



Adelante!

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



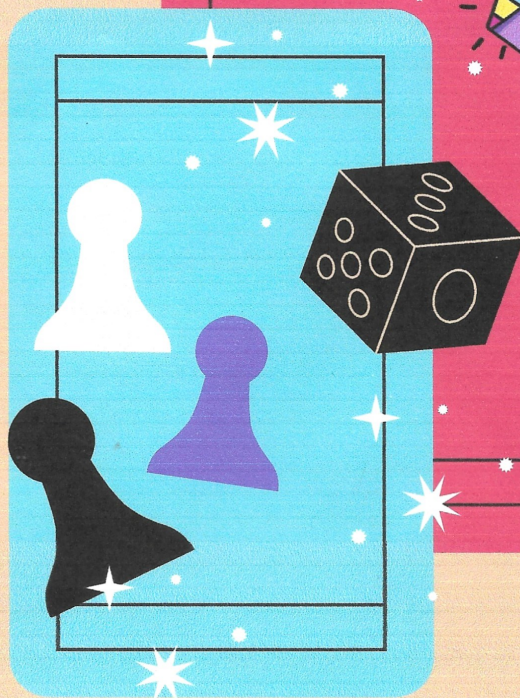
JUNE 2023 (SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5783)

June 4

7:00–8:30 PM

Game & Dessert

**Night
theme!**



**\$10 adult entry,
free admission for
kids 12 & under**

**Hosted by:
BETY/BEMY**

Dress in costume!

**Complimentary
refreshments
will be served!**



**Temple Beth El
3980 Sonoma Springs Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88011**



Worship Schedule

Services are in person but will also be available by Zoom and Facebook live.

You can watch the Facebook on this page:

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

Zoom invites for all services, and any text to follow, will be sent out weekly.

If you do not have a siddur at home, you can purchase a print copy or an e-book, (less expensive option) which can be viewed on any device using the free Kindle App. These can be bought from the Central Conference of American Rabbis at this link

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

**Friday Evening Kabbalat Services:
6:30 pm**

**Saturday Morning Services:
10:30 am**

1st and 3rd week, shorter service and Torah study.
2nd and 4th week, longer service with full Torah service.

Times may occasionally vary. See calendar for current schedule.

Adelante Submissions:

As we continue another busy year, I need your help more than ever. This newsletter is so much better when it has many voices (that and I am horrible at remembering to take pictures). Send me your pictures of family Shabbat or Temple events, book recommendations, recipes, illustrations, etc. I will share as many as space allows in each month's Adelante. Please send pictures in JPG and files in .doc format.

The deadline for turning in articles, items and photos for the July 2023 Adelante is June 18, 2023. Late items will not be included as I am going out of town on the 22nd. Please keep to that schedule to facilitate a timely completion of the Adelante! All content can be e-mailed to me, Beth Tierney at cambrien73@gmail.com

Study Opportunities

In person and by Zoom except when otherwise specified. Links sent weekly.

Talmud Study– Saturdays at 9:00 AM
Lay led by Bryan McCuller.

Short Story Group– Tuesdays at 1 pm via Zoom

This is a discussion group led by former congregant Jim Rosenthal. Jim e-mails stories by Jewish authors to participants each week. To join, contact Jim at jar529@gmail.com.

Tanakh study –Wednesdays at 10:15 am via Zoom

Led by Rabbi Larry Karol (TBE Rabbi Emeritus). Contact Rabbi Karol (rablpkarol@gmail.com) to join.

Jewish Literacy- Wednesdays at 5:30- 7:00 PM

Led by Rabbi Evette. Dinner included. Required text: Jewish Literacy (Revised Ed): The Most Important Things to Know About the Jewish Religion, Its People, and Its History by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin. This book is available on Kindle, \$1.99, with an audio narration by Audible, available for an additional charge for those who have difficulty reading.

CONVERSION: This series will be the base-work toward conversion to Judaism. This course is also highly recommended for adult bar/bat mitzvah students.

Mussar– Thursdays at Noon

Jewish ethics, led by Rabbi Evette.

