



A Monthly Publication for Temple Beth-El,

Las Cruces, New Mexico



SEPTEMBER 2020 (ELUL 5780-TISHREI 5781)

## Happy High Holidays!

Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on Friday, September 18.

Yom Kippur begins at sundown on Sunday, September 27.

All services will be virtual this year. Please join our services led by Rabbi Sofia Zway by Zoom from your personal sanctuary, wherever that may be. Services will also be livestreamed to our Facebook page. The full schedule of services is on **page two**.

Please note that there will be no communal congregational Tashlich this year. Rabbi Sofia will provide a written meditation for your use. Please bring a mask and be prepared to socially distance wherever you go to cast away your sins.

Temple Beth-El will host a lay-led Zoom “Selichot” program on Saturday evening, Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Organized by Stuart Kelter and Leora Zeitlin, the program will begin with Havdalah, followed by some time for singing, reflecting, connecting with the community, and preparing for the High Holidays. More details will follow by email.



## Worship Schedule (Via Zoom)

You can also watch the Facebook livestream for holiday and Shabbat services on this page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Synagogue/Temple-Beth-El-115816285166004/>

(if you do not have a Facebook profile now, and it asks you to join when you go to the page, click "Not Now" and that box will disappear).

If you do not have a siddur at home, you can follow along in the Mishkan T'filah for Shabbat flipbook provided by the Central Conference of American Rabbis at this link

<https://www.ccarnet.org/publications/mishkan-tfilah-for-shabbat/>

### Wednesdays—

**Tanakh study 10:00 am with Rabbi (Emeritus) Larry Karol**

Zoom invites for Torah Study and Services, as well as any text to follow, will be sent out weekly.

Contact Bryan McCuller to attend Talmud Study ([mccullerbryan@gmail.com](mailto:mccullerbryan@gmail.com))

Contact Rabbi Karol ([rablpkarol@gmail.com](mailto:rablpkarol@gmail.com)) to attend Tanakh Study

### Friday, September 4

6:30 pm Family Shabbat Services for all ages—Lay-Led

### Saturday, September 5

9:00 am Talmud Study

11:00 am Torah Study *with Rabbi Larry Karol*  
Parashat Ki Tavo Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8

### Friday, September 11

6:30 pm Shabbat Service—Lay-Led by Joanne Turnbull and Steve Haydu

### Saturday, September 12

9:00 am Talmud Study

11:15 am Torah Study *with Rabbi Larry Karol*  
Parashat Nitzavim Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30  
7:30 pm Selichot led by Stuart Kelter and Leora Zeitlin

### Friday, September 18

6:30 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah service *led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*

### Saturday, September 19

*led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*

9:30 Rosh Hashanah Family Service

10:15 Rosh Hashanah Morning Services

### Sunday, September 20

*led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*

10:15 am Second Day Rosh Hashanah

"Limmud" (study session)

11:00 Shofar service and Kiddush

### Friday, September 25

6:30 pm Shabbat Shuvah Service *led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*

### Saturday, September 26

10:15 am Shabbat Shuvah service and Teshuvah workshop *led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*  
Parashat Haazinu Deuteronomy 32:1-52  
Haftorah Shabbat Shuvah: Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-27

### Sunday, September 27

8:00 pm Kol Nidrei led by Rabbi Sofia Zway

### Monday, September 28

*All Services led by Rabbi Sofia Zway*

9:30 am Yom Kippur Family Service

10:15 Yom Kippur Morning Service

5:30 pm Yizkor and Neilah

### Friday, October 2

6:30 pm Sukkot Evening Family Service *led by Rabbi Larry Karol*

### Saturday, October 3

10:30 am Sukkot Morning Service *led by Rabbi Larry Karol*



## Reflections from Rabbi Sofia

As I write this, afternoon is slowly turning to evening on the eve of Rosh Chodesh Elul. In the morning, the shofar will sound for the first time this season,

calling our souls to attention and announcing: "The Season of Return is Upon Us." By the time you read this, we will be well in to our journey towards the High Holy Days. We'll be deep in the work of *chesbon hanefesh*, self-reflection, and hopefully making time every day for *teshuva*, turning to those whom we have wronged and returning to whom we wish to become in the new year.

We need these days of communal reflection and celebration more than ever. There is much we have lost this past year that we need to grieve. But we have also received many unexpected blessings, and those we must celebrate. While this may not be the way we imagined marking the turn of the seasons, it has presented us with a unique opportunity to think deeply and creatively about these Holy Days in ways that, I hope, will heighten our experience of the *Yamim Noraim*.

