



May 2020

Community Chaplain

Chaplain Larry Batchlear is available for Jewish Life-cycle events and can be reached at 352-7191

Business Office

Larry Batchlear (806-355-0023) or
Bob Blinderman (806-372-9401)

Temple B'nai Israel newsletter is published monthly. Submissions for the newsletter are due the 21st of the prior month. Send to:

bnaisraelamarillo@gmail.com,
Attn. Mary Blinderman

We welcome your contributions to the newsletter.

Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town? Or looking to find a way to connect with Temple B'nai Israel? Contact any of our board members and we will be glad to assist you.

President's Message

Shalom chaverim!

It has been a looonng month since I last saw you! We are managing to keep our heads above the water line. Although the Temple doors have been closed for more than a month, we have still managed to have a few Shabbat services and Adult Ed classes via Zoom; the Board of Trustees held its monthly meeting via Go To Meeting. Technology is getting us by until we can once again meet, face-to-face.

Two years ago, at the start of my term as Temple President, I stood before you at Rosh Hashanah telling you that we have a big task ahead. I preached gloom and doom if we did not get off our tuchus and make big changes FAST. And you did just that! I am so grateful for every one of you! You came to services, to a Purim party (with tornado alarms going off the whole time!), you tendered membership applications, you wrote FEMA grant proposals, you led Shabbat services and Adult Ed, you came to meetings. WE DID IT! Our little Temple was doing so much better! Our budget actually met our expenses for the first time in a decade! We were starting programs for children, hoping it would lead to a Sunday School. We had onegs that people had to be kicked out of at 10 pm! Temple life was.....AMAZING! PERFECT!

Then....a teeny, tiny microbe came along.....BOOM! Like an explosion.

I have to confess to you that my bubble is pretty deflated right now. I'm not gonna lie to you....we will have BIG work to do again. We will ALL have to come together, again, and re-lay the road we have been building for the past 2 years. We must ALL do our part.

At the April board meeting, the board discussed the best immediate course to take for the health and longevity of our Temple. A resolution was passed to cancel as much as we can: ALL business decisions for 6 months or until the board decides differently (whichever occurs first), including: election of officers, approval of a budget, the holding of the Temple annual meeting, and the student rabbi contract. The inability for us to gather, and the instability of the Temple, global, and local economy resulted in this resolution. There is just too much uncertainty about the future to make long-term commitments. The board unanimously approved this resolution.

For the immediate future, we will have lay-led services. This will allow us more flexibility to cancel Temple events, should coronavirus resurface again later in the year, as many predict.

I am optimistic that we will soar once again if we all dedicate ourselves to that cause. It will not be easy, but hey, it has been a pretty fun 2 years together, so why not do it

President's Message (cont.)

all over again??? I have faith in you, in our Temple, and in US together.

I love this very appropriate joke.... The story of every Jewish holiday:

They tried to kill us, we survived, now let's eat!

I hope to see you very soon! Stay well! I love you, my friends!

Candy

FAREWELL TO FRIENDS WHO ARE RELOCATING

(Nick and Linda Goldstein will be moving to Birmingham, Alabama this month)

With a spirit of solidarity tinged with sadness,
We bid farewell to Nick and Linda Goldstein.

For years, our Congregation has been their spiritual home.

Here they have gathered with loved ones and friends.

In this sanctuary we have shared life's sacred moments,
Sorrows and joys, Sabbaths and Holy Days.

We are thankful for the times we have spent together,
For support and friendship we gave and received.

Their absence from our midst will leave our community poorer,

Even as their presence among us has left us richer.

They take with them our hope for future reunions;
A warm welcome will always await them here.

They take with them, too, our fondest wishes
For health and achievement in the years ahead.

May they be a blessing to their new neighbors and friends.
May they strengthen the community which they will soon join.

May the Source of all blessings bless their endeavors;
May they find contentment in their new home.

"Go forth in peace and arrive in peace!"

Shalom chaverim,

Your Temple family

NEWS AROUND THE CONGREGATION

To support the health and safety of our community, until further notice all religious services, Adult Education and other activities at the Temple are suspended. The purpose of enforcing this is to promote social distancing as the most safe and effective means to prevent the potential spread of the Coronavirus. We are beginning to hold virtual services and Adult Education via **Zoom** and **Go To Meeting**. Please watch your email for information on virtual activities.

Temple Contacts

Candy Alpar , President	341-8741
Janet Meller , Vice President.....	340-8425
Kim Hooker , Secretary	505-463-8402
Bob Blinderman , Treasurer	372-9401
Carol Bakwin , Choir	352-7191
Larry Batchlear , Community Chaplain.....	355-0023

Sisterhood Contacts

Joan Altman , Co-President	355-4817
Victoria Thompson , Co-President.....	670-5866
Alex Rimmel , Vice-President	316-8280
Kim Hooker , Secretary	505-463-8402
Mary Blinderman , Treasurer	372-9401



*We Welcome the newest member of our Temple Family
Mazel Tov to Alan and Cheri Harrison on the birth of Amelia
Harrison on April 1, 2020*

BOOK MAVEN

Tell Me How This Ends Well by David Samuel Levinson



Written in 2018, the story imagines a future (2022) when American Jews face an increasingly unsafe and anti-Semitic landscape at home. *Tell Me How This Ends Well* presents a blistering and prescient vision of the near future, turning the exploits of one very funny, very troubled family in a rare and compelling exploration of the state of America, and what it could become.



May 29-30

The festival of Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai and encourages us to embrace the Torah's teachings and be inspired by the wisdom Jewish tradition has to offer.