Yahrzeits-June 2, 2023 through July 1, 2023

(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 June 2 & June 3, 2023

Julian Barit (Kathi Barit)
 Lillian Batte (Jill Kerr)
 Rita Berger (Lila Ziegler)
 Hyman Capin (Sam Klein)
 Jerry Gardner (Brenda & Arlon Parish)
 Jennie Greenfield*
 Rabbi Gerald M. Kane (Cyrille S. Kane)
 Leliah Kerr Steffen (Jill Kerr)
 Luba Klaitman* (Rita Polsky)
 Harriet Mandel (Michael & Barbara Mandel)
 Charlie Roselinsky (Lynn Zeemont)
 Shirley Ruttenberg (Ellen & Fred Torres)
 Dorothy Schlisman* (Norm & Sue Mazer)

Read on June 9 & June 10, 2023

Jerome Batkin* (Mike Batkin)
 Vera Brook (Mark & Stefani Singer)
 Michael Bruder* (Murray & Evelyn Bruder)
 Michael Max Cohen (Richard & Darlene Goldberg)
 Esther Edelstein Berlin* (Dee Cook)
 Sarah Eskin (Linda Kruger)
 Christina Griffasi (Deborah Thurman & James Jaworski)
 Aaron Hyman* (Michael & Stacey Hyman)
 Doris Kirschner* (Bob & Judy Kirschner)
 Miriam Kuznekoff*
 Isaac Podolsky (Rosalyn Richman & Selma Ryave)
 Marilyn Sheen (Barbara Sheen & John Busby)
 Andrea B. Siegel*
 Benjamin D. Siegel*
 Quinn Charlotte Sitcler (Cheryl & David Decker)

Read on June 16 & June 17, 2023

Richard Batkin* (Mike Batkin)
 Bernard Cutler (Allen & Michele Blum)
 Siebert Feldman*
 Ruben Kasten*
 Nathan Mandel (Michael & Barbara Mandel)
 Steven R. Pasternack*
 Dorothy Reiser-Barit (Kathi Barit)
 Benjamin D. Siegel*
 Marian Turnbull (Joanne Turnbull)

Read on June 23 & June 24, 2023

Henerietta Horowitz (Ellen & Fred Torres)
 Mildred Mirrop*
 Rachelle Petrowski*
 Asher Segen*
 Kim Klein Segura (Tom & Deborah Levy)
 Leo Steinborn* (Jeff Steinborn, Vivian Steinborn)
 Max Taub*
 Pearl Weisman (Cyrille S. Kane)

Read on June 30 & July 1, 2023

Milton Berkson* (Burt & Ann Berkson, Arthur & Rebecca Berkson)
 Cecile Elfant (Rose Jacobs)
 Ruth Frank (Lester & Renee Frank)
 Jennie Frank*
 Roslyn Rice*
 Fouzie Shabazi (Daniel Aziziangilan)
 Dora Stern* (Burt & Ann Berkson, Arthur & Rebecca Berkson)
 Efrem Violin (Stefani & Mark Singer)

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. Current TBE members may purchase a plaque for \$300. Non TBE members may purchase a plaque for \$600.

Musings from the Four Lakes Region

by Karen Shevet Dinah

Oprah Winfrey gave the 2023 commencement address at her alma mater, Tennessee State University recently. When I watched the recording of her speech I wondered if she'd converted to Judaism and was sharing her personal counting of the omer or perhaps her mussar practice.

"Everybody always thinks you've got to go do something big and grand. I'll tell you where you start: You start by being good to at least one other person every single day. . . . It doesn't matter if it's a member of your tribe or a stranger on the street. I'm here to tell you that a little act of compassion can be a lifesaver for somebody who receives it, but also for you who offers it," she said. The address, rich in her family's stories of struggle, used her own history and her people's history of survival against all odds as an inspirational narrative for the next generation of young Blacks. Oprah was likely unaware that she was teaching the concept of tikkun ha-lev.

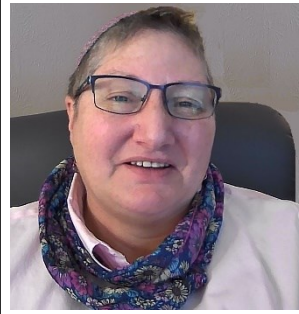
Tikkun ha-lev could be described as a counterpoint to tikkun olam which I pondered in the last issue of the Adelante. It looks to right the wrongs of the world outside us. Tikkun ha-lev, on the other hand, requires inward focus, self-correction. According to Rabbi Yael Levy, spiritual director to rabbinical students in the Reconstructionist and Reform movements, tikkun ha-lev is "the softening of our hearts in order to heal them . . . for our own sake and for the sake of each other, to bring us back into loving relationship with each other and the world."

