will be provided.

The Temple History Committee will sponsor "History Day" at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 17. Dennis Daily, the head of NMSU's Library Archives and Special Collections, will discuss the Archives' collection of Temple documents and the papers of Jewish residents of Las Cruces. Our Board of Trustees has recently voted to place additional Temple records at the Archives. We will encourage the audience to donate historic papers and photographs and will discuss oral history interviews. We will encourage panel and speaker proposals for the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society conference that will be held in Las Cruces in November, 2020. Members will be able to view our Temple scrapbooks. Refreshments will be provided.

Just a quick note to thank you for your participation in our Temple auction on January 26, 2019! We appreciate all the donations you so generously gave us and thank you for attending and for making this a successful event.

Cheryl, Joanne, and Dee



ISRAEL UPDATE**WHAT BOYCOTTING ISRAEL REALLY MEANS****Phil Alkon, PhD**

Alan Leveritt's recent article in the Sun-News raised the issue of economic boycotts of Israel. As a newspaper editor, he justifiably examined it in terms of freedom of the press and censorship. As a believer in First Amendment rights I would have done the same. However, that presentation failed to address the underlying meaning of the Israel boycott movement itself, as exemplified by BDS (Boycott -Sanction -Divest) activities that are gaining increased attention in the U.S. and abroad. What is really behind them and what does supporting them really mean?

When Israel was founded in 1948, one of the first major acts of war the Arab World undertook in its attempt to destroy the fledgling Jewish state was a comprehensive economic boycott that actively enlisted many nations and businesses throughout the world. While not as dramatic as the invasion of five Arab armies, it had and continued to have a significant impact on Israeli's economic well-being, welfare and attitudes for periods far outlasting the wars themselves. The boycotts also left an indelible stamp on the consciousness of Israel's citizens and friends throughout the world, regarding identifying whom their friends and enemies really were.

The boycotts actually forced Israelis to become more inventive and self-reliant, thereby strengthening their ultimate survival and welfare. An unintended consequence that actually degraded its enemies' chances of doing Israel in. English economic sanctions against the rebellious American colonists probably had the same result.

In recent years, the Israel boycott movement has morphed into a politically correct means of punishing Israel for its "disgraceful" treatment of "Palestinian" Arabs. I use quotes because there has never existed a Palestinian Arab state, even during 1,200 years of Moslem rule of the Middle East; and that the only people recognized as Palestinian during those centuries and beyond were Jews. "Palestine" (derived from Philistine) was the name the Romans conferred on Judea and Samaria to erase its Jewish identity. History repeats itself even as we speak.

Today's Palestinian Arabs comprise (1) Israel's Arab citizens; (2) Arabs residing in the West Bank (administered by Israel under the Oslo accords) and Gaza (ceded by Israel) following the 1968 Six-Day War; and (3) Palestinians residing in surrounding Arab states. The best off, by far, are Israel's Arab citizens, who enjoy full civil, political and religious freedom. The worst-

off are probably the Palestinian "refugees" living in neighboring Arab countries. It is in the West Bank and Gaza, where Palestinian nationalism holds sway, that the Israeli-Palestinian (Jewish-Moslem) conflict reaches its greatest public attention.

And the underlying issue, to my mind, is the nature of Palestinian nationalism as promoted by its current leadership, i.e., the PLO in the West Bank, and Hamas in Gaza. That leadership - and the current essence of Palestinian nationalism - has nothing to do with betterment of the Palestinian people. Instead, it is solely concerned with maintaining Israel (the Jews) as an enemy to blame for its profound civil and political failures. If that sounds strange, name a single Arab Middle East state whose leadership is founded on the welfare and progress of its people rather than the survival of its leadership and ruling elites?

The anti-Israel (anti-Semitic) boycott movement originated with the PLO leadership on the West Bank. As with other Arab regimes, that leadership needs to convince its subjects that they are unhappy and that others are to blame for their plight. Outside support of BDS only buttresses a hateful propaganda campaign against self-created enemies. In this case, Israel and Jews. To improve their future, Palestinian Arabs must be convinced to act for themselves in their own self-interest - to break with the past, and create a positive future for their children that embraces peace with Israel and the Jews. That is the cause we should support.

Phil Alkon is retired NMSU faculty and resides in Las Cruces. He can be reached at phili@nmsu.edu

Doron Horowitz, representing the Secure Community Network, spoke at Temple Beth-El on Wednesday, January 23, in a talk arranged by the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso that was entitled, "After Pittsburgh: What We Need to Know." The presentation covered the nature of Anti-Semitism in the United States and steps Jewish congregations can take to prudently approach security for members and for synagogue buildings. Comments from the ensuing discussion will be considered for Temple Beth-El in our own security considerations.



Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees Meeting Summary —January 17, 2019

The Religious School planned to organize and host the Tu Bish'vat Seder at 11:30 am on Sunday, January 27. A tree will be planted. The Rabbi and Rose Jacobs have almost completed the TBE Directory. Julie Silver's performance at the Temple has been changed to Wednesday, May 15. The Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso was scheduled to present "After Pittsburgh" at TBE on January 23, and Mark Saltman will follow up on Las Cruces Police Department security training. The Temple has received \$1,280 for Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarships. The Board discussed revenues and expenditures and will hold a special Board meeting on Wednesday, January 30 to review the Temple's budget.

Since the Temple does not have sufficient space or proper conditions to store most historical records, including Temple materials held by the History Committee and NMSU, or to store future historical acquisitions, the Board voted to ask NMSU to keep the TBE records that it has, and the Board asked the History Committee to begin discussions with NMSU's Archivist to accept most historical Temple records. We may keep many scanned materials, and some physical materials will be kept at the Temple.

The Board discussed a potential new Temple mission statement and will continue to discuss the statement. Jim Rosenthal discussed elections for open Board of Trustees terms. The election will be held at the Annual Congregation Meeting on May 9.



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)

On Sunday, January 27, the TBE Religious School hosted our annual Tu Bish'vat Seder and Tree Planting (coordinated by Pearie Bruder). Students and faculty began the Seder with Rabbi Larry Karol's original story, "The Almond Tree Speaks," followed by prayers for grape juice and different types of fruits. We recited a special blessing for the tree that joined a row of trees planted for past Tu Bish'vat celebrations!





During the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis conference in Palm Springs, California, on January 6-10, 2019, Rabbi Larry Karol joined with classmates and recently-ordained rabbis in socializing, study and singing. The photo on the left, was taken at a dinner of 1981 ordinees. Seated are Rabbi Bruce Kadden (Temple Beth El, Tacoma, WA) and Rabbi Howard Laibson and Ellen Goldsmith (formerly of Las Cruces, now living in Seal Beach, CA); standing are Rabbi Morley Feinstein (University Synagogue of Los Angeles, CA); Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld (Congregation Albert, Albuquerque, NM); and Rabbi Larry Karol. In the photo on the right, Rabbi Larry Karol joined two 2018 ordinees of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles to lead a song session on the last night of the convention: Rabbi Max Chaiken (Congregation Kol Ami of West Hollywood, CA); and Rabbi Daniel Brenner (Congregation B'nai B'rith of Santa Barbara, CA).

TBE Choir participates in musical project to support Women of the Wall/Nashot Hakotel



During Monika Kimball's trip to Israel to attend the Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly in October, 2018, she met Shimon Smith, a singer/songwriter of new Jewish music. Shimon recently wrote a song to honor the 30th Anniversary of Women of the Wall/Nashot Hakotel for their courage in continuing to hold worship for women at the Western Wall under circumstances that are regularly challenging. Women of the Wall asked choirs around the world to record Shimon's song, "Kumi Ori" (Arise, shine). On Thursday, January 3, 2019, TBE choir members Rabbi Larry Karol, Monika Kimball, Ruth Rubin, Terri Sugarman and Erich Zameret, who were joined by Elaine Baeza for the project, recorded audio of the song to be added to a master recording of all the choirs contributing to the project. Each choir was also asked to send a YouTube video as well. With the ark (including the Hebrew above) as our backdrop, we created our video, which has over 3600 views so far. You can find the video at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/womenofthewall/videos/315216945763107/?t=70>



Sue Brown and Jeanne, Marieka, Liana and Kaila Brown were among the participants at the NAACP Dona Ana Country Branch march to honor the memory and legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 20, 2019. Rabbi Karol offered remarks and a benediction at that gathering. On Monday, January 21, Rabbi Karol offered the invocation at the NAACP MLK Breakfast held at the Hotel Encanto. Also in attendance at the breakfast were Norm Osborne, Joy Goldbaum and Frances Williams.



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 January 30, 2018

General Operating Fund

- Robert Libby, in memory of Harris Libby
- Leslie Glater, in memory of Irving Glater
- Selma P. Ryave and Rosalyn Richman, in memory of Cecelia Lipsitz, Norman Green, Samuel Ryave, Chana Podolsky, Rebecca Bleiberg, and Isaac Podolsky

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Rose Jacobs, in memory of Faige Jacobs
- Bernice Langner, in memory of Hesh Langner
- Jeff and Avis Lewis, in memory of Rita Herman
- Norm and Sue Mazer, in memory of Minnie Levi-coff
- Jeff Brown and Cherri Hudson-Brown, in memory of Dolly Zabin
- Barney and Ruth Ann Sugarman, in memory of Beatrice Gibbs

Irving M. Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Ellen and Alfred Torres, in memory of Jerome Deutschman

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund

- Ann and Burt Berkson, in memory of Faye Berkson

Frances Williams Library Fund

- Allen and Michele Blum, in honor of Frances Williams being named the distinguished resident of Las Cruces by the *Las Cruces Sun-News*.
- Louise Feldman-Baskey and Frank Baskey, in memory of Eva Isaacson

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.