Our Torah reading for Yom Kippur implores us, "Choose Life!" The Days of Awe urge us in every prayer, text and ritual to repair what we have broken, to count our blessings, to awaken to the good, and to seek and cultivate holiness. I hope that we will use this opportunity to do the work that this time of the year demands of us.

May the new year bring us all good health, abundant joy and renewal, and may we be inscribed for life.

Shanah Tovah,  
Sofia Zway  
Rabbinical Student, Hebrew Union College

# celebrating our Simchas

The **Temple Beth-El Mitzvah Team** sends best wishes to these members celebrating birthdays this month:

Derek Hyman  
Patrick Quinn  
Sally Sicherman

If you would like to have us acknowledge your occasion in the future please send birth month, anniversary month, and the year you joined the temple to Luke Duddridge at [LCDuddridge@hotmail.com](mailto:LCDuddridge@hotmail.com).

If you follow the example below it would be helpful:

Sam Adams Born July, Married March, Joined 2015





# Transition Times

## Student Rabbi

We welcomed Student Rabbi, Sofia Zway, to our virtual *bima* on August 14, 2020. Sofia will be with us for a total of 18 virtual weekends plus the High Holidays. Here is her schedule until the end of November:

- Friday Sept 18: Erev Rosh HaShanah
- Saturday Sept 19: Rosh HaShanah
- Sunday Sept 20: 2nd Day Rosh HaShanah
- Friday September 25th: Shabbat Shuvah
- Saturday September 26: Shabbat Shuvah
- Sunday September 27: Kol Nidrei
- Monday September 28: Yom Kippur
- October 9 & 10
- October 23 & 24
- November 20 & 21

Please remember that Sofia is a full-time student. She is unable to function as a full (or part-time) rabbi. Sofia's availability is limited to two virtual weekends a month. She will be able to respond to emails two to three times a week.

Feedback about Sofia should be sent directly to Stuart Kelter ([sskelter@yahoo.com](mailto:sskelter@yahoo.com)) and Leora Zeitlin ([lzeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu](mailto:lzeitlin@cs.nmsu.edu)) and **not** to Sofia. Questions to Sofia should be those of a rabbinical nature (e.g., about Judaism, counseling). Sofia's email is [studentrabbi@tbelc.org](mailto:studentrabbi@tbelc.org).

Please direct questions about the Transition to me ([turnbulljoanne@gmail.com](mailto:turnbulljoanne@gmail.com)). The following people are available to answer questions about our Temple in this time of transition and uncertainty:

- General Temple Questions: Cheryl Decker  
[doubledeckerohio@msn.com](mailto:doubledeckerohio@msn.com)  
575-640-9559
- Announcements: Nan Rubin  
[tbe.announce@gmail.com](mailto:tbe.announce@gmail.com)  
To gather and write the announcements for services and the *Adelante*.

- Mi Shebarach: Nan Rubin  
[tbe.announce@gmail.com](mailto:tbe.announce@gmail.com)  
To be read at services.
- Death in the Family: Cheryl Decker  
[doubledeckerohio@msn.com](mailto:doubledeckerohio@msn.com)  
575-640-9559
- Donations: Cheryl Decker  
[doubledeckerohio@msn.com](mailto:doubledeckerohio@msn.com)  
575-640-9559
- Dues: Michael Mandel  
[mmaandel@gmail.com](mailto:mmaandel@gmail.com)  
575-496-83219
- Illness: Cheryl Decker  
[doubledeckerohio@msn.com](mailto:doubledeckerohio@msn.com)  
575-640-9559
- Mitzvah Team: Luke Duddridge  
[lcduddridge@hotmail.com](mailto:lcduddridge@hotmail.com)  
727-204-6086
- Religious Services: Cherri Hudson-Brown  
[cjhudson@comcast.net](mailto:cjhudson@comcast.net)  
575-915-7087
- Religious School: Marlene Benz  
[mbenz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mbenz@sbcglobal.net)  
818-259-6672
- Short Story Group: Jim Rosenthal  
[Jar529@gmail.com](mailto:Jar529@gmail.com)  
575-640-3292
- Wednesday Morning Breakfast:  
Phil Alkon (general questions or recommendations regarding future speakers)  
[philipalkon@gmail.com](mailto:philipalkon@gmail.com)  
575-524-6945  
Patrick Quinn (mailing list and Zoom access)  
[patrick.kaye.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.kaye.quinn@gmail.com)  
575-522-4692.