Rabbi Evette has been teaching tikkun ha-lev through her introductory class on the practice of mussar in which we are asked to look deeply at the broken parts of our hearts and focus on mending our own personal brokenness in order to better interact with others. Related to the practice of mussar, is a complex system, devised by Jewish mysticism for counting the 49 days of sefirat ha-omer (marking the seven weeks between pesach and shavuot). The mystical practice goes well beyond the daily traditional announcement of day one, two, three, etc. of the omer. Rather one spends those seven weeks in deep contemplation of seven human characteristics paired with each other in 49 combinations. This deep reflection, the mystics believed was necessary for true comprehension of Torah.

So here I am spending the next couple of months among effigy mounds and other sacred spaces of the First Peoples of the Four Lakes Region of southcentral Wisconsin, counting the omer in hopes of reaching a better understanding of the torah of living in today's

("Musings", continued from previous column)

mixed up world, feeling motivated by Oprah's energetic guidance for new graduates, wondering how my mussar chaverim are progressing. . . . And hoping that as we continue to emerge from the insular life of these pandemic years, I will be better at focusing on the "Thou" rather than the "I".



Words of Thanks from Rabbi Evette

Words cannot express how grateful Shari and I are for this congregation's support during our mourning. Members and friends of TBELC have come together as a community and surrounded us.

It's not just because I am the rabbi; for we have watched you behave in the same way when you've supported other families through their losses. No, your coming together is, well, just what you do.

Rabbis try to instill in their community, a natural pull toward doing *mitzvot* - fulfilling Jewish obligations. So what *are* our Jewish obligations? I'm not talking *Halacha*- Jewish law. I'm talking about Jewish communal love, and how we as an extended Jewish family express that love. We say in our liturgy, "*eilu d'varim*-These are things", "*sh'ein lahem shiur*-for which there is no way to measure (their value)" Then we see a list that includes the kindnesses you all have done, simply because you, and we, belong to the TBELC community.

"*kibud av va-eim*- honoring one's father and mother". At a moment's notice you dropped everything and made it possible to honor my mother's life with a celebration of that life - a mother who raised a rabbi, though she did not share her daughter's faith. You most certainly fulfilled the mitzvah of "*g'milut chasadim*- engaging in deeds of compassion", when you helped organize the shiva minyanim, led the prayer services; you practiced "*iyun t'filah*- being devoted in prayer", when you came to help make the prayer minyan, so we could say kaddish. You practiced "*hachnasat orchim*- dealing graciously with guests", when you welcomed attendees to those shiva minyanim, brought and organized food and chairs and cleanup. You did the mitzvah of "*l'vayat hameit*- accompanying the dead for burial", when you personally comforted us, helped us get to the airport for my mother's funeral and helped us get back safely though we were dazed. You filled our refrigerator with nutritious food and eased our minds by taking care of our home and our dogs in our absence, so we could attend the funeral. "*bikur cholim*- visiting the sick", You called, you wrote and reached-*in* to comfort, when we were so sad we did not even know to ask for help.

Save the Date:

Sisterhood will be hosting our Girls Night Out event on July 26th, a Wednesday evening.

At this time, the place and the price is unknown, but stay tuned:

Details to follow.

Food Drive

As part of their Confirmation ceremony, the class asked for donations of non-perishable food products to be donated to Casa de Peregrinos. They would like to have a little bit more to bring over so the deadline for collection is being extended. You may bring donations anytime up to and including to the BEMY/BETY game night on June 4th. They may be placed on or by the table set up in front.

Thank you for helping heal the world.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022-2023

President-Nan Rubin

Vice-President-Elliot Katz

Secretary- Donna Popky

Treasurer- Joel Seigel

Martha Roditti Diane Fleishman

Lynn Zeemont, Mark Singer, Sheri Speigel

Jeff Lewis (Mensch Club)

Dee Cook (Sisterhood)

Celebrating our Simchas

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

Luke Duddridge
Jane Grider

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

Barbara & Irwin Ross

We would love to have more names in these lists. 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.

Please note that we are not collecting dates, just the months.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Office Help: Duties include but are not limited to taking messages off the phone, helping people coming into temple, and giving tours of the temple. Contact [Cheryl Decker](#).
- Web Page management team. Looking for a few people to join. The only Web Page experience needed is ability to point, click, and read. You get to provide input on how the pages should look! Contact [Steve Haydu](#).

Religious School Confirmation



The Temple Beth-El graduation was held on May 19 during Kabbalat Shabbat services. The three students who were being confirmed were Mia Berkson, Kaylee Zeledon and Morgan Tierney. All three are deeply committed to Judaism and have and continue to be valued members of the TBE community. I am honored to share the meaningful speeches that they gave as well as this wonderful

alternate version of the Amidah shared by their teacher, Diane Fleishman.