FEBRUARY 2019 (SHEVAT-ADAR I 5779)**Yahrzeits-February 2 through
through March 1, 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, 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)

Read on Friday, February 8 and Saturday, February 9

Shimshon Alkon (Phil Alkon)
Jeanne Brancato (Joseph Bell)
Ruth N. Brooks* (Sharon Dorfman)
Patricia Collier Ehlers (Lisa Ehlers McCuller)
Margaret Gantert (Susi Kolikant)
Hortense Heart (Nancy Bergman)
Rita Herman (Avis Herman Lewis)
Carl Isaacson (Louis Feldman-Baskey)
Itzhak Kolikant (Jacob Kolikant)
Bella Krushen*
Charlotte Schwartz*
Sonia Seigel*
Ruth Sicherman (Sally Sicherman)
Max Steinberg* (Evelyn Bruder)
Reba Tapper (Dan Tapper)
Dolly Zabin (Jeff Brown)

Read on Friday, February 15 and Saturday, February 16

Avraham Ben Isaac Ha Cohen (Tanah Hemingway)
Beatrice Gibbs (Ruth Ann Sugarman)
Norman Green (Selma Ryave, Rosalyn Richman)
Ann Marie Hedgecock*:
Ida Katz*
Frances Klein* (Bea Klein, Sonny Klein)
Charlotte Ray Mann (Gary Mann)
Stephanie S Morgan*
Isabelle Sazer (Tanah Hemingway)
David Sicherman (Sally Sicherman)
Storm Sauter Tarvin (Tanah Hemingway)
Joseph Wolfe* (Elissa Poel)

Read on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23

Louis Bass* (Harry Bass)
Faye Berkson* (Burt Berkson)
Mollie Bruder* (Ron Bruder, Murray Bruder)
Cecelia Chotiner Lipsitz (Rosalyn Richman, Selma Ryave)
Lorraine B Fidler*:
Rachel Fox*
Sam Jacobs (Win Jacobs)
Minnie Levicoff (Sue Mazer)
Jack Lipschutz*
Bertram Marks (Rhonda Karol)
Mieke Skigen*:
Edith Steinberg* (Evelyn Bruder, Ron Bruder)

Read on Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2

Ralph Alkon (Phil Alkon)
Betty Brankman (Sally Alkon)
Samuel Chapman (Diane Fleishman)
Lawrence Friedman (Teddy Weinglass)
Jean Lemelin (Stacey Hyman)
Harold W. Loudon (Cheryl A. Loudon-Decker)
Robert Marcus (Steven Marcus)
Abigail Palanker (Allen Palanker)
Anna Podolsky (Rosalyn Richman, Selma Ryave)
Samuel Ryave (Rosalyn Richman, Selma Ryave)
David Andrew Steinzig*

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

***The Berkson family, on the death of Ann's cousin
Richard Stern, on January 4, 2019 in Los Angeles, Cal-
ifornia.***

***Tom and Debbie Levy, on the death of Tom's aunt,
Irene Zimmerman, on January 11, 2019 in El Paso,
Texas.***

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.
- 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.tbclc.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!

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@tbclc.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@tbclc.org or rablpkarol@gmail.com. You can also contact Rabbi Karol to make an appointment. Thank you!

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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.



FEBRUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Shevat 26 Shabbat Family Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian Potluck Dinner following	Shevat 27 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Shevat 28 Hebrew School & Machon 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am	Shevat 29 Short Story Group 10:00 am	Shevat 30 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Adar I 1 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Immigration Forum on Emma Lazarus Presented by Nan Rubin—7-9 pm	Adar I 2	Adar I 3 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	Adar I 4 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Adar I 5 Hebrew School & Machon 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am	Adar I 6	Adar I 7 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Adar I 8 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am Immigration Forum Panel presentation 7-9 pm	Adar I 9	Adar I 10 Shabbat Service led by Monika Kimball, Ruth Rubin & Alison Mann 7:00 pm	Adar I 11 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service led by Stuart Kelter & Leora Zeitlin 10:15 am
Adar I 12 NO Religious School Babka Bake for JFFF 9:30 am	Adar I 13 PRESIDENTS DAY Short Story Group 10:00 am	Adar I 14 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Adar I 15 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am	Adar I 16 Board Meeting 7:00 pm	Adar I 17 Shabbat Service for Renewal of Spirit 7:00 pm	Adar I 18 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service 10:15 am
Adar I 19 Hebrew School & Machon 9:00 am Religious School 10:00 am Israel and the Longest Hatred—2:00 pm	Adar I 20 Short Story Group 10:00 am	Adar I 21 Judaism Class 7:30 pm	Adar I 22 Wednesday Breakfast 8:45 am Tanakh Study 10:15 am	Adar I 23	Adar I 24 Shabbat Family Service 6:00 pm Dairy/vegetarian Potluck Dinner following	Adar I 25 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**

February, 2019



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