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## Transition Teams

As noted in the August *Adelante*, six of the nine Transition Teams have now become permanent committees. The remaining three transition teams are: Administration, Communication/Technology, and Strategy.

### Administration (Cheryl Decker, Chair)

Cheryl continues to run the Temple office. We are advertising for part-time help in the office.

### Communications/Technology (Nan Rubin, Chair)

Covid-19 has pushed TBE into a virtual world where communication and technology are inseparable. We have merged the Communications/Technology Team and team members are developing a process for TBE Announcements, newspaper announcements for the High Holy Days and Zoom training. After the High Holidays, the team will inform the public of TBE's ongoing activities, and run a feature about Student Rabbi Sofia Zway in the *Bulletin*. TBE is also exploring the feasibility of a partnership with DACC's Creative Media Program with the possibility of interns helping to revise and monitoring the TBE website.

### Strategy (Martha Roditti, Chair)

Focus Groups will be conducted after the high holidays to address questions affecting the Temple's future. An outside facilitator will conduct three focus groups to address: membership, URJ affiliation, and search for a new rabbi.

## AN UNCLUTTERED VIEW OF TBE FINANCES

We are happy to report that we have a total pledged amount of \$112,000.00 for dues income this fiscal year. There are many members who have increased their pledged amounts in recognition of the needs of TBE and we thank them. In fact, by August 18<sup>th</sup>, we have already collected over \$47,000.00 in dues. Ordinarily, our dues are our largest source of income that is used to pay our greatest expense, rabbinic costs.

With a temporary moratorium on rabbinic costs and the grant income of \$20,000 from the JFGEP to support both our student Rabbi Sofia Zway and the costs of the transition, we are in a positive financial status. But keep in mind that if we choose to have a search committee for a full-time rabbi in the future, the costs could be anywhere from \$10,000 to \$30,000 dollars.

A second category of income is general donations such as High Holiday, Yizkor Book, and the Verizon rental. These monies cover our administration and general expense, such as office supplies, professional fees, telephone, and URJ dues.

Our third category of income is our fund raisers: JFF, the Matzo Ball Open golf tournament, the Renaissance Faire, and the Night at The Auction. But pandemic reality means that we will probably not receive fundraiser income this year, basically a \$30,000.00 dollar deficit that is normally used to cover our building expenses, which last year was \$27,000.00.

So yes, our dues report card is good, but we must maintain our level of payments to support the financial needs of our temple as well as future opportunities.

## Wednesday Morning Breakfast

The Wednesday Morning Breakfast has resumed in Zoom format. The program will begin 9 am weekly. Phil Alkon is the organizer and should be contacted at [philipalkon@gmail.com](mailto:philipalkon@gmail.com) or 575-524-6945 with general questions or recommendations regarding future speakers. Patrick Quinn is assisting Phil with developing and maintaining the mailing list and with Zoom access. If you have questions about either of those issues please contact Patrick at [patrick.kaye.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.kaye.quinn@gmail.com) or 575-522-4692.



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## "Virtual" Short Story Series Continues

During these challenging times, you are invited to join us for the "fall semester" of our ongoing Temple Beth-El "virtual" Jewish short story discussion series. We have two separate groups that meet via Zoom on Mondays and Tuesdays at 11 a.m. We are reading the short stories of Jewish authors, past and present. Since many of our authors' stories are available on-line, there is no need for you to purchase a book. I send the assigned stories via email directly to you. The fee for the current series is \$18 which goes to the temple's Adult Education programs. (Checks should be made out to Temple Beth-El and the memo line should indicate "short story group.") If reading great fiction and spending time with friends and fellow fiction lovers for lively conversation sounds good, just email me at [jar529@gmail.com](mailto:jar529@gmail.com) or call me at 640-3292. Hope to hear from you. — Jim Rosenthal



**SEPTEMBER 2020 (ELUL 5780-TISHREI 5781)****Yahrzeits-July 1, 2020 through August 2, 2020**

(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, September 4**

Lulu Dimig (Deborah Levy)  
 Irv Dworsky\*  
 Millie Greenberg (Cyrille S. Kane)  
 Eve Holzman\*  
 Ethel Kreps\*  
 Albert Petrowski\*  
 Donald David Stern\*  
 Sidney Waldman\*