An alternative to the Aleinu....

And Then

By Judy Chicago

And then all that has divided us will merge

And then compassion will be weeded to power

And then softness will come to a world that I harsh and unkind

And then both men and women will be gentle

And then both men and women will be strong

And then no person will be subject to another's will

And then all will be rich and free and varied

And then the greed of some will give way to the needs of many

And then all will share equally in the Earth's abundance

And then all will care for the sick and the weak and the old

And then all will nourish the young

And then all will cherish life's creatures

And then all will live in harmony with one another and the Earth

And then everywhere will be called Eden once more.

Mia Berkson:

I have spent my entire Jewish life at Temple Beth-El. Leora Zeitlin presided over my naming ceremony. Stuart Kelter was my teacher in training wheels, and I grew up going to religious school here every Sunday with Rabbi Karol and Ms. Rhonda and other dedicated religious school teachers. And now, I get to do youth group with Amalia.



When it came time to prepare for my bat mitzvah, I wasn't the most excited about having to study. Having to learn Hebrew and how to read from the torah is very challenging. If given the choice, honestly, I probably wouldn't have done it. Looking back, I'm very grateful that I was able to go through the process and have my bat mitzvah. It is an important tradition and I think it's good to have to work for something that is important. Having my bat mitzvah was an expectation from my family. Confirmation was more of a personal journey. Confirmation, for me, is making my first commitment on my own to practicing Judaism. In my confirmation class we spent more time discussing Jewish beliefs and values than I ever have before.

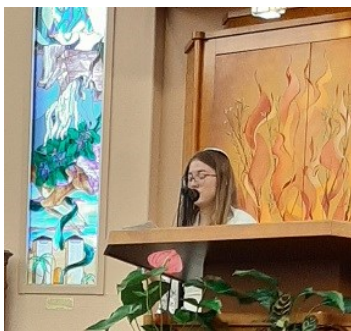
Being Jewish is important to me because it gives me purpose and brings meaning to my life. It gives me a sense of community and helps guide me in the choices I make. Even if I'm not consciously connecting Judaism to each decision I make, being Jewish helps guide me because it has shaped who I am.

Today does not mark the end of my Jewish education. I plan to continue to be an active member of the temple. I want to practice Jewish traditions with my family and eventually with my own children. I want to continue to value education and practice Tikkun Olam by volunteering and donating to good causes.

I want to thank my teachers especially Mrs. Diane, my family, and the Temple Beth-El community for supporting me in my journey.

(Confirmation speeches, continued from previous page)

Morgan Tierney:



So, I want to start by saying that this year, I haven't actually been in confirmation class with the others, as I had already done two years of confirmation work and decided not to do another. However, I have continued to be involved as I have been helping out in the younger class of 5-8-year-olds in religious school. So, while the confirmation class was learning about Jewish

history and values, I was teaching kids about what Passover was and helping them to remember what sound a gimel makes. Even though my continual involvement has looked different this year, I have still found meaning in the work I have been able to do in a way that has further connected me to my own Jewishness through continual involvement in the community. At its core, a confirmation quite literally means to be confirmed. Confirming your pride in being Jewish and affirming the fact that your Jewish identity means something to you. Many people have a bar/bat mitzvah due to family pressures, or because it feels like something they should do, or because they want to have a big party. But having a confirmation means that being Jewish means enough to you to stick around longer than what is "required." I have found joy and meaning in my work helping to teach kids about Jewish holidays, culture, and a bit of Hebrew because I hope to help these kids form a positive connection with being Jewish. No matter what a person's religious beliefs are, I think there is immense value in knowing the culture and traditions of the Jewish religion and the broader Jewish culture that they are a part of. Even something as simple as a kid explaining Jewish holidays to their classmates, because they think it's cool, means something. I hope that the children who look forward to things like crafts, friends, and maybe the good food at religious school now become the teenagers who are still involved with the synagogue after their bar/bat mitzvah later.