Shavuot is the Hebrew word for “weeks,” and the holiday occurs seven weeks after Passover. Shavuot, like many other Jewish holidays, began as an ancient agricultural festival that marked the end of the spring barley harvest and the beginning of the summer wheat harvest. In ancient times, Shavuot was a pilgrimage festival during which Israelites brought crop offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem. Today, it is a celebration of Torah, education, and the choice to participate actively in Jewish life.

Jewish Trivia for May

Inspiration

From Hannah Senesh: *Her Life and Diary*

Faith Makes One Strong

I think religion means a great deal in life, and I find the modern concept—that faith in God is only a crutch for the weak—ridiculous. It's exactly that faith which makes one strong, and because of it one does not depend upon other things for support.

(Senesh wrote these lines in her diary a few weeks before her sixteenth birthday.)

The Word is Yiddish

Glitch – a defect, malfunction, slip

Kibitz – giving uninvited advice

Chutzpah – nerve, impudence, brazen, gall

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (as of April 21, 2020)

General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Dorothy Carskadon

FOR THE NEW MEMORIAL BOARD

Kim Hooker and Larry Batchlear

For the Baby Naming of Amelia Harrison

Alan and Cheri Harrison

For donating children's books to the Temple library

Nick and Linda Goldstein

Please consider donating to the Temple

It is a wonderful way to:

- Mark a simchah (happy occasion)
- Honor someone's memory
- Wish someone a speedy recovery
- Express Gratitude

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/1 Matthew Seliger

5/5 Dr. Bruce Weinberger

5/17 Glenna Raffkind

5/19 Carrie Delaney

5/20 Preston Doerfler

5/21 Daniel Rappaport

5/27 Ellen Rothkrug

5/28 Pat Reily

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5/4 Michelle Shebowich
and Matt Emmett

5/9 Scottye and Sam Kohn

REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Jo Ann Holt

Henrietta Kohn

Harriette Tallert

Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.

A Shabbat Prayer for Healing in the Era of Coronavirus

Dear God,

We ask that You be there for us,
as you were for our ancestors,
a pillar in our midst.

Help us to turn to You, O God,
for guidance during these troubled
times.

Give us strength for the weeks ahead.

Help us to reach out in love and
compassion to one another,
to support those who are ill,
unable to leave their homes,
or who are struggling financially.

Be with our doctors and caregivers,
our nurses and scientists,
as they are working to develop a cure
and care for those who are ill.

Be with all who are ill and their
families,
offering them Your compassion.
And, we pray, Your healing.

Be with our leaders.

Guide them to wise decisions
in these troubled days.

Be with us O God.

Help us to find the inner strength
to be patient when our nerves are
tested.

Be our Still Waters
when we are surrounded by fear
and anxiety.

Be our Rock, to Whom we can turn
and give our worry and fears.

Be our Shelter.
Guide our steps
and keep us safe.

Help us to feel Your presence in these
times of change.

As we light the candles this Shabbat,
each in our own homes,
may our kindled lamps,
each its own point of light,
join as the stars in the heavens --
a community together
welcoming Your Shabbat Peace
Your Shabbat Love
Your Shabbat Joy
into our homes,
Your day of rest that together we
welcome
more than ever before.

Yahrzeits for May

May

Joseph Brenner 5/2

*Dr. J.W. Klapman 5/4

*Jack Weinberger 5/4

*Louis Seliger 5/5

Marie Hernandez 5/5

Samuel Kaplan 5/5

Israel "Buck" Altman 5/5

*Dr. Sam J. Aronson 5/6

*Dr. Lee Harris 5/6

Beatrice Wilkenfeld 5/7

Charles Doughten 5/7

*Bruce Allen Leder 5/8

Lena Tallert 5/9

*Johanna Arnold 5/10

*Pearl Herring Gilbert 5/11

*Teddy Spector 5/11

William Heyman 5/11

*Moe Gimp 5/12

*Dena Levick 5/13

*Mary Mayer 5/13

Ruth G. Bakwin 5/12

*Lorraine Cohen 5/15

Frederick Thompson 5/15

*Hedwig Wormser 5/16

William D. Sorenson 5/15

Pauline Gordon 5/18

*Gussie Gold 5/18

*Barbara Hickman 5/18

Ailene Glatter 5/19

Irene Steiman (26 Iyar) May 20, 2020

Mary Francis Weir 5/21

*Edna Ruth Fair Ellis 5/23

*Marie Sherman 5/23

Dr. Manley Cohen 5/23

Beverly Wolpert 5/23

Minnie H. Stern 5/23

*Jack C. Lerner 5/24

Sylvia Rothstein 5/25

*Samuel Pelz 5/26

Sidney Berk 5/26

*Mayna Silverman 5/26

*Max Cohen 5/27

Tzvi Hirsch ben Shmuel HaCohen Duman 5/28

*Benjamin Goldberg 5/29

*Gaston Emil Baer 5/30

Walter Rasor 5/30

Robert Kaplan 5/31

Albert Miller 5/31

Kate G. Alexander

Dina Bassman

Arthur Teutsch

Clara Teutsch

Martha Wexall

Katherine Berman

Faye Taylor

Irma Wyant

Michael Wyant II

David Harelik

Barry Berchenko

The "" indicates individuals whose names are on the Yahrzeit boards in the sanctuary.*

If any member would like to add a name to the monthly yahrzeit list, please send the name, date of yahrzeit and your relationship to BnailsraelAmarillo.org, Attn: Mary Blinderman. Thank you.