



June 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:

bnaiisraelamarillo@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!

Welcome back! We have resumed in-person Shabbat services, meetings, and Adult Ed.! It's so good to see your faces again! June promises to be a busy month at the Temple, also.

We start June with a visit from Rabbi Deborah Goldmann, Congregation Shaareth Israel/Lubbock's resident Rabbi. Rabbi Goldmann will lead Erev Shabbat services on Friday, **June 10** at 7 pm, and the fun continues on Saturday, **June 11**, at 10:30 a.m. as we celebrate Emily Howell's Bat Mitzvah, with Rabbi Goldmann officiating. A weekend of simchas!

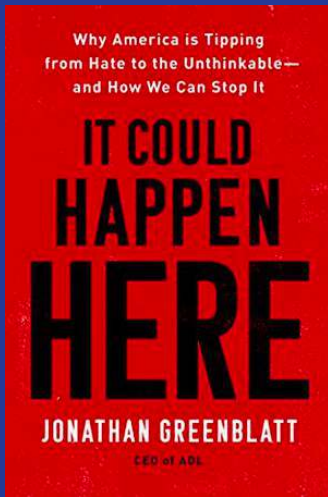
Also in June: we will have our Temple Annual meeting, which has been rescheduled to Wed., **June 29** at 7 pm in-person at the Temple or via Go To Meeting for those who cannot attend. Watch your mail for packets and proxy forms. The meeting is open to anyone who wants to attend; only voting members may cast votes on the issues.

Committees are very busy this month! If you are not on a committee, please volunteer. We need you!!

Budget and Finance committee have been very busy planning our next budget for FY 2022-2023. Many hours were spent discussing and editing the budget to be ready to present at the Annual Meeting. Thanks to Kimi our Treasurer, Mary, Victoria, Neal for all of your research and dedication to this project. **New this year: a line item for contributions for rabbinical services. If you would like to have more rabbinical visits, you can specify that you want your tzedakah donation to go into this account which will specifically fund rabbinical visits outside of those allocated in the annual budget.**

The **Grant committee** is researching and beginning to apply for the David and Betty Sacks Foundation Grant, which is a large umbrella for several grants in Texas, in the areas of arts, community, youth programs, and religious organizations. We hope we will be approved for one of these grants. This committee is on-going and will continue to research grant options relevant to the Temple. If anyone is aware of a grant opportunity whose criteria is relevant to the Temple, email the link to me at: candy.bnai@gmail.com. Many thanks to Alexis, Cheri, Preston, and Kimi for their hard work!

House and Security committee has fixed the stubborn locks on the Temple doors! Thanks Larry! Preston has fixed some of our lighting issues. Adam is getting bids to discuss for our internet provider as well as our security system. We have security reserved for our Rabbi Goldmann weekend, and Larry has



Adult Education Classes

Adult Education group resumes meeting at the Temple and virtually via Go To Meeting Sundays at 10:30 a.m. We are discussing the book, *It Could Happen Here*, by Jonathan Greenblatt.

Here is the schedule:

June 5
Chapters 6 & 7 – pages 114 – 149

June 12
Chapters 8 & 9 – pages 150 – 193

June 19
Chapters 10 & 11 – Pages 194 – 232

To attend virtually click the following link: https://www.gotomeet.me/Temple_Administration_Bnai_Israel

offered to be our contact person to handle future security needs with APD. Given the increase in shootings at houses of worship, it was deemed necessary to increase our security. Our budget for next year allocates for an off-duty APD officer to be present for all in-person events where people will come and go (Shabbats, High Holy Days, community Thanksgiving, Pesach, etc.).

Audio-visual committee is reworking all of our A-V system. This will be a process in the works for a little while, but our livestream is working!!!! Hooray!! Many thanks to Chris, Kim, and Larry for many hours of work to get our issues resolved!