Some of my earliest memories of Judaism include driving nearly 2 hours to go to synagogue in Waterville, Maine a few times a year, where I always looked forward to being able to wear my fancy dresses. I remember trying to sit through services, trying -and miserably failing- to keep up with the prayerbooks filled with unfamiliar Hebrew, or as I affectionately called it: "gibberish." I remember sneaking out to the library with the other kids where I learned the essential life skill of spinning a dreidel upside down. I remember our amazing Rabbi and her wife who taught us all the fun Jewish songs that I would passionately bang on the prayerbooks while singing. At home, I always looked forward to my mom's homemade challah on Friday nights and the matzo ball soup that my mom makes any time someone in our house is sick. Seriously, I swear that stuff is like Jewish penicillin. I remember being the only Jewish family in our small town in Maine, where people who claimed they had never met a Jewish person before were likely telling the truth. Throughout my entire school career, I have explained Jewish holidays to my classmates with varying responses, including: "Wait, you get 8 times the amount of presents? No fair!" and "So, you go on a bread diet for a week?", and "You don't get presents from Santa?" When I was about 10, I moved from Maine to New Mexico and became involved at a synagogue in the same town I lived in, where I gained most of my more formal Jewish education. I went to Sunday school for the first time and was one of

those kids who genuinely enjoyed it. As a kid, I remember always being proud of my Jewishness, even when it was sometimes inconvenient like when I didn't get school off for high holy days. I always saw it as something unique and special about me, and the aspect of community and belonging is something I especially connected with, whether that's at synagogue or meeting someone new and feeling an immediate connection with a, "Wait you're Jewish? Me too!"

As I grew older, I started to connect with Judaism further. My Bat Mitzvah wasn't a stopping point but rather a beginning. I finally learned the prayers formally and felt like I actually knew what was going on in services, and I remember being excited about the pretty pink floral tallit that my mom and I sewed together. I very much enjoyed the party and the pretty dress I got to wear but for me, my Bat Mitzvah did have some further meaning. It served as a starting point for further exploration. As I explored further aspects of Judaism, I realized that it contained many values that align with my own. However, it may be less that these Jewish values just happen to align with my personal values than that my personal values somewhat reflect Jewish values because I'm Jewish. One Jewish value that especially resonates with me is Tikkun Olam or healing the world. There is this idea that we all live together in the same world and that we should take care of each other not to gain a reward or escape punishment, but simply because we are all human beings and well, to quote High School Musical, "We're all in this together." Now, I've watched and read enough dystopian-inspired media to know that a truly perfect world isn't something that can truly ever exist. No matter how much work is put in or how much society evolves, there will always be corruption and injustice somewhere. Luckily, Tikkun Olam is not "fixing the world," or "perfecting the world," but simply healing it, and I think that looks like each person putting in whatever effort they can to make the world a better place. In the words of Rabbi Tarfon, "It is not your responsibility alone to finish the work of perfecting the world, but you are not free to resist from it either." I take this to mean that participating in Tikkun Olam doesn't mean that you should attempt to singlehandedly cure world hunger, but by participating in a food drive or volunteering at the soup kitchen you are still making a valuable contribution. I believe that even simple acts of human kindness can be a form of Tikkun Olam, as one single person's day made better is still a way of bettering the world.

I am here at this confirmation ultimately because being Jewish is important to me and will continue to influence how I live my life. I spend my Sundays teaching kids holidays and Hebrew letters because I want them to have the opportunity to learn about Judaism and hopefully find some connection to it later in life as I did. There is a value in Judaism placed on continuing our traditions and values and passing them L'dor V'dor, or "from generation to generation." I am immensely grateful for all of the people who have supported me and guided me on my journey so far, so I find meaning in paying it forward and teaching a new generation about our rich customs and traditions. The driving force for the reason that I am doing this confirmation, the reason I spend my Sundays at religious school, the reason I'm still involved Jewishly even though I don't have to be is simple: No matter how many cheeseburgers I eat or how little I observe Shabbat or the minor holidays I usually skip out on, I am proud to be a Jew.

JUNE 2023 (SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5783)

Kaylee Zeledon:

I've known all along that I was Jewish when we made latkes, lit the Hanukkah candles, ate chocolate gelt, and dined on brisket. We did that every year. We invited friends and family to share our table at Pesach, Erev-Rosh Hashanah, munching at Hamentashen at Purim, but Judaism is much more than that.

It's the prayers, asking for forgiveness, dancing the Hora, shouting "Mazel Tov" at the top of our lungs, playing Gaga Ball with our friends, attending Jewish camp, learning about the Holocaust, sharing sadness and happiness with our community, praying together on Friday nights, lighting the candles on Shabbat, rolling out the Torah on Simchat Torah, and reading Hebrew text. So what's not to like about being Jewish?

I'm sixteen years old and over the years I have celebrated many holidays, cooked many Jewish meals, set the Passover table, searched for the afikoman, and laughed and cried with my friends. I made it through my Bat Mitzvah hours before everything had to shut down because of the pandemic. As I enter my adult years, I can't wait to find out how my Jewish life shapes up. I look forward to many more youth group activities and maybe even a Birthright trip to Israel. There's so much to do!

