



### 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](mailto: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.

## February 2021

### President's Message

"Let's have some pie."

This is such a great quote, from the movie MIB (Men in Black)3! Young Agent K and Agent J are trying to save the world. Nothing they come up with makes sense, solutions are not coming. Agent J says "Pie...why pie?" Agent K says: "My grand-daddy always said, if you got a problem that you can't solve, helps to get out of your head. Pie, it's good."

To change subjects: last night was our first board meeting of 2021. The meeting was full of plans, optimism, and hope. Plans were discussed for a joint "Zoom" service with our friend Reverend Nell at the UU and for leading a "Zoom" service with our Lubbock friends at Congregation Shaareth Israel. Although Purim and Pesach will likely still be via "Zoom," we are looking tentatively at in-person services by summer. Our FEMA grant committee is plowing forward with the security upgrades covered by our grant allocations. There was discussion about applying for another additional grant if the current grant will not fully cover the needed upgrades. And we will have a Bar & Bat Mitzvah at the Temple in October! Such simchas!!!

So what's all that got to do with pie, you ask? We are separated, segregated into groups, distracted. Personally, I have a hard time staying focused and engaged on "Zoom" services. We are not unified at the Temple. Many of us do "Zoom" services with other congregations. Some of us have our own in-person services. We do not schmooze at the oneg. We have lost touch with each other. So....we need pie! Or coffee. Or tacos.

My family had COVID in December, and I feel temporarily safer due to antibodies. Several members have had COVID or the vaccine. After our meeting last night, I called some members who I have not seen in nearly a year, and asked to get together. Let's have a cup of coffee, a glass of wine, anything. Let's get back together.

I encourage you to reunite. Call a member you have not seen in a while. If you feel safe, get together for a cup of coffee....or PIE! If not, have a phone conversation, with coffee....and PIE! Volunteer to lead a service, or help lead a service. Volunteer for a committee. Be present. Reunite.

We may not share hamentashen or matzah ball soup together this year, but I hope to join you soon for a piece of PIE!

With love and gratitude,

Candy

## Adult Education Classes Return on February 7, 2021

After four months of interruption, Adult Education Classes return on February 7, 2021. We will take up where we left off. Below is a Progress Schedule. The GoToMeeting hyperlink to the class remains the same. If you have any questions, contact Bob.

Progress Schedule for Temple B'nai Israel Adult Education Class Effective January 25, 2021

Assignments are from *Not in God's Name*, by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks  
Classes will meet on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Central Time

Classes will meet via GoToMeeting

Contact the instructor at [bobbli@arn.net](mailto:bobbli@arn.net) for password to enter class. The assignments shown below are subject to change

Bob Blinderman, Instructor

### February 7, 2021

Ch. 11 The Universality of Justice, the Particularity of Love, pp. 189-206

### February 14, 2021

Ch. 12 Hard Texts, pp. 207-219

### February 21, 2021

Ch. 13 Relinquishing Power, pp. 220-237

### February 28, 2021

Ch. 14 Letting Go of Hate, pp. 238-251

### March 7, 2021

Ch. 15 The Will to Power or the Will to Life, pp. 252-267

## Shabbat Services

We are still in "virtual" mode. Services continue to be held by "Go To Meeting" at Temple B'nai Israel and by "Zoom" at Congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock. Here is the schedule for February:

February 5 Archie Hunnicutt;

February 12 Rabbi Goldmann at CSI;

February 19 Candy Alpar;

February 26 Rabbi Goldmann at CSI – Purim.

Let's stay connected. And hopefully in the not-too-distant future we will meet again in person.

