



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)

Looking for articles.

Have you read a good book lately? Or perhaps an inspirational reading or poem? Do you have a recipe you would like to share?

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.

August 2020

President's Message

Shalom chaverim!

I think the August President's message may be the most difficult one I ever write. It comes in the month that we begin our annual Membership drive. What a year 2020 has been for all of us...and now I am asking you for money! Now that's true chutzpah, right?

The theme I had planned to write about was "Paying it Forward." But I decided that a better theme is "T'rumah" (unless you would prefer I write about chutzpah, which I have significant expertise in!). T'rumah can be found in Exodus. In this section of the Torah, G-d asks the Children of Israel to donate gifts (T'rumah) for the building of the Tabernacle so that G-d may "dwell among them."

Chaverim, I know we have not physically been together for nearly half of this year, and our Temple doors have been closed. But please know that your Temple board has been working extremely hard for you! Also know that our precious Temple is well cared for in your absence. Our housekeeper still keeps it clean and now that she has had spare time, she has polished all of our Temple silver and adornments. The grounds have been cared for. The lights, heat, and air conditioning still come on. The water still flows in the pipes. The Temple insurance is paid. The bookkeeper still gives us a monthly budgetary report. We still have a security system that monitors for intruders when we are not there. We still have internet to send you correspondence. We now have a new Memorial board for yahrzeit remembrances. We are working on a system for live streaming services.

All of this is possible because of your generosity. When the pandemic finally allows us to reopen our doors, and we can again gather for services, meetings, celebrations, we want to be able to enter the Temple that we remember, in the same shape, or better. Just as G-d asked the Children of Israel to give gifts to build a structure where he could dwell among them, I too am asking you, when you receive your Membership renewal, to continue your generous contributions, so G-d can continue to dwell among us, also.

Many thanks to all of you for your friendship. Stay well. I hope to see you soon!

With love and gratitude,

Candy

NEWS AROUND THE CONGREGATION

This will be our August service schedule, via Go To Meeting in Amarillo and via Zoom in Lubbock. All services will begin at 7 p.m.

August 7

*led by Mary Blinderman
(service in English)*

August 14

*led by Rabbi Deborah Goldman –
CSI Lubbock*

August 21

*led by Rabbi Deborah Goldman –
CSI Lubbock*

August 28

led by Harry Leventhal

Please Join Us For Virtual Shabbat Services

While we are all practicing social distancing and we are unable to meet at Temple B'nai Israel for traditional Shabbat services, we are using modern technology to stay connected. Volunteers lead services via "Go To Meeting." The services begin at 7 p.m. After services, we visit and catch up with our Temple family. In addition, we are invited to attend "Zoom" services at CSI in Lubbock Texas.

Every week our president, Candy, sends out an invitation to the congregation to join for services and also for Sunday morning Adult Ed, at 10:30. If for some reason you have tried and are having difficulties signing on, or if you are not getting the invitation, please let Candy know so you can stay connected during this time of social isolation.

Hope to see YOU next Friday night!

To receive an invitation, please send an email to: bnaisraelamarillo@gmail.com

ADULT EDUCATION

The Temple Adult Education Class decided to read and discuss two books, first one and then the other. The first book is "Not in God's Name" by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. The second book is "Einstein and the Rabbi" by Naomi Levy. The class decided to read both books because they are both such good choices that we could eliminate neither.

Now is the time for you to order "Not in God's Name." We will begin "Not in God's Name" on August 2.

If you are not yet a class member and you think you would like to become a member of the class, please get in touch with Bob Blinderman at bobbli@arn.net or 372-9401 to join the class.

See you in the synagogue-cyberspace,

Bob

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

MEET YOUR NEW MEMBERS



Cari Howell was born and raised in southern New Mexico. She graduated in 2013 from New Mexico State University and moved to Clayton New Mexico to work for the United States Forest Service on the Kiowa and Rita Blanca National Grasslands as a Rangeland Management Specialist. Her daughter Emily is currently attending High School in Texline Texas and will begin taking college courses this fall as a sophomore with Frank Phillips College.

Jewish Trivia for August

Courtesy of Karen Schroeder

A sense of Belonging by Trudi Alexy

Trudy Alexy (born 1928) left Czechoslovakia with her parents in 1938. They stayed a jump ahead of the Nazis, embracing Catholicism as part of their camouflage, and lived in Spain for two years until a relative brought Alexy and her family to America in 1941. In her book *The Mezuzah in the Madonna's Foot*, Alexy tells her story, writes of other Jews who survived World War II in Spain, and describes the relationship Spain has had with its Jews since the 1492 expulsion.

“The more I learned about the Marranos and their stubborn efforts to maintain their essential connection to their spiritual wholeness, the more I identified with them, or, perhaps more precisely, the more I longed to be one of them. They had something deep inside that kept alive their link with one another and with their heritage, even under the most stressful circumstances. I, on the other hand, never saw myself as anything but a failed, flawed outsider during all the years I practiced Catholicism and long after I stopped doing so, cut off, forever banished from my own people because there had never been anything experiential in my own past to bind me to Jews. More than anything I longed to have what the Marranos had: a sense of belonging.”