**Read on Friday, September 11**

Thomas E. Bell (Joseph Bell)  
 Sylvia Blumkin\*  
 Morris Feldman\*  
 Morris Goldberg (Cyrille S. Kane)  
 Joseph Karol (Rabbi Larry Karol)  
 Helen Rothman (Nina Rothman)  
 Libbie Ryave (Rosalyn Richman, Selma Ryave)  
 Ida Siegel (Carla Libby)  
 Samuel Smalley\* (Alison Mann)

**Read on Friday, September 18**

Mickey Agosta (Tammy Tellez)  
 Louis Berkeley (Arthur Berkeley)  
 Fabian Bissonette (Lynne Berkeley)  
 Zellie Capin (Sam Klein)  
 Emily Cohen\* (Susan Brown and Marieka Brown)  
 Shirley Fisher (Barry Fisher)  
 Donald Gantert (Suis Kolikant)  
 Beth Lawrence (David Zeemont)  
 Ramon Marquez (Jeffrey Marquez, Frima Marquez)  
 Walter Sisson (Renee Frank)

**Read on Friday, September 25**

Shepley Backman (Judy Kirschner)  
 Iylene Caplan (Mother of Betty Rosse)  
 Isadore Frank\*  
 Thomas Gatkin\*  
 Ralph Holzman\*  
 Bernard Kottler (Marsha San Filippo)  
 Anna Lampert\* (Gabriel Lampert)  
 Ted Levy (Tom Levy)  
 Richard Meltzer (Colette Meltzer)  
 Sidney Muffs\* (Carol Bernstein)  
 Nathan Siegel\*  
 Viki Slack (Stefani Singer)  
 Arthur Winard (Sam Klein)

**Read on Friday, October 2**

Bernice Deutcher (Stefani Singer)  
 Yetta Feldman\*  
 Samuel Freeman (Bernice Langner)  
 Blanche Geisinger (Ruth Ann Sugarman)  
 Benjamin Golden\*  
 Martin Greenfield\*  
 Robert Krasner (Frima Marquez, Jeffrey Marquez)  
 Mary Krepps\*  
 Herman Limmer\*  
 Martin Muffs\* (Carol Bernstein)  
 Bill Quinn (Patrick Quinn)  
 Dorothy Rabinovitch (David Rabinovich)  
 Emily Schorr (Susan Michelson)  
 Rose Sommers\* (Frances F. Williams)  
 Sam Sommers\* (Frances F. Williams)  
 Mabel Stern\*

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 Adelante.
  - 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 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.

# Help Wanted!



**We have an immediate need for someone to help Cheryl out in the Temple office. Duties would include learning how to work in Rakefet (temple database), other computer work, and general office related responsibilities.**

**If you can help, contact Cheryl at:**

**[doubledeckerohio@msn.com](mailto:doubledeckerohio@msn.com) or 575-640-9559**

## **Tikkun Olam Opportunities** ***Giving to and volunteering at*** ***Casa de Peregrinos & El Caldito***

Casa de Peregrinos provides staple foods to the needy, and El Caldito provides a 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. There is also a need for wide-mouth glass bottles and containers and gently used clothing.

**This is a critical time for the organizations.** Due to the COVID-19 crisis, they have seen an increase in demand. At the same time, they have had a decrease in volunteers, particularly on weekends. In order to maintain social distancing, the El Caldito soup kitchen has switched to handing out meals to go.

For more information on current needs, questions, or to volunteer, contact Casa de Peregrinos (575-523-5542) and El Caldito (575-525-3831) directly.



**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.**



## **Bricks for the** **Biblical Garden and** **Brick Walkway**

**Please consider ordering one to mark that special occasion of your own 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!**



## **Making Your Kitchen Table a Sanctuary**

Instead of spending Friday nights at Temple Beth-El, my husband, Jeff and I have been sitting at our kitchen table and have been worshipping via Zoom.

We changed a few things before Rabbi Sofia's first service. I put on a white damask tablecloth, placed a kiddish cup and wine glasses on the table, and added some flowers from one of our plants. The battery operated "Sabbath" candles were nearby (we have a dog so are careful with lit candles.) Because of Sisterhood and the Mensch Club, there was a wonderful challah on the table and I placed on it a challah cover we've had all our married life. No, it wasn't the TBE sanctuary or social hall, but it was different than what it is during the week.