**To receive an invitation to all services, please send an email to: [bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com](mailto:bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com)**



Purim is a Jewish holiday which commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, an Achaemenid Persian Empire official who was planning to kill all the Jews, as recounted in the Book of Esther. Purim begins on Sunset February 25 and ends at nightfall on February 26. **Try this poppyseed cake for your Purim celebration. It's yummy.**

### *Poppyseed Lemon Cake*

1/3 cup poppy seeds  
1 tablespoon grated lemon zest  
1 cup milk  
2 eggs  
1 ½ cups sugar  
2 cups flour  
2 ½ teaspoons baking powder  
½ teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg  
3/4 cup oil  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon almond extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a 6-cup loaf pan with parchment paper. Combine poppy seeds, zest, and milk. Let soak for 1 hour. Beat the eggs and sugar until light and fluffy; sift the dry ingredients. With the mixer running, drizzle the oil, vanilla, and almond extract into the egg mixture. Add the dry ingredients alternately with the poppy seed mixture. Pour into pan. Bake 1 1/4 hours until center is raised and cracked, and cake looks dry on top.

## 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

**Kim Hooker**, Co-President ..... 505-463-8402  
**Victoria Thompson**, Co-President ..... 670-5866  
**Lisa Hunnicutt**, Vice-President ..... 670-7137  
**Karen Schroeder**, Secretary ..... 681-5196  
**Mary Blinderman**, Treasurer ..... 372-9401

## The Race

attributed to Dr. D.H. "Dee" Groberg

Whenever I start to hang my head in front of failure's face,  
my downward fall is broken by the memory of a race.  
A children's race, young boys, young men; how I remember well,  
excitement sure, but also fear, it wasn't hard to tell.  
They all lined up so full of hope, each thought to win that race  
or tie for first, or if not that, at least take second place.  
Their parents watched from off the side, each cheering for their son,  
and each boy hoped to show his folks that he would be the one.

The whistle blew and off they flew, like chariots of fire,  
to win, to be the hero there, was each young boy's desire.

One boy in particular, whose dad was in the crowd,  
was running in the lead and thought "My dad will be so proud."

But as he speeded down the field and crossed a shallow dip,  
the little boy who thought he'd win, lost his step and slipped.

Trying hard to catch himself, his arms flew everywhere,  
and midst the laughter of the crowd he fell flat on his face.

As he fell, his hope fell too; he couldn't win it now.

Humiliated, he just wished to disappear somehow.

But as he fell his dad stood up and showed his anxious face,  
which to the boy so clearly said, "Get up and win that race!"

He quickly rose, no damage done, behind a bit that's all,  
and ran with all his mind and might to make up for his fall.

So anxious to restore himself, to catch up and to win,  
his mind went faster than his legs. He slipped and fell again.

He wished that he had quit before with only one disgrace.

"I'm hopeless as a runner now, I shouldn't try to race."

But through the laughing crowd he searched and found his father's face  
with a steady look that said again, "Get up and win that race!"

So he jumped up to try again, ten yards behind the last.

"If I'm to gain those yards," he thought, "I've got to run real fast!"

Exceeding everything he had, he regained eight, then ten...

but trying hard to catch the lead, he slipped and fell again.

Defeat! He lay there silently. A tear dropped from his eye.

"There's no sense running anymore! Three strikes I'm out! Why try?"

"I've lost, so what's the use?" he thought. "I'll live with my disgrace."

But then he thought about his dad, who soon he'd have to face.

"Get up," an echo sounded low, "you haven't lost at all,  
for all you have to do to win is rise each time you fall.

Get up!" the echo urged him on, "Get up and take your place!

You were not meant for failure here! Get up and win that race!"

So, up he rose to run once more, refusing to forfeit,  
and he resolved that win or lose, at least he wouldn't quit.

So far behind the others now, the most he'd ever been,  
still he gave it all he had and ran like he could win.  
Three times he'd fallen stumbling, three times he rose again.  
Too far behind to hope to win, he still ran to the end.

They cheered another boy who crossed the line and won first place,  
head high and proud and happy -- no falling, no disgrace.

But, when the fallen youngster crossed the line, in last place,  
the crowd gave him a greater cheer for finishing the race.

And even though he came in last with head bowed low, unproud,  
you would have thought he'd won the race, to listen to the crowd.

And to his dad he sadly said, "I didn't do so well."

"To me, you won," his father said. "You rose each time you fell."