Alexy left the Catholic Church as a young adult and drifted without religious affiliation for years. Eventually, she found her way back into Jewish life.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (as of July 25, 2020)

Thank you to Neal Scott for making the first contribution for live streaming equipment at the Temple General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Dorrie Carskadon

Get Well Wishes to Larry Katz

Neal Scott

In Honor of Nick and Linda Goldstein

For health and happiness in their new home

Harry and Harriette Tallert

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/3 Aiden Julius Kohn

8/3 Seth Lawrence Kohn

8/9 Stuart Dowlen

8/10 Adam Pan

8/11 Joshua Isak Kohn

8/12 Carol Bakwin

8/15 Kimberly Noland

8/26 Alan Harrison

8/28 Devorah Noland

8/30 Jo Ann Holt

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

8/16 Susan and Kevin Shay

8/14 Gayle and Pat Reily

8/27 Louise and Stan Adelman

8/31 Laura and Jeff Yarvis

Note:

If you would like to be included in the birthdays and anniversaries, please send an email to bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com Attn: Newsletter Editor

What Good Shall I Do This Day?

by Mary Blinderman

I recently read that Benjamin Franklin began each day by asking himself “What good shall I do this day?” and returned, at the end of the day to ask himself the “evening question”: “What good have I done today?” Franklin made this practice central to his life and recorded his answers in his daily journal.

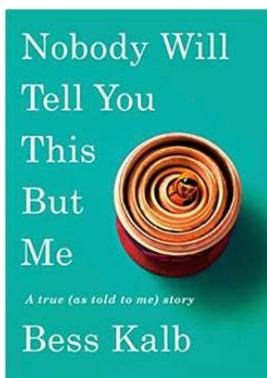
In Jewish practice, we recite the Shema at the beginning of the day and again, at the end of the day. The Biblical command is to recite the Shema “when you lie down and when you rise up.”

In the morning when we recite the Shema we affirm that there is one Divine source and by reciting the Shema we infuse our daily lives with Godliness and spirituality. This would be a good time to ask ourselves “What good shall I do this day?”

The Talmud tells us that it is proper to go to sleep with words of Torah on one’s lips; therefore, we recite the Shema again. The end of the day is an ideal time for introspection, a chance to look back at our day and see what can be improved -- maybe ask yourself “What good have I done today?” These prayers can help us grow in the right direction.

Book Maven (Book Review)

Contributed by Kim Hooker



This is the summer read you have been waiting for. Start reading this and I dare you to put it down before page 60. Bess Kalb is an Emmy-nominated TV writer (Jimmy Kimmel Live) and knows how to write “funny.” This memoir, that follows 4 generations of women, only proves that “funny” may be inherited.

A tidbit, “When you were about eight years old...you had tossed and turned in your sleeping bag...you had worked yourself into a cold sweat. You got in your own head. What could you possibly be so stressed about at eight years old? Whether your dollhouse was up to code?”

Bess Kalb, *Nobody Will Tell You This But Me*

The Word is Yiddish

kosher – legit; ritually clean

mensch – decent, trustworthy person

tush -- backside; rear end

REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Joel Kaplan

Larry Katz

Dorrie Carskadon

Carrie Delaney (Yael bat Sarah Imani)

DeLana Honaker

Jo Ann Holt

Bruce Kriegel

Mabel Knox

David Altman

Henrietta Kohn

Harriette Tallert

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

Yahrzeits for August

August

*Wolf Herring 8/2

Corinne Solomon 8/2

*Daniel Raffkind 8/2

Hanna E. Hellman 8/2

*Pauline Weinberger 8/3

Dr. Jack Ziffer 8/3

Elizabeth Gardner 8/4

Elizabeth Cambell Jacobi 8/4

*Ben Solnick 8/5

Sarah Klapman 8/5

Hyman Shebowich 8/5

Henry Kranz 8/6

*Hugo H. Loewenstern, Sr. 8/6

*Heinz Reach 8/6

*Abe Mogelson 8/7

Sheila Pearce 8/7

Kenneth M. Axelrod 8/8

Abe Brand 8/8

*B.M. (Bunny) Behrman 8/9

Carlton Womack 8/10

Ida Kischinovsky 8/11

*Pauline Baer 8/13

Eleanor West 8/14

*David M. Schwartz 8/14

Irving Rothstein 8/16

Louise Auslander 8/16

Helen Seidel 8/18

Helen Feinblatt 8/19

Yudes Skora 8/20

Walter Tallert 8/20

Ann Loewenstern 8/22

Macaria Pena 8/22

Lillian Ogilvie 8/24

Beatrice Adelman 8/24

*Kate Shapiro 8/25

Molly Heyman 8/25

Charles B. Alexander 8/26

Arthur Auslander 8/26

Paula Batchlear 8/26

*Morris Spicer 8/26

*Dr. Julius Levick 8/26

Naomi Berkman Dennison 8/27

*Rose K. Goldstein 8/29

*Blima Pelz 8/30

Esther Cohen

David Cohen

Philip Raub

Yetta Gilbert

Evelyn Mendel

Albert Kempf

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.