I'm lucky to have friends who pass on great ideas and inspiration. A former congregant from the Reform temple in Lancaster, Pa., sent me an outline on how to make our homes a "mikdash m'at", a miniature sanctuary. Rabbi Jack P. Paskoff passed on ideas from Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada:

Rabbi Goldstein suggests finding a prayer space in advance, say a blessing over it. Whatever chair you sit on, you can put a cushion or festive pillow on it or drape it with special fabric or a scarf. Change your workspace to a contemplative space by covering the desk or table with a white tablecloth, white runner or placemat or flowers. Find meaningful objects to grace your space. On Rosh Hashanah you could have apples and honey. On Yom Kippur you could place photos of loved ones or if you have a shofar, put it where it's visible.

Limit or disconnect auditory distractions like your cell phone. Rabbi Goldstein suggests "If possible, move the computer space back so that you are 'watching' the screen more than 'manipulating' it. Consider connecting your computer to a TV screen so it feels less like a work device." "Wear clothing that makes you feel as if you are entering a spiritual space. Kippa and tallit are welcome if they help you express a connection to this special Worship.

I don't think it makes a big difference if the tablecloth is white or patterned or another color, or even if you put a tablecloth on your kitchen table. The idea, however, is to make this space, different, a place to set aside while you try to tune in spiritually. If you can't change your kitchen table, kitchen counter, desk or coffee table, you can wear clothes that are more like what you'd wear in the sanctuary (ok, this year I don't know about suits or high heels!)

If there's time before the holidays, you can also go for a walk or drive and look at the mountains, to try to connect to something greater than ourselves. The High Holy Days are not going to be the same this year, but they can be joyful and reflective. We can "see" each other via Zoom. I once heard someone who had lived in several different places explain where "home" was. She said, "Home is wherever my family is." Our holy space is wherever we are.

*Cherri Hudson-Brown*

*Chair, Religious Practices Committee*

## **ROUND CHALLAHS FOR ROSH HASHANAH 5781**



Temple Beth-El Sisterhood can assist you and your family begin your celebration.

Choose plain or raisin-\$7 each.

Order deadline is September 4

Pickup date is Thursday, September 17th  
Noon-2PM in The temple Kitchen.

Make checks payable to: TBE Sisterhood  
and send to:

Sue Mazer

7506 Monte Verde Place

Las Cruces, NM 88012

Questions: Call Sue, 925-922-4881

### **Adelante Submissions:**

During this time of social distancing due to COVID-19, let us not become distant from each other. Speak with fellow congregants, friends and family. Send me your pictures of family Shabbat, musings, illustrations, etc. I will share as many as space allows in next month's Adelante.

**The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the October 2020 Adelante is September 20, 2020. Late items may not be included. Please** do your best to keep to that schedule to facilitate a timely completion of the Adelante! All content can be e-mailed to Beth Tierney at [cambrien73@gmail.com](mailto:cambrien73@gmail.com)

*Gail Braverman, M.A., Marriage & Family Therapist, wrote the following letter to her congregation, Temple Emanu-El in San Diego, California.*

## PREPARING OURSELVES FOR THE HIGH HOLY HOLIDAYS

I was thinking about the upcoming holidays and found myself overcome with sadness about not being able to see each of you in person. We are restricted due to the pandemic.

It suddenly occurred to me that Moses changed the course of human experience by leading his people from slavery to freedom. However, he had a 40-year hiatus in the desert between the letting go of the old way of life and stepping into the new one. We too are temporarily in a desert.

We are moving into the High Holy Days. They are definitely not going to be the way they were. When an important event is about to occur, our emotions anticipate it before it actually happens. You may find yourself anxious and extra sad before a funeral or surgery, or joyful and excited about the birth of a child, or a special trip. There is a possibility you might find yourself more irritable or restless as the Holidays approach.

There is sadness in not being able to come together in community to be in the full experience of the High Holy Days. Even those who come to services once a year depend on seeing people they might not have seen for a whole year. They look forward to catching up with them and being able to give and get hugs. Those things will not be possible this year. We are having to let go of the way things were in order to accept the way things are. We ordinarily think of loss as the loss of a person, but there are many other kinds of losses. The loss of celebrating together our rituals and traditions is a source of loss.

