



March 2022

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)

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.

President's Message

Shalom chaverim!

Meetings, meetings, meetings....that is the phrase of the moment! Lots going on behind the lines! If you have suggestions or want to join or help a committee, call or email the Temple!!

Treasurer/ Budget and Finance committee: picking up the pieces & regrouping after losing Bob. Kimi, Mary B., Victoria, and Neal are working hard to get bills paid and begin working on our budget for next fiscal year. If you have not paid your dues commitment in full, please help out this committee by doing so asap. This fiscal year ends June 30. Having all dues commitments paid will help us to finalize next year's budget in a timely manner, before the Temple Annual meeting. Thank you in advance for your help!

House & Security: if anyone notices anything that needs repaired, lights burned out, etc., please email or call the Temple. Adam & Preston are doing a great job keeping the Temple running well! We have new TV screens in the sanctuary to allow for broadcasting services/prayers from afar. Now people who are not in the Temple can contribute prayers to the in-person service, too. Thanks to our generous donor for these TVs, and to Larry & Preston for setting them up.

Religious Practices committee: Janet, Mary B., Kim, Preston, and Chaplain Larry have a calendar of lay leaders. When we do not have lay leaders, we will join Rabbi Goldmann in Lubbock, via Zoom. Some leaders will lead in-person, and others will lead via Go To Meeting. We also have an outline of the parts of the service that are "mandatory," making it pretty easy for a novice to lead a service! If you would like to lead a service, alone or with a mentor, please let us know. WE NEED SERVICE LEADERS!!!! Religious Practices committee, along with Alex, are happy to sponsor a Passover Starter kit. See the flyer in this newsletter.

Pulpit committee: TEASER: we are excited to be in planning phases to host a member Bat Mitzvah in June, with a visiting Rabbi!! The details are not yet set, so stay tuned!! We are also in the early stages of finding a Rabbi, or perhaps a cantor, to lead High Holy Days Services. Our Temple CPA has suggested having a separate account solely for funds for Rabbinical visits. If you would like to see that fund grow, so we can invite Rabbis more often, please earmark your donation for "Rabbi fund."

Membership committee: I am happy to report that 4 membership applications

(cont. next page)

Adult Education Classes

We will finish reading the book, *People Love Dead Jews*, by Dara Horn this month. Everyone is welcome to join the group in choosing a new selection to read and discuss. We continue to meet through GoToMeeting at [https://www.gotomeet.me/TempleAdministration Bnai Israel](https://www.gotomeet.me/TempleAdministrationBnaiIsrael).

Please join us on Sunday mornings, at 10:30 CT.

(President's Message cont.)

have been requested in the past month!!! We look forward to having all of these applicants join our Temple family. If you have not become a member, ask Mary B. or any Board member for an application, or call or email the Temple.

Adult ed: classes have resumed! The class is led by rotating leaders, and currently is on Go To Meeting.

Grant committee: This is now a permanent committee, composed of Alexis, Cheri, Preston, Kimi. The purpose of this committee is to find and apply for various relevant grants. Hopefully we can fund new programs, and have some extra funds for existing programs. This is a very exciting new chapter for our Temple, and I am so very grateful to have this team of experienced grant writers in our Temple family!

Other committees have been dormant, briefly, to attend to all of the above activities. We look forward to **Fundraising** committee (Kimi, Alex, Mary S.) starting more fundraisers in the Spring. **Sisterhood** will begin regrouping again soon. We also have volunteers to lead our dormant **Social Action** committee.

A million thanks to my Board Members:

Janet Meller, Kim Batchlear, Larry Batchlear, Kimi Noland, Adam Schaer, Alex Remmel, Cheri Harrison, Preston Doerfler, Dan Schneider, and Sisterhood Board representatives: Victoria Harrison, Mary Blinderman

I hope to see you at the Temple soon!

With love & gratitude,

Candy

REFUAH SHELEMAH

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

Joan Altman	Bruce Kriegel
Andrew Alpar	Mabel Knox
Alan Alpar	David Altman
Mike Hibbs	Neal Scott
Joel Kaplan	Rosa Roberts
Larry Katz	Alexis Roberts
Carrie Delaney (Yael bat Avraham Avinu)	Harry Tallert

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

Temple Contacts

Candy Alpar, President 341-8741
Janet Meller, Vice President 340-8425
Kim Hooker, Secretary 505-463-8402
Kimmie Noland, Interim Treasurer 677-9857
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

Purim 2022

In 2022, Purim begins at sunset on Wednesday, March 16.

By My Jewish Learning

What to Do on Purim



There are several common practices on Purim:

- We give gifts to poor people.
- We read the megillah, the Purim story.
- We eat a festive meal, or seudah.
- We give food gifts, called mishloah manot, to our friends.
- We eat hamantaschen, triangle-shaped cookies named for the villainous Haman.