But most importantly, I look forward to many more memories to come.

**Temple Beth-El Annual Membership Meeting
May 11, 2023**

President Nan Rubin called the meeting to order and welcomed all the congregants attending, both in person and on Zoom.

Rabbi Evette Lutman presented an Invocation, followed by approval of the 2022 Membership Meeting minutes. Rabbi Evette Lutman is pleased with the events that have taken place since her arrival last year. She feels that our congregation is moving forward and encourages members to "Keep coming and doing the good work".

President Nan Rubin asked Membership Chair, Martha Roditti to present the names of the new members who have joined TBE since Covid. She then recognized all members in attendance, according to years of membership. Nan thanked the outgoing Board Members for their service. She then introduced Committee Chairs and encouraged people to become active in one (or more) of our many committees. A list of committees and reports have been included in the Annual Meeting packets that members should have received.

Outgoing Board Member, Steve Haydu presented a slide show, highlighting temple activities from the past year. They included the work days in Las Vegas, NM, the annual Mensch Club Dinner, Sukkot, Purim and the Matzo Ball Open.

Treasurer Joel Siegel gave the financial report for this year, which ends on June 30th and stated that we are doing well at the moment. Allen Blum gave a report on the projected 2023-2024 budget, including many line items that have yet to be decided by the Board. The addition of a part time Administrative Assistant has already been approved.

The nominees for the new Board were presented; Lynn Zeemont, Mark Singer and Sheri Spiegel. All were approved for the new Board term of two years, by acclamation.

Nan Rubin thanked all of our members who volunteered with projects this year.

Special recognition was given to Cheryl and Dave Decker.

The Board met the following Thursday, May 18, 2023 and approved a motion to seat the following officers.

Nan Rubin President
Elliot Katz Vice President
Donna Popky Secretary
Joel Siegel Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Leyndyke, Secretary

Donations through May 26, 2023

Temple Beth-El Youth Fund:

Jermel and Nicole Griffin, in memory of Clarence Pettigrew, Sr.

Jermel and Nicole Griffin, in honor of Sallie Mae Pettigrew

Rabbi Discretionary Fund:

Carl Brown, in memory of Geri Lutman

Karen Shevet Dinah, in memory of Geri Lutman

Joanne Kaufman, in memory of Benjamin Kaufman

Lenore Hindin, Gas for Van

Michele Blum, in memory of Geri Lutman

Jerry and Shelly Silverman, in memory of Geri Lutman

Frima Marquez, in memory of all my family

Harry and Diane Bass, in memory of Geri Lutman

Irving Batkin Memorial Scholarship Fund:

Allen and Michele Blum, in memory of Saul Blum,

Blanche Blum, and Bernard Cutler

General Fund:

Dee Cook, in memory of Esther Berlin, Frances

Klempner, Rebekah Edelstein, Dorothy Whitledge

Daniel and Simy Allan, in memory of Irving Benowitz

Avis and Jeffrey Lewis, in memory of Jerome Herman

Norm and Sue Mazer, in memory of Jacob Mazer, Alice

Mazer, Geri Lutman, Dorothy Schlisman

C Stern

Martino Widjaja

Harry and Diane Bass, in honor of Frances Williams and all she has done for the Temple and Las Cruces community and upholding women's rights

Harry and Diane Bass, thank you for the Purim basket

Linda Stewart

Sharon and Peter Dorfman, in memory of Norma Dorfman

Elliot Katz and Sharon Tancredi, towards administrative assistant costs

Selma Ryave, in memory of Rebecca Bleiberg

Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol Campership Fund:

Lynn Zeemont, in memory of Charles Roselinsky

Temple Beth-El Religious School Fund:

Avis and Jeffrey Lewis, in memory of Mark Herman

Social Action Fund:

Jermel and Nicole Griffin, in memory of Rufus Griffin

Sisterhood Fund:

Marlene Benz

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 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 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.

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

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, Joel Seigel.

“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].”

Honoring our Graduates



Hannah Saltman, daughter of Aggie and Mark Saltman, Graduated from Centennial High School on May 19th. She will attend New Mexico State University starting this summer and plans to major in Kinesiology.



Pearie and Ron Bruder wish our TBE family to share in their pride and joy of **Veronica Bruder's** graduation, with honors, from UNM, with BA In Psychology and **Michael Bruder's** High school graduation from CHS.

After a month in Europe, Veronica will remain at UNM, continuing her education, in pursuit of Nurse Practitioner licensure.