We must keep in mind that the rituals that had been so sustaining, predictable, dependable, reliable and repeatable are still there. Although we will not be physically together, we are a people who are deeply connected to each other, our Jewish identity and values, and to those who have gone before us and those who will come after us. We will make it through this desert together.

I am reminded of the words of the poet William Stafford in *The Way It Is*:

There's a thread you follow. It goes among  
things that change. But it doesn't change.....  
You don't ever let go of the thread.

Judaism doesn't change because we meet in a Temple or in our homes. During this holiday we will be together

even when we are alone. We must hold on to the thread.

Don't let go of knowing that we are still a family and still an engaged, vibrant Temple community. I suggest we send a prayer out to each other during this time. A prayer wishing one another strength, courage, good health and hope.

Visualize our Temple sanctuary at holiday time and all those chairs filled with the familiar warm faces and comforting embraces we so readily give when we are together. Imagine looking around and seeing those you love filling those chairs. I will certainly be imagining you.

Wishing you healthy and happy High Holy Days. May we be together next year.

~Gail Braverman

*Gail points out that the pandemic has brought us into a period of isolation, separation from family and friends, and worry about the unknown. In times like these, people often experience a range of emotional responses.*

*To support our community during this difficult time, the Adult Education Committee will offer a series of short articles in upcoming issues of the Adelante. These articles will provide information about the different concerns people might be facing and ways to approach them. They will be written by members of our congregation with expertise in different areas of behavioral health. We will be seeking your response to the articles and if there is sufficient interest may follow up by offering Zoom workshops.*

*Wishing you healthy and happy High Holy Days. May we be together next year.*

*Ned Rubin, Chair, Adult Education Committee  
Joanne Turnbull, TBE Transition Chair*

## Editor's Corner



Last night, after the rain, my family and I went to the drive-in to see “the Greatest Showman”. It was a glorious, cool evening and Morgan and I were thrilled to be able to sing along because we were not in a crowded theater. The movie was as good as I had remembered it being when I saw it in the theaters so long ago. In fact it was probably better because I came with the expectation of being uplifted. In the month of Elul, I think that is an appropriate attitude. As 5780 draws to a close and we look forward to 5781, we take stock of everything that has occurred during the year and the way that we have reacted to it. Like Phineas T. Barnum, we may lose track of what is really important in our lives, we may treat others unfairly and justify it because we have been treated unfairly in the past. We may sometimes feel like hanging our heads in our hands and wallowing in our sorrow. But ultimately, the show must go on. When the flames die down, and the rains clear, each year we are given the gift of Teshuva, the chance to say “This year will be better. This year, *I* will be better.”

On another note, the 13th of this month on the Gregorian calendar is Grandparents Day. Although this is what my mother, and many others might consider a “Hallmark Holiday” it is still a good opportunity to celebrate some important people in our lives. If you are a grandparent, Mazel Tov and I wish you a very Happy Grandparent’s Day! If you are lucky enough to have grandparents, here is your chance to make them feel special. If you can’t spend the day together in person, give them a call, video chat, send a card, some chocolate, a new car (ok, that last one is going overboard, but if you have the means...)

Finally, September 11th marks the 19th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on our country. It is almost two decades ago yet for so many of us, the mere mention of the day brings us right back to that sickening feeling as we watched the unimaginable happen. We remember the 2977 victims of this attack including those who sacrificed their own lives so that others might live. We extend our condolences to their families and honor our heroes. May we use this day to remind ourselves to choose love and not hate.

In this month of Elul, I wish you clarity, renewal, love, health and peace. May you have a sweet new year.

Shana Tova,  
Beth Tierney

## Election Official Recruitment

Dr. Amanda López Askin, Doña Ana County Clerk, has sent an email to the Social Action Committee of Temple Beth-El seeking individuals to work as Election Officials heading into the November election. She says, in the email, that “*Our Election Officials (previously known as poll workers) are literally the first layer of accountability and transparency at polling locations and are vital to a successful election.*”

She goes on to say that Doña Ana County is actively working on recruiting individuals to work the upcoming election, specifically on Election Day. This website will provide information and additional details on the various roles, training and other requirements for Election Officials.

<https://donaanacounty.org/content/election-worker-application>

For those interested, there is compensation for Election Officials between \$175 - \$200 for the day of work, depending on their specific role on site. As you might imagine, it is a very long day, but Dr. Askin points out that it is also a great opportunity to be an important part of the electoral process in our community. She specifically points out her desire to have representation from all of the important and diverse groups across our county. Although she did not say this, I suspect that it will be less busy than “usual” as so many people will be voting by absentee or mail-in ballots.

