



A Monthly Publication for Temple Beth-El,

Las Cruces, New Mexico

DECEMBER 2024 (CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5785)

## SAVE THE DATE



Temple Beth El Presents

## The Artisan Marketplace

Sunday, December 8, 10AM-4PM

3980 Sonoma Springs Ave Las Cruces

Shop for unique creations directly from the artists including paintings, photography, jewelry, quilts and fiber arts, ceramics, gourd art, glass, mosaics, handcrafted wooden toys and more...

### 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 will occasionally vary.*

*See calendar for current schedule.*

### 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– Every other Tuesday at 11:30 am 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](mailto:jar529@gmail.com).

**Tanakh study –Wednesdays at 10:15 am via Zoom**

Tanakh Study, led by TBE Rabbi Emeritus Larry Karol. Contact Rabbi Karol ([rablppkarol@gmail.com](mailto:rablppkarol@gmail.com)) to join.

**Jewish Literacy and Mussar are currently not being offered.** A new set of classes will begin in the fall after the High Holidays.

### **Board of Trustees Meeting Summary November 24, 2024**

The Temple Beth-El Board of Trustees met on November 24, 2024. The meeting began with an invocation on this week's Torah portion and its connection to the challenging work of the Board by Rabbi Evette Lutman. Leora Zeitlin visited and described her 30 years of engagement and service with the Youth Committee. Josh Berkman has taken the position of Youth Advisor from Amalia Zeitlin. Sheri Spiegel and Rebecca Berkson are new Youth Committee members and will take the mantle from Leora and work closely with Josh on financial and programmatic details.

Steve Haydu visited to represent the Constitution Committee. After researching examples from other small congregations, the Committee recommends streamlining the Constitution and By-Laws into a single more user friendly document that can be more accessible for future committees seeking to interpret it. The Board granted permission to the Committee to draft the new streamlined version, which would not change any intent.

In her President's Report, Diane Fleishman relayed that the membership recruitment event during Sukkot went very well. Thank you to Deb Leyndyke, Joel Siegel, and the others on the Membership Committee.

Rabbi Evette Lutman reported on the great work of our Administrative Assistant Kathy and the reinstatement of an interfaith group in Las Cruces.

Joel Siegel, Treasurer, reported on a planned deficit this year of \$60,000, with the deficit likely being smaller than expected due to extraordinary donations.

On the infrastructure front, the cleaning of the Resource Room is a work in progress, and the Library Committee is meeting weekly with a vision for improved utility of the library for all.

The Religious Practices Committee, Religious School Committee, and Youth Committee requested that a Program Committee or Program Point Person be appointed to plan major gatherings in advance and delegate responsibilities to avoid redundancy and last-minute expectations and responsibilities. Diane will seek to recruit a Point Person for Chanukah and Purim.

Action item: Debbie Levy will look into our options for increasing the brightness of the sign on Sonoma Springs at night, so drivers can see we are here.

The Board went into Executive session. Out of Executive Session, the board voted to approve four new member units. We welcome Judy Wentzel, Kimmi and Tom Cravens, Frances Lerner, and Fern Forman. The Board also voted to hold a congregational meeting in December about the full-time rabbinic contract. Specifics about the meeting can be found in the letter you will receive from President Diane Fleishman.

**Yahrzeits– December 6, 2024– January 4, 2025**

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

**Read on December 6 & 7, 2024:**

Bob Abkes (Marieka and Jeanne Brown)  
 Vernella Ross Griffin (Nicole and Jermel Griffin)  
 Leroy Bibo\*  
 George Brankman (Philip and Sally Alkon)  
 Rebecca Wechter\*  
 Amy Duddridge Basco (Luke and Bev Duddridge)  
 Celia Greenberg (Cyrille S. Kane)  
 Sol Podolsky (Rosalyn Richman and Selma Ryave)  
 Charles Kruger (Linda M. Kruger)  
 Hershel Zohn\*  
 Lucy Miller Atkins\*

**Read on December 13 & 14, 2024**

Bertha Abrams (Susan Fitzgerald)  
 Stanley Matorin (Linda Matorin Sweenie and Glenn Philips)  
 Victor Hartman\*  
 Dr. Michael Polsky\*  
 Lionel Jacobs (Rose Jacobs)  
 Leo Bienstock (Stan and Gerie Muchnikoff)  
 Mel Kirschner\* (Bob and Judy Kirschner, Lila Ziegler)  
 William Silberman (Cyrille S. Kane)  
 Roslyn (Roz) Sugarman (Stan and Gerie Muchnikoff)  
 Ruth Rubin\*  
 Meyer Siegel (Joel Siegel)  
 Murray Gould\*  
 Bernie Lieberman\*  
 Ivy Dessaur\*  
 Susie Fono (Steven Haydu)