- NEWS AROUND THE CONGREGATION -

Shabbat Services

Please join us for services this month.

March 4th 7:00 p.m. -- Temple B'nai Israel via Go To Meeting – Services led by Janet Metter

March 11th 7:00 p.m. – Congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock “Virtually” –Purim Service led by Rabbi Deborah Goldmann

March 18th 7:00 p.m. -- Temple B'nai Israel at the Temple and on Facebook – led by Kim Hooker and Larry Batchlear

March 25th 7:00 p.m. -- Congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock “Virtually” -- Service led by Rabbi Deborah Goldmann

Candy will send a weekly reminder via email.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to all our donors for your continued support! (February 25, 2022)

General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Emilio and Dora Barrera

The Backer Family

For equipment expenses for Remote Services and Meetings

Alex Rimmel Toombs

Please consider donating to the Temple

It is a wonderful way to:

- Mark a simchah
- Honor someone's memory
- Wish someone a speedy recovery
- Express Gratitude

March Birthdays

3/2 Seth Wilkenfeld

3/6 Samuel Kohn

3/6 Patricia Shapiro

3/10 Scottye Kohn

3/13 Emily Howell

3/14 Byron Wilkenfeld

3/15 Hanna Rose Kohn

3/16 Cary Schachter

3/16 Janet Meller

3/17 Archie Hunnicutt

3/23 Jessica Pan

3/24 Jacob Pan

3/28 Jonathan Seliger

3/31 Jacob Josef Yarvis

March Anniversaries

3/16 Kay and Cary Schachter

Note:

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

Attn: Newsletter Editor

Temple B'nai Israel participates in the Rededication Ceremony of the Four Chaplains Memorial at Llano Cemetery.



On February 5, 2022, Chaplain Larry Dov' Batchlear joined the Veteran's Administration (VA) Chaplain John Elser in a Rededication Ceremony of the Four Chaplains Memorial at the Llano Cemetery¹. The Four Chaplains Memorial was originally dedicated in the 1950's. The VA local group joined with the Llano Cemetery to improve the memorial area this year and prepare the area for rededication. Four statues of each Chaplain are located in the cardinal directions of a circular garden: Lt. Poling (N), Lt. Washington (S), Lt. Goode (E) and Lt. Fox (W).

It was a chilly, winter morning, but Irma Heras² reminded attendees that we could not be colder than February 3, 1943, when the 902 passengers of the S. S. Dorchester suffered attack by a German submarine in the North Atlantic. There were 230 survivors.

The story of the Four Chaplains is known from the records of the survivors. The Chaplains – A Catholic Priest, A Methodist Minister, A Dutch Reform Minister and A Rabbi – worked to bring calm to the men. When there were no more life jackets in the storage room, the Chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and passed them to four frightened young men. The survivors realized later that the Chaplains never intended to leave the ship. One survivor would later say, "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven." The story concludes that as the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains – arms lined and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns.

Before boarding the Dorchester, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return,

that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty... never be a coward...and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

Irma emphasized the important context of the story. In 1943 America was a very divided country in terms of race and religion. The heroism of the four Chaplains became a symbol of tolerance and unity in the armed forces. We were Americans.

Chaplain Batchlear has the following history of how Jewish Chaplains joined the armed forces³: During the Civil War, A Pennsylvania regiment had numerous officers and privates who were of the Jewish faith. They were not allowed to retain their Jewish Chaplain. Herman Kuhn wrote a formal letter of complaint, that stated that his brother, Arthur Kuhn, suffered attempts by the army surgeon to proselytize during his illness, and did not survive. The injustice was subsequently corrected by President Lincoln in 1862, and three Jewish Chaplains were appointed. It was not until 1917, when the first Jewish chaplain to wear the uniform of a commissioned officer, were assigned to combat units.

¹ Llano Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Amarillo. It is also historic district and is on the Nation Register of Historic Places. The area was used as a cemetery as early as 1888, and formally recognized by the State of Texas in 1921. The Llano Pantheon Mausoleum was built in 1927-1929 and designed by Sidney Lowell (Chicago). Llano Cemetery was the recipient of New Deal programs including the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) and the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's. It is noted that the RFC paid only wages. Material, tools



and supervisory personnel were donated. The cemetery site design, and administration buildings were designed by noted local Architect, Guy Carlander. The artist Margaret Seewald Roberts created and donated interior artwork and carved beams in the Administration Building. In the application for recognition on the National List of Historic Places, it was noted "What was simply a place to bury the dead, became a park as well and thus a living monument to the pioneers of Amarillo."

²Irma Heres: Wife of Veteran Eloy Heras, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Panhandle War Memorial.