And now when things seem dark and bleak and difficult to face,  
the memory of that little boy helps me in my own race.

For all of life is like that race, with ups and downs and all.

And all you have to do to win is rise each time you fall.

And when depression and despair shout loudly in my face,  
another voice within me says, "Get up and win that race!"

*Courtesy of Linda Goldstein*

## NOT WHAT GOD INTENDED

*By Tova Berger*

"After I got out of the camps, I had some very dark moments. I was angry at God for making me suffer too much, I was angry at everything. I hated the Germans, I hated everyone. But through the years I started coming back. I didn't want to forget what had happened, but I had to put things in perspective; I couldn't be bitter forever. I began to believe in God once again. . . .

What happened is not what God intended. Even in the camp I tried to be positive. One time we were supposed to go to the gas chamber but there was no room for us. I always imagined that in the next hour something might happen to make things better. Even as a little girl I was taught that we shouldn't give up . . . that tomorrow might bring a change. Judaism is a very positive religion. Jews have suffered throughout history, but we've always had some kind of light to hold onto. We are the people of hope."

~~~~~  
*Tova Berger was one of 23 people out of 2,000 who survived the 1945 death march from Auschwitz to Bergen-Belsen. She lived in Israel before emigrating to the United States in 1963, where, at midlife, she earned her high school diploma, resuming the education that had been interrupted by the war, followed by a college degree in nursing and an M.A.*

*Courtesy of Karen Schroeder*

## ACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Recent publications – The Guardian and Architect Magazine - have published forceful arguments to remove the name of famous modernist architect Philip Johnson from “every leadership title, public space, and honorific of every form.”

The public discussion of the Johnson legacy is the outcome of the anonymous Johnson Study Group (which has support from over 40 prominent design professionals).

This means that being the founding director of the department of architecture and design at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), a significant academic and architect defining Modern architecture, and a generous philanthropic donor cannot remove accountability for being an active Nazi supporter.

The dean of Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, Sarah Whiting, denounced its former student, and said in a public letter, “His racism, his fascism, and his strenuous support of white supremacy have absolutely no place in design.”<sup>1</sup>

Throughout his life, Johnson referred to past associations as misguided actions of his youth. A catalog of misdeeds include writing for fascist magazines, starting a neo-fascist party, the Young Nationalists, in 1937. He aligned himself with the right-wing radio priest Father Charles Coughlin and designed a stage set for one of his rallies in 1938. Johnson traveled to Nazi Germany and wrote glowing reports of the new society Hitler was building.

Perhaps the most interesting conclusion of the Johnson Study Group, is that in the years when it was no longer fashionable to be a fascist, and Johnson’s true belief system impacted his work and his powerful role in the art world and limited the contributions of others. It is fair to say that he segregated the architectural collection at MoMA and “added to the persistent practice of racism in the field of architecture.”<sup>2</sup>

Johnson’s most notable architectural legacy is the famous “Glass House” which was designed and built by Johnson in New Canaan, Connecticut. It remained his personal residence until his death in 2005. It was designated National Historic Landmark in 1997 and is now owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is open to the public.

We can debate if it is fair to strip and remove his name from public institutions, but the Johnson Study Group summarizes “Philip Johnson’s widely documented white supremacist views and activities make him an inappropriate namesake within any educational or cultural institution that purports to serve a wide public.”<sup>1</sup>

Aaron Betsky offers this conclusion to the discussion nicely, “Phillip Johnson wasn’t just a racist and fascist: He was a cultured, rich cad who made us forget our own failings as a country and as a profession.”