**Read on December 20 & 21, 2024**

Ida Weinstein Epstein (Marlene Benz)  
 Stanley S. Bergman (Nancy Bergman and Greg Artman)  
 Irvin Kershner (Rabbi Evette Lutman and Shari Abramowitz)  
 Daisy Chapman (Diane Fleishman)  
 Dave Levy\* (Sam Klein)  
 Charles Klein (Tom and Deborah Levy)  
 Sam Shickler\*  
 Peggy Cook-Greenspan (Jack Greenspan)  
 Gary Mann (Alison Mann)

**Read on December 27 & 28, 2024**

Tovah Zameret (Erich and Elaine Zameret)  
 Rose Rice Orlins\*  
 Samuel David Goldberg (Richard and Darlene Goldberg)  
 Jermaine Griffin (Nicole and Jermel Griffin)

Florence Kaye (Susan Quinn)  
 Helen Isaacs (Linda M. Kruger)  
 Hyman Krepps\*  
 Marion Ellis Bairnsfather (David Newman and Jon Bairnsfather)

**Read on January 3 & 4, 2025**

Lee Gutman (Allen and Eve Palanker)  
 Ruth Steinborn\*  
 Carolyn Wolfe\*  
 Charles Lipsitz (Rosalyn Richman and Selma Ryave)  
 Max Freudenthal\*  
 Sidney Kaye (Susan Quinn)  
 Etta Muchnikoff (Stan and Gerie Muchnikoff)  
 Lynn Loudon (Cheryl and David Decker)  
 Baruch Freedental\*  
 Mattie Eva Tombs Smith (David Newman and Jon Bairnsfather)

We offer condolences on the passing of:

- Mitchel Abramowitz, father of Shari Abramowitz and Rabbi Evette's father-in-law of Rabbi Evette Lutman. Mitchell passed away November 18 in Delray Beach, FL. He was 92 years old.
- Rita Polsky, Wife of Michael Polsky (z'l) and mother to Yarom, Ronen, Sarit and Avital. Rita passed away November 22 at the age of 82.
- Congregant and Veteran, Chuck Kuznikoff, who passed away on October 29th.

May their memories be for a 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 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 [admin@tbelc.org](mailto:admin@tbelc.org) or call the Temple office.

\*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 \$360. Non TBE members may purchase a plaque for \$600.

## Shalom, Sisterhood and all ladies at TBE,

Hoping you enjoyed a bountiful Thanksgiving last week! Well, here it is, December. There is plenty of time for gift shopping, especially at the holiday boutique on DEC 11, right here at Temple Beth-El starting at 9:30 am. Also, remember that you can contact Michele Blum at [fern104@aol.com](mailto:fern104@aol.com) or 201.926.6545 to browse and purchase at other times before Chanukah. Crazy that Chanukah begins on Wednesday evening, December 25, and goes for 8 nights. One of the latest Chanukah seasons I've ever seen!

Speaking of Chanukah, we reach out to Sisterhood and all of you who love latkas!! (watch for a reminder e-blast) Please contact Stefani Singer with your offer to fry up two dozen (or more) latkas for the Temple Chanukah celebration... (see Calendar) Last year, we had a little competition for who made the best latkas and Martha Roditti was the BIG WINNER... maybe your latkas will be the most outstanding. Either way, please sign up to bring latkas. Contact Stefani Singer so we know who and how much... Todah!

See the flyer here in the Adelante and make your plans to attend the Sisterhood presentation of DECADES OF DANCE.... a dance party spanning the second half of the 20th Century! Sounds like a lot of music, so plan on dancing to all your favorites! If there is a special song you LOVE, contact Shari Abramowitz and she will try to have it on hand. There will be snacks and drinks and prizes for this and that. We will have a few rounds of Name that TV Tune. We will have song dedications for \$2 each. We will have a guest appearance by a major radio jockey from Las Cruces' 98.7 Classic Rock Station. You can hear him every weekday from 10 am to 3 pm. So, email, text or call to get your reservation in... just \$20 per person and free for kids up to age 17 (with parent supervision).

So much is coming up for 2025, like a new idea from Lenore Hindin called HOT SOUP and COOL BOOKS... Bring a tureen/crock pot/or soup pot of your favorite soup recipe along with several printed copies ... bring a copy of your favorite book to trade ... We will enjoy a taste of everyone's soups with breads and salads, and have an opportunity to browse and select a book that looks interesting to you. So, mark your calendar on Sunday, February 2nd for this exciting mingle. Sisterhood welcomes ALL women of TBE to sign up and enjoy a warm mid-winter repast and schmooze fest. Watch for a flyer and more details in the January Adelante.