Michael will venture into the world of restaurant services while pursuing a bachelor degree, in business, at NMSU and obtaining his real estate license.

Join us in wishing these two fulfillment and a wondrous journey.



Confirmation and Commencement

This is graduation time, and it's fitting that graduation ceremonies are also called

“commencement” because more than signifying an ending, they present a beginning. The students are ready to commence a new stage of their lives.

I was thinking of this as the congregation celebrated the confirmation of Morgan Tierney, Mia Berkson and Kaylee Zeledon. Each young woman spoke to us about what it means to them to be Jewish, not only was it a confirmation of their own faith, but each framed it as their own commencement, of a stepping off point for what might lie ahead.

They had each grown up within the TBE family, and now they were ready to finish religious school. We hope they'll always take a little part of us with them no matter where they may find themselves.

This also brought to mind a commencement speech I read a while back. The speaker was fearful of the world the graduates would enter. “You are graduating into a world whose aim is the preservation of violence and oligarchy, grotesque unequal distribution of wealth, and the services and infrastructure that go with that wealth.”

The speaker called himself “... an old fashioned homosexual minoritarian who believes my minoritarian liberation is inexplicably tied to the project of advancing federally protected civil rights, that it cannot be separated from the liberation struggles of other repressed populations, it cannot be isolated from the abolition of the legacy of colonialism, it must be tied to the abolition of militarism, racism, and fundamentalism of all sorts, and it must support the furtherance of economic and social justice, global multiculturalism and pluralistic democracy.”

No, it was not a graduation from two years ago- it was Tony Kushner speaking at Vassar 20 years

ago. Even then he recognized that American politics was moving rapidly towards a world that was dark and dangerous. Today's graduates and confirmands are stepping into a world that has in fact become that dark and dangerous place that Tony Kushner saw 20 years ago.

Our world is fraught with sharp political divisions, expressions of bigotry that have extended well past mere racism and anti-Semitism, but now touch not just members of the LGBTQ+ community but all women as well.

The economy is going through a massive and unpredictable transformation with rapidly increasing accumulation of wealth at the top and growing poverty below. At the same time, the global impact of climate change is clearly visible. But Kushner ended his address with two strong orders: Speak the Truth, and Organize! I was very heartened to hear each of our confirmands speak to her understanding and commitment to Tikkun Olam, to heal the world. Not to perfect it, but to contribute in some part to making the world a better place.

I was also glad to hear my own personal favorite quote from Pirkei Avot, “You are not required to finish the task, but neither are you permitted to desist from it.”

We each know the tasks that we face in our own lives, even the ones we will never complete. I'm very proud of the young people growing up in our synagogue, and I hope they have the courage and confidence to jump right in.

L'Shalom,

Nan Rubin, [honored to serve one more year as] President

Temple Beth-El, Las Cruces
President.Tbelc@gmail.com

JUNE 2023 (SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5783)

GRAND OPENING OF THE WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE MUSEUM

Frances F. Williams

White Sands Missile Range Museum has just completed a total update and reconfiguration of its museum and will be opened to visitors starting next week. Days of visitation will be Tuesday to Saturday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The Museum is featured on the Web under White Sands Missile Range Museum and will have pictures, a review of exhibits, and will trace the roots of the area from the time of the cave man to the landing of the Space Shuttle Columbia, which landed there. The museum will cover the history of those who settled in this area, and the history of the development of the Missile Range, and the many significant projects tested and developed there as well as historic events in New Mexico and how the many weapons were tested there, not only for the United States, but our Allies as well.

It features a Hall of Fame which has four Jewish Honorees (all members of Temple Beth-El), and a student area to work on projects with the latest computers. It is a museum much different than any other you have seen other places and is a credit to those who worked on it, provided funds to build it (besides the Army).

I am the President of the Museum Historical Foundation and if Temple members would like to tour the museum and perhaps a tour of some places on the Range that can be arranged. I urge you to Google the museum and see what it offers. I can also arrange for someone who is a member of our Historical Society to provide a presentation at one of your meetings. Let me know of your interest,

Frances F. Williams

Please note that I have a new email address:

ffw@newmexico.com

Gail Braverman is a Board Member at Temple Emanu-El in San Diego. Gail writes "Community Corner", for her synagogue's monthly newsletter and has graciously offered to share her columns with us. She is a Marriage & Family Therapist.

COMMUNITY CORNER

LYING FALLOW: A TIME FOR REST

Gail L. Braverman, LMFT

I suspect for many of us who dwell in the land of compulsive doing, it is hard to imagine what idle time would look like.