If enough folks are interested in getting more information, Dr. Askin has said that she would be more than happy to arrange a Zoom meeting with a group.

For more information, the contact information for the County Clerk’s Office is: 575-647-7421



### **Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees Meeting Summary— July 16, 2020**

- Cheryl Decker opened the meeting and Lynn Zeemont provided the Invocation.
- Financially, the Temple is in good shape right now, though we will be relying on dues more than ever this year, as our traditional fundraisers are on hold.
- Religious Practices Committee is working with Sofia Zway and Rabbi Emeritus Larry Karol and members of the congregation to prepare for High Holiday services.
- The Temple will be lending out High Holiday prayer books for those who need them. There will be a drive through pick up for pre-ordered holiday Challah and prayer books. Those who cannot pick up should contact the temple or a board member and we will arrange for delivery.
- The Temple will purchase an add on for Zoom in September to allow up to 500 people to attend.
- The Mensch club met for their first meeting since the pandemic and are now on track to meet monthly.
- Religious school is preparing to begin classes after High Holidays, Marlene Benz is the religious school administrator. Teachers and parents are working together to create a successful year for our students.
- The Temple is looking into doing a program around a short-animated film called, "The Tatooed Torah," which is based on a book by Holocaust survivor, Marvell Ginsburg.

### **Temple Beth-El Mitzvah Team**

The Mitzvah Team has identified the following tasks that it would like to perform and support with the help of Temple volunteers (please let us know if you can assist us):

- Develop a phone tree and other ways to reach out to members.
- Support the Rabbi and the Religious Practices Committee in providing special arrangements for shiv'ah minyans.
- Visit homebound and hospitalized members and members living in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospice.
- Provide transportation to worship services and Temple events, medical appointments, and errands.
- Celebrate simchahs (life's joyous moments).

Please contact:

- Alison Mann—575-680-0207  
[Alisonmd4@gmail.com](mailto:Alisonmd4@gmail.com)
- Luke Duddridge—727-204-6086
- David Decker—575-556-4056  
[deckerdavid28@gmail.com](mailto:deckerdavid28@gmail.com)

**If you are aware of any members in need of the services listed above, please let us know!**

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2020-2021**

President-Cheryl Decker

Vice-President-Lynn Zeemont

Secretary— Steve Haydu

Treasurer— Michael Mandel

Barbara Berger Pearie Bruder Marieka Brown

Bryan McCuller Martha Roditti Nan Rubin

Joanne Turnbull

Jeff Lewis (Mensch Club) Dee Cook (Sisterhood)



## Donations through August 24, 2020

### **General Operating Fund:**

Diane and Harry Bass, in memory of Elissa Poel  
Estate of Win Jacobs, in honor of Terri Sugarman and  
Michael Mandel for helping with the memorial  
service  
Mensch Club, in honor of Sofia Zway's first Erev  
Shabbat service  
Bernice Langner, in memory of Chana Sarah Suffrin  
Langner, Rabbi Mordecai Langner, Jennie  
Wagman Freeman, and Samuel Freeman  
Deana Mallon-Kessin  
Burt and Ann Berkson, thanks for the Purim basket

### **Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol Campership Fund:**

Steven and Patti Groll Rosenberg, in honor of Rabbi  
Larry's retirement

### **Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund:**

Diane and Harry Bass, thanks for the Purim basket

### **Biblical Garden Fund:**

Linda and Donald McPherson, In honor of EJ and  
Mabel Stern and Donald and Estelle Stern  
Frances Williams, In honor of EJ and Mabel Stern and  
Donald and Estelle Stern  
Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol, In honor of Adam and  
Juli's wedding  
David Zeemont, in honor of past Rabbi's

### **Mitzvah Team Fund:**

Jeff and Cherri Hudson-Brown, in honor of all who  
make a difference in our temple community and the  
broader community

*Given changes to the standard deduction  
limits, we will not be providing 2020  
contribution statements for tax purposes. If  
you would like a statement, please contact the  
temple treasurer Michael Mandel to request  
one.*

### **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.

***Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol Campership Fund***—  
Providing scholarships for Temple students to attend  
Jewish summer camp programs.