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> “Why We Should Cancel Philip Johnson – Aaron Betsky on the call to strip the architect’s name from public institutions,” by Aaron Betsky; Architect Magazine, December 11, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> “MoMA urged to drop Philip Johnson’s name over architect’s fascist past,” by Miranda Bryant; New York Magazine, December 13, 2020.

*Contributed by Kim Hooker*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (as of January 25, 2021)

### General Fund

#### In Support of Temple B’nai Israel

*Anonymous*

*Dorothy Carskadon*

#### In Loving Memory of Alice Maples

*Toni Maples*

#### Get Well Prayers to Helen Martin, mother of Ray Martin

*Bob and Mary Blinderman  
Neal Scott and Angie Hastie*

#### A Speedy Recovery to Ray Martin

*Bob and Mary Blinderman  
Neal Scott and Angie Hastie*

## February Birthdays

2/2 Charles Hathcoat

2/4 Jo Eve Rebecca Shay

2/7 Hannah (Teddy) Schachter

2/9 Kathryn Kothari

2/9 Carly Kaplan

2/11 Larry Batchlear

2/13 Cheri Harrison

2/15 DeLana Honaker

2/18 Gayle Reily

2/19 Carolyn Dowlen

2/20 Alan Shapiro

2/22 Michelle Shebowich

2/23 Cari Howell

2/28 Dr. Leslie Reese

## February Anniversaries:

2/7 Candy & Andrew Alpar

2/14 Patricia and Alan Shapiro

### Note:

*If you would like to be included in the birthdays and anniversaries,*

*please send an email to*

*[bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com](mailto:bnaiisraelamarillo@gmail.com) Attn:*

*Newsletter Editor*

## REFUAH SHELEMAH

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*The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:*

|              |                                       |                   |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Joan Altman  | Carrie Delaney (Yael bat Sarah Imani) | Harriette Tallert |
| Andrew Alpar | Bruce Kriegel                         | Neal Scott        |
| John Alpar   | Mabel Knox                            | Angie Hastie      |
| Joel Kaplan  | Carolyn Dowlen                        | Ray Martin        |
| Larry Katz   | David Altman                          |                   |

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

## Yahrzeits for February

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|                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| *Minnie Spector 2/1      | *Morris Herring 2/16         |
| *Lena Klein Haimes 2/1   | Susana Rothstein Katz 2/16   |
| *Bert Levy 2/2           | Daniel Ross Noble 2/18       |
| *Sarah Zukav 2/2         | *Jesse Melinger 2/20         |
| Rudolph Jacobi 2/2       | Harry Kamen 2/20             |
| Alda Lois Feferman 2/3   | Dr. George Cohen 2/20        |
| Mike Reisin 2/3          | *Morris Bergman 2/21         |
| Max Stahl 2/4            | Fannie Welcher 2/21          |
| Henry Berg 2/5           | *Eunice Weinberger 2/22      |
| Joseph Maples 2/5        | Dr. Morris Cohen 2/22        |
| Sarah Drotman 2/6        | Rose Bruton 2/22             |
| Paul Aleskin 2/6         | Tess H. Adelman 2/23         |
| *Ben Rudelson 2/7        | *Malcolm Lachman 2/25        |
| Louis Raizes 2/7         | *Adolph Eberstadt 2/26       |
| Edward Rothkrug 2/7      | *Sara Reshin 2/26            |
| Sam Rabinowitz 2/8       | Sid Levenstein 2/26          |
| Linda Adkins 2/8         | Gettel bat Reuven Duman 2/27 |
| *William Jean Saxe 2/9   | *Mildred Loewenstern 2/27    |
| *Miriam Gluck 2/9        | Tara Marie Kroger 2/27       |
| Elizabeth S. Meller 2/10 | Pauline Mandell              |
| Florence Schneider 2/    | David Wolpert                |
| *Alex Wormser 2/10       | Kate Baruch                  |
| Louis Heyman 2/10        | Harry Landsburg              |
| *Joseph Kapelus 2/11     | Nettie Gimp                  |
| *Edythe Lerner 2/12      | Jessie Cowan                 |
| Morris Feinblatt 2/13    | Evelyn Wyant                 |
| *Abe Feferman 2/15       | Carl Reach                   |
| Hilde Jacob 2/15         | Carol Lind                   |
| Morris Wilkenfeld 2/15   |                              |

*The “\*” indicates individuals whose names are on the Yahrzeit boards in the sanctuary.*

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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](http://BnailsraelAmarillo.org), Attn: Mary Blinderman. Thank you.