In agriculture lying fallow means the land is left for a period of time without being planted with crops. In this state, the land can regenerate.

For humans, however, taking time to lie dormant can feel greedy, wasteful, or lazy.

We are spending most of our time on work mode whether it is at our job, the house, the children, family, or our commitments. If we aren't visibly busy producing, we are told we aren't working hard enough. We are encouraged to do more by all the media, to buy more, to be more. Whew, how exhausting.

Lying fallow is a way to renew ourselves, our thoughts and our spirits.

Usually when we are stressed and overwhelmed the last thing we think about is taking time out. We rush from one thing to another with no space in between. The best time to take a fallow moment is when you think you don't have time to.

I encourage you to take those few moments a couple of times a day. It can take as little as five to fifteen seconds. You can try it for yourself right now.

STOP: Close your eyes if possible or focus downward and bring your attention on your breath.

BREATH AWARENESS: Begin to notice the rise and fall of your belly as you breathe in and breathe out.

EXHALE: Lengthen and amplify the exhale of the breath. Do this for several breaths.

Fallow time is just as important as the planting of the crops. We, too, need to regenerate and connect to ourselves and the sacredness of the moment.

Reflection: What might get in the way of your taking a breathing break?

Today's Practice: Take 5 to 15 seconds at least once today to stop, breathe and exhale.

Comments are welcomed: gbrave3333@aol.com

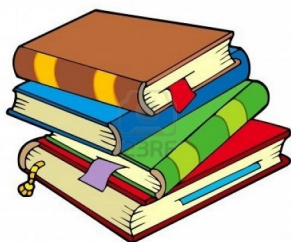
Jim Rosenthal's Short Story Group begins a new summer session on Tuesday, 5/30 at a new time, **1 PM Las Cruces time**. The group will take off the month of August.

This wonderful series of discussions is held on Zoom and people from several states participate.

The Adult Education Committee benefits from your required \$18 donation and you benefit from wonderful conversation and connection.

All are welcome.

Contact Wendee Lorbeer at mathwendee@gmail.com or Jim Rosenthal at jar529@gmail.com to join.



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!



Visit the Temple Beth-El Website—
www.tbcl.org

for in-depth information about Temple and its programming and updates on current 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!



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.



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JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Sivan 12 1 Mussar 12:00 pm	Sivan 13 2 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	Sivan 14 3 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service & Torah Study 10:30 am
Sivan 15 4 BEMY/BETY Game Night 7:00 pm-8:30 pm	Sivan 16 5	Sivan 17 6 Short Story group 1 pm via Zoom	Sivan 18 7 Tanakh Study 10:15am via Zoom Dinner & Jewish Literacy 5:30-7 pm	Sivan 19 8 Mussar 12:00 pm Sisterhood Council Meeting 6:30 PM	Sivan 20 9 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	Sivan 21 10 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Torah Service 10:30 am
Sivan 22 11	Sivan 23 12	Sivan 24 13 Short Story group 1 pm via Zoom	Sivan 25 14 Tanakh Study 10:15am via Zoom Dinner & Jewish Literacy 5:30-7 pm	Sivan 26 15 Mussar 12:00 pm Board of Trustees meeting 6:00 pm	Sivan 27 16 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	Sivan 28 17 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service & Torah Study 10:30 am
Sivan 29 18 <i>Father's Day</i>	Sivan 30 19	Tammuz 1 20 Short Story group 1 pm via Zoom	Tammuz 2 21 Tanakh Study 10:15am via Zoom Dinner & Jewish Literacy 5:30-7 pm	Tammuz 3 22 Mussar 12:00 pm	Tammuz 4 23 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	Tammuz 5 24 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Torah Service 10:30 am
Tammuz 6 25	Tammuz 7 26	Tammuz 8 27 Short Story group 1 pm via Zoom	Tammuz 9 28 Tanakh Study 10:15am via Zoom Dinner & Jewish Literacy 5:30-7 pm	Tammuz 10 29 Mussar 12:00 pm	Tammuz 11 30 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	

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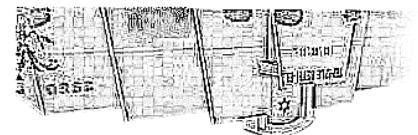
Lawrence P. Karol

The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Beth Tierney. Copy Editors: Nan Rubin, Rabbi Larry Karol, Aggie Saltman, Steven Haydu and Alison Mann. 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 (free for members); 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**

**The temple also has a Facebook Page:
Temple Beth-El Las Cruces**

June 2023



**Temple Beth-El
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