***The Mitzvah Team Fund***—to assist this voluntary team  
of Temple Beth-El members that, upon request and  
dependent upon availability, will provide non-  
emergency support service to members of the temple

***Social Action Fund***—For projects that benefit our com-  
munity 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 colle-  
giate studies or rabbinical studies.

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

***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 activ-  
ities 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.



**Temple Beth-El is 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. The process is very simple – go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). You will be required to enter the charity to which you wish to donate – 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 since many people today shop online via Amazon, it becomes a win-win situation for all.

**Visit the Temple Beth-El Website—[www.tbhelc.org](http://www.tbhelc.org)  
for in-depth information about Temple and its programming and updates on current Temple events**

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**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!**



**Tanah  
Hemingway**

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NM 88004

**Editing:**

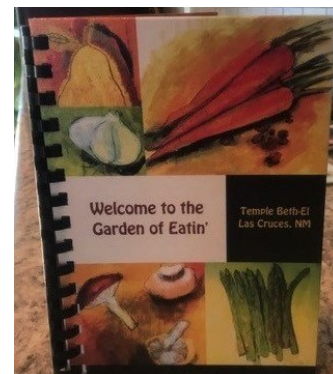
Books, scientific papers, theses, dissertations

**Technical documents of all sorts.**

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

**Temple Beth-El Cookbook  
“Welcome to the Garden of Eatin’”**

**\$15, Cash or Check**



**Contact Rose Jacobs for copies**

**[arejay11@icloud.com](mailto:arejay11@icloud.com) or**

**512 680-2783**



**Ron Bruder**

ASSOCIATE BROKER

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Cell: 575-312-7330

Office: 575-522-3698

**Steinborn & Associates  
Real Estate**

# SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Elul 12 1 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Elul 13 2 Wednesday Morning Breakfast 9:00 am via Zoom Tanakh Study 10:00 am via Zoom	Elul 14 3	Elul 15 4 Lay-Led Family Shabbat Services 6:30 PM via Zoom	Elul 16 5 Talmud Study 9:00 AM via Zoom Torah Study 11:00 AM via Zoom
Elul 17 6	Elul 18 7 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Elul 19 8 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Elul 20 9 Wednesday Morning Breakfast 9:00 AM via Zoom Tanakh Study 10:00 am via Zoom	Elul 21 10	Elul 22 11 Lay-Led Shabbat Services 6:30 PM via Zoom	Elul 23 12 Talmud Study 9:00 am via Zoom Torah Study 11:00 am via Zoom Selichot program 7:30 pm via Zoom
Elul 24 13	Elul 25 14 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Elul 26 15 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Elul 27 16 Wednesday Morning Breakfast 9:00 am via Zoom Tanakh Study 10:00 am via Zoom	Elul 28 17 Board Meeting 6:00 pm via Zoom	Elul 29 18 Erev Rosh Hashanah service 6:30 PM via Zoom	Tishrei 1 19 Rosh Hashanah Family Service 9:30 am via Zoom Rosh Hashanah Morning Services 10:15 am via Zoom
Tishrei 2 20 Second Day Rosh Hashanah "Limmud" 10:15 am via Zoom Shofar service and Kiddush 11:00 am via Zoom	Tishrei 3 21 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Tishrei 4 22 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Tishrei 5 23 Wednesday Morning Breakfast 9:00 am via Zoom Tanakh Study 10:00 am via Zoom	Tishrei 6 24	Tishrei 7 25 Shabbat Shuvah Service 6:30 pm via Zoom	Tishrei 8 26 Shabbat Shuvah service and Teshuvah workshop 10:15 am via Zoom
Tishrei 9 27 Kol Nidrei 8:00 pm via Zoom	Tishrei 10 28 Yom Kippur Family Service 9:30 am via Zoom Yom Kippur Morning Service 10:15 via Zoom Yizkor and Neilah 5:30 pm via Zoom	Tishrei 11 29 Short Story group 11:00 am via Zoom	Tishrei 12 30 Wednesday Morning Breakfast 9:00 am via Zoom Tanakh Study 10:00 am via Zoom			

3980 Sonoma Springs Avenue  
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President::  
Cheryl Decker

Student Rabbi: Sofia Zway

Rabbi Emeritus:  
Lawrence P. Karol

The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Beth Tierney. Copy Editors: James Rosenthal, Tanah Hemingway, Larry Karol. Circulation: Cheryl Decker. 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.tbclc.org](http://www.tbclc.org)**

SEPTEMBER, 2020



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