³Rabbis At War by Phillip S. Bernstein. 1971, American Jewish Historical Association, Waltham, MA.

Temple B'nai Israel Sisterhood:

Purim time is approaching (Wednesday, March 16)

Let's Gather at the Temple kitchen on

Saturday, March 12, at 1:00PM to bake hamantachen and prepare.....



Mishloach Manot!

Mishloach Manot are traditional gifts that are given at the time of Purim. The idea is to be sure that everyone has enough food for the Purim feast and to increase love and friendship among Jews and their neighbors.

Let's meet and determine a delivery list. Arrive after 1pm and we will bake until we are done. Do feel welcome to bake lots of extra for your family!

Dough will be prepared - but bring a filling that you like: jam, pie fillings, poppy seed, chocolate chips....or juice boxes and gummy snacks (not all Mishloach Manot need to be the same - so suggestions are welcome). We will use ZipLock Bags, ribbon and paper sack for delivery container.

RSVP so that we do not have 8 cans of poppy seed.

batchlear@hotmail.com



**JEWISH
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Your Voice in Israel

JNF is a not-for-profit organization that gives all generations of Jews a unique voice in building a prosperous future for the land of Israel and its people.

JNF Tree Certificates

An old idea that is still available!

Celebrate, Commemorate and honor life's special moments by planting a tree in Israel.

Over the last century, JNF-USA has planted more 260 million trees. It is fast and simple to plant a tree in Israel.

Call: 800.542.TREE (8733) or jnf.org/trees. The cost to plant a tree is \$18.

Adult Education: New Topics - are you interested?

JNF has a free program available titled "Conversations on Zionism: Reclaiming the Narrative." This is a year-long program of interviews and panel discussions, from a diverse group of speakers on all aspects of Zionism. There is a new episode every two weeks.

Register and watch on Zoom at jf.org/convos

(Watch past episodes and subscribe today to ZTV at youtube.com/zionismstudios.)

***Send an email to the Temple if you think this would be a good course idea for adult education. Ideas include watching assigned "program" on your own schedule and then joining a group discussion with B'nai Israel Adult Ed.

A Virtual Book Club With a Twist

Join JNF-USE Reading Series and spend time with readers and authors across the U.S. and around the world. Four times a year, a new book about Judaism and/or Israel is selected and a lively Q&A session with the author is moderated by JNF-USA IsraelCast host, Steven Shalowitz.

This is a free Reading Series and has featured celebrated authors including Noa Tishby, David Nasaw Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, Alana Newhouse, Francine Klagsbrun, Ben M. Freeman and many more.

***Send an email to the Temple if you think this would be a good course idea for adult education. We can read the books that they are reading!

Article courtesy of Larry Batchlear and Kim Hooker

Passover

It looks doubtful that we will have our community Passover Seder at the Temple this year, so we are offering a Passover Seder kit, with everything you need to have your own Seder at home. The first Seder is April 15

Kits are \$25 each, and should be adequate for 2-3 people. Order more kits for a large group!

Yahrzeits for March

*Benjamin L. Groner 3/2	*Sarah Finkelstein 3/17	Morris Armour
Myke Klein 3/3	*Isadore Kurtzman 3/17	Paul Taus
*Frank Seliger 3/4	*Jennie Mae Leiberman 3/19	Sam Weston
Charlotte Shebowich 3/4	Scott Sanditen 3/19	Golda Ann Ruback
*Benjamin Steinberg 3/5	Sam Goldstein 3/20	Meyer Cohen Jacobs
*Erma Altman 3/5	Col. Clare Stokes 3/21	Aaron Fahrenfeld
*Ben Leder 3/5	*Julius Kohn 3/22	Max Mischke
*Sophie Feferman 3/5	*Isadore Mayer 3/23	Ramon Garcia
*Sam Zukav 3/5	*Bernard G. Kuber 3/23	Mary Berger
Betty Webb 3/6	*Harry Solnick 3/24	Eva Baruch
Barbara Adelman Bearak 3/9	Ann Ashley 3/24	Rachel Berger
Dorothy Buchalter 3/10	Thelma Shapiro 3/25	Jack Ruback
Max Novick 3/13	*Earl Leonard Herring 3/27	Harry Moskowitz
*Laura Kohn 3/14	Louis Eugene Yarbrough 3/27	Henry Bloch
*Myer Sherman 3/15	*Abraham Finkelstein 3/28	Bertha Cizon
Sadie Weinberger 3/15	*Lena Mandell 3/28	Jesse Chapman
DeLana Honaker 3/16	*Dora Kapelus 3/30	Betty Kaufman
*Adolph Reese 3/17	Felicia Israel	Joseph Leshansky
Bess Cizon 3/17	Helen Stern	

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.