Our December Council meeting is December 12th at 4:30. We value your input and suggestions. If you would like to attend a Council meeting but your work schedule is in the way, we will gladly have meetings in the early evening to make that accommodation. Please contact Lynn Zeemont or Stefani Singer or any of your Sisterhood

Council members and make your request.

So, Temple Beth-El, to all Sisterhood members and all the women of valor in our congregation, Happy Chanukah and Happy Secular New Year. May your celebrations be warmed by the flames on your Chanukiah and may the year 2025 be happy, healthy, and full of opportunities to be together and build friendships.

Shalom and Chag Sameach!

Your Sisterhood Council



## BETY Car Wash and Bake Sale

Thank you to all who came out on Sunday, November 10th to have their vehicles washed and purchase some delicious baked goods to support our synagogue youth. Through your generosity, the youth group raised approximately \$700 to fund activities and social action projects.





**DANCE**

**TBE SISTERHOOD PRESENTS**

**DECADES *of* DANCE**

From Rock Around the Clock to We Will Rock You to Rock the Casbah  
Nostalgic and Delicious Snacks and Drinks  
Special Guest from Radio 98.7, your Classic Rock Music Station

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 7-10 PM**

At Temple Beth-El

**COST: \$20 per person**

\*\*\*PLEASE \*\*\* RSVP BY DECEMBER 27 MUDJOB@AOL.COM  
SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO TBE SISTERHOOD OR PAY AT THE DOOR  
TO: LYNN ZEEMONT 1236 REGENCY CT LC 88007

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*Wear a costume from your favorite decade for the contest!  
Name that TV Tune / Prizes for best Costumes!*

**WITH THE TREMENDOUS, TRANSCENDENTAL, TIMELESS  
AND TOTALLY TUBULAR TUNES BY DJ SHARI-A**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

## Donations through November 22, 2024

### General Fund:

Mike and Stacey Hyman, in memory of Jordan Trafimow  
Anonymous  
Joel Siegel, in appreciation of Linda Sweenie and Glenn Philips  
Jane Grider, in memory of Dr. Clarence A. Lathrop  
Scott Gubin, in memory of Marvin and Sylvia Gubin

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

Arlon and Brenda Parish, in memory Mary Lois Gardner  
Jeff Brown and Cherri Hudson-Brown, in memory of Harold Brown  
Jeff Brown and Cherri Hudson-Brown, in memory of Patrick Quinn  
Irwin and Barbabra Ross, to help with Saturday Oneg

### Temple Beth-El Youth Fund:

Bryan and Lisa McCuller, in memory of Arlene Metzger Jerome  
Joel Siegel, in appreciation of Linda Sweenie and Glenn Philips  
Joanne Turnbull and Jake Hardin, in honor of Mia Berkson for her performance in "Anne Frank"

### Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol Campership Fund:

Bryan and Lisa McCuller, in memory of Gary Metzger  
Joel Siegel, in appreciation of Linda Sweenie and Glenn Philips

Bernice Langner wants to offer a sincere thank you to all of our community members who answered her challenge which ends on the 31st of this month and helped to raise well over the target matching goal of \$10,000.

### **"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 FUNDS

Donations (monthly acknowledgements are listed on the previous page) 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.

***Ritual Items Fund***—For repair and maintenance of ritual items used during services such as Torahs, Tallitot and the like.

***\*Bernice Langner Challenge:*** Bernice Langner is pledging to match both member and non-member donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000 for donations received through December 31, 2024.\*

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.

## celebrating our Simchas

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

Karen Currier, Aaron Hyman, Debbie Levy,  
Michael Mandel, Stan Muchnikoff, Ron Pierce,  
Beth Tierney, Jamie Tierney

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

None Known

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, and anniversary month, to [admin@tbelc.org](mailto:admin@tbelc.org)

### HELP WANTED

**We are looking for pictures of activities at TBE as we update our webpage. Please send them to Derek Hyman at [thenameisaretaken@gmail.com](mailto:thenameisaretaken@gmail.com)**

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025

President-Diane Fleishman

Vice-President-Jeff Lewis

Secretary- Sheri Spiegel

Treasurer- Joel Seigel

Martha Roditti

Lynn Zeemont	Donna Popky	Mark Singer
Deb Leyndyke	Wendee Lorbeer	Debbie Levy
Bill Stein (Mensch Club)		
Dee Cook (Sisterhood)		

## Camp Hope Christmas

Temple Beth El has a strong history of supporting the Las Cruces Community of Hope in a number of ways. Congregants volunteer at El Caldito, the congregation, and particularly the Youth Group, regularly donate food to Casa de Peregrinos, and we are big supporters of Tents to Rents for Camp Hope. And now it is time to get organized for our annual Christmas Day Breakfast at Camp Hope. We'll be serving our usual menu of pancakes (but not latkes even though it is almost Hanukah) and all the trimmings. This year we'll be asking for financial donations for the food, for warm socks, and for bags of dog food. We'll also be looking for volunteers to help with set up, serving, and clean up. Let me know if you would like to help with any of these. We especially need set up and clean up folks (to be honest some of us have been at this for a while and we're not as young as we were when we started). Please contact Susan Fitzgerald (575-405-1739) or [susanfitzgerald@hotmail.com](mailto:susanfitzgerald@hotmail.com) if you can help. We promise you'll be done in time for a movie and Chinese food and to make that first batch of latkes.

### 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 is the 20th of each month (unless otherwise stated). Late items may not be included.** 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](mailto:cambrien73@gmail.com)



Hello to all our friends in Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Anthony, Chaparral, Sunland Park, Hatch, Deming, and El Paso, TX! Dealing with car troubles on the road? No need to stress – we've got your back!

Citizens Choice Roadside Assistance is here for you during any roadside emergency. Whether it's a flat tire or your car won't start, just give us a call.

Visit our website at <https://citizensroadside.com/> to learn more.

Drive safely out there!

#CitizensChoiceRoadsideAssistance #RoadsideAssistance

**Visit the Temple Beth-El Website—  
[www.tbcl.org](http://www.tbcl.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](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!**



**Peace of Mind**  
**Pet Sitting**

Sharon (774) 249-5698- Call or Text  
[stlucia777@yahoo.com](mailto:stlucia777@yahoo.com)

Overnights/Drop Ins, Housesitting  
Las Cruces & Surrounding Areas

**Erich Zameret, B.S.,  
M.S., M.A.**

Will tutor:

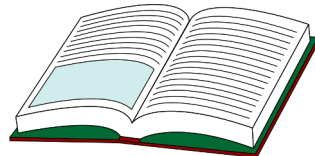
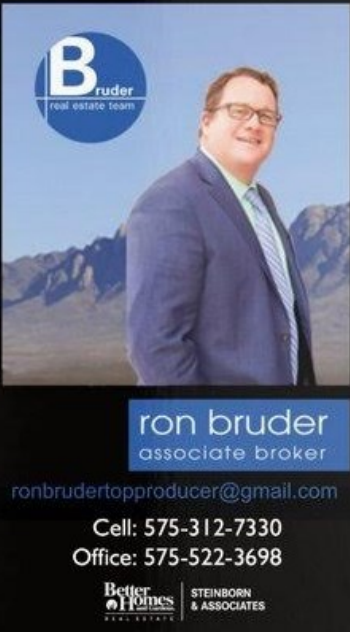
Hebrew- reading and  
conversational,

High School Math.

Privately or in small group

[ezmrt35@yahoo.com](mailto:ezmrt35@yahoo.com)

575-639-0785

**ron bruder**  
associate broker

[ronbrudertopproducer@gmail.com](mailto:ronbrudertopproducer@gmail.com)

Cell: 575-312-7330  
Office: 575-522-3698

Better Homes & Gardens  
STEINBORN & ASSOCIATES

### 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!



**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.**





# DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Short Story Group 11:30 am via Zoom	4 Tanakh study 10:15 am via Zoom	5	6 “Simchat Shabbat” Services 6:30pm	7 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
8 Religious/Hebrew School 10 am-1pm Artisan Marketplace 10 am-4 pm	9	10	11 Tanakh study 10:15 am via Zoom	12 Sisterhood council meeting 4:30 pm	13 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	14 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
15 Religious/Hebrew School 10 am-1pm	16	17 Short Story Group 11:30 am via Zoom	18 Tanakh study 10:15 am via Zoom	19 Board of Trustees Meeting 6:00 pm	20 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm	21 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
22 Religious/Hebrew School 10 am-1pm	23	24	25 Tanakh study 10:15 am via Zoom  <i>Chanukah Begins</i>	26	27 Kabbalat Shabbat Services and Chanukah Celebration 6:30 pm	28 Talmud Study 9:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am
29 Religious/Hebrew School 10 am-1pm	30	31 Short Story Group 11:30 am via Zoom				

3980 Sonoma Springs Avenue  
Las Cruces, NM 88011

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Fax: 575.521.8111  
admin@tbelc.org

President:  
Diane Fleishman

Rabbi:  
Evette Lutman

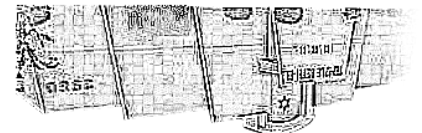
Rabbi Emeritus:  
Lawrence P. Karol

The Temple Beth-El Newsletter is produced regularly at Las Cruces, New Mexico. Editor: Beth Tierney. Copy Editors: Rabbi Larry Karol, Aggie Saltman, Steven Haydu and Alison Mann. 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](http://www.tbelc.org)**

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

**December 2024**



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