Religious Practices committee is filling our calendar with lay leaders for Shabbat, with alternate weeks Zooming with Rabbi Goldmann at CSI/Lubbock. We now have new leaders, and some who are just beginning the mentoring process to lead. If you would like to be mentored to lead a service, email me! Thanks to Janet, Mary, Preston, Kim, Larry.

As chair of **Pulpit committee**, I am currently negotiating with a Rabbi to lead High Holy Days services. Stay tuned! I hope we come to an agreement with Rabbi Bloom! Additionally, I have filled out paperwork with the Institute for Jewish Learning (ISJL) to apply for rabbinical visits during the year. We also can use CCAR to request applications for rabbinical visits. My hope is to have 4-6 rabbinical visits this year. (See note above, about donating to the rabbinical services fund.)

Many thanks to our Board members, committee chairpersons and members, and all of you who tirelessly volunteer and contribute tzedakah to keep the Temple running!! You are true menshen! I hope to see you at the Temple soon!!

With love & gratitude,

Candy

Shabbat Services

Please join us for services this month.

- June 3** 7:00 p.m. – Shabbat services at Congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock “Virtually” -- Service led by Rabbi Deborah Goldmann
- June 10** 7:00 p.m. – Shabbat services at Temple B’nai Israel led in person by Rabbi Deborah Goldmann
- June 17** 7:00 p.m. – Shabbat services at Congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock “Virtually” -- Service led by Rabbi Deborah Goldmann
- June 24** 7:00 p.m. – Shabbat services at Temple B’nai Israel led by lay leaders, Chris Bailey, Martha Bailey, and Preston Doerfler

Candy will send a weekly reminder via email.

Temple Contacts

Candy Alpar, President 806-341-8741
Janet Meller, Vice President..... 806-340-8425
Kim Hooker, Secretary 505-463-8402
Kimmie Noland, Interim Treasurer 806-677-9857
Larry Batchlear, Community Chaplain..... 806-355-0023

Sisterhood Contacts

Kim Hooker, Co-President 505-463-8402
Victoria Thompson, Co-President 806-670-5866
Lisa Hunnicutt, Vice-President 806-670-7137
Karen Schroeder, Secretary 806-681-5196
Mary Blinderman, Treasurer..... 806-372-9401

Other Events

- June 11** 10:30 a.m. — Bat Mitzvah of Emily Howell at Temple B'nai Israel
- June 14** 7:00 p.m. — Board of Directors and Officers monthly meeting at Temple B'nai Israel
- June 29** 7:00 P.M. — Annual meeting at Temple B'nai Israel in person and Via Go To Meeting

INVITATION TO JOIN ZOOM CLASSES LED BY RABBI MICHAEL LOTKER

Rabbi Lotker has invited you to attend his classes!

- When:** Wednesday evenings at 7PM (Pacific) beginning June 1st
- Where:** Rabbi Locker's public zoom room (link will be sent to those who respond)
- Cost:** Zero - thanks to the support from viewers and the Federation.
- How to Register:** Respond to www.lotker.com by saying "I'm in." You will receive weekly emails with details on each week's program.
- Details:** The plan is to have a weekly discussion group rather than a formal class. Rabbi Lotker will pick a short provocative article on a subject of Jewish interest, send out the article to people who have signed up for the program and then read and discuss the article together with the group. Topics would include:
- Abortion and Reproductive Justice: A Jewish Perspective
 - Judaism and Sex - Questions and Answers
 - Jewish Views of the Afterlife
 - Are Jews Still Expecting a Messiah?
 - Do Jews Believe in Miracles?
 - Do Jews have a different sense of sin from other people?
 - What's the Best Way to Ask for Forgiveness?
 - And – subjects and articles that you suggest.

Rabbi Michael Lotker is the Community Rabbi for the Jewish Federation of Ventura County. www.lotker.com

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	Caleb Bowles
Larry Katz	

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

General Fund

In Support of Temple B'nai Israel

Anonymous

Neal Scott for Passover kit donation

In memory of Bob Blinderman

Cleon and Lily Roberts

It is a wonderful way to:

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

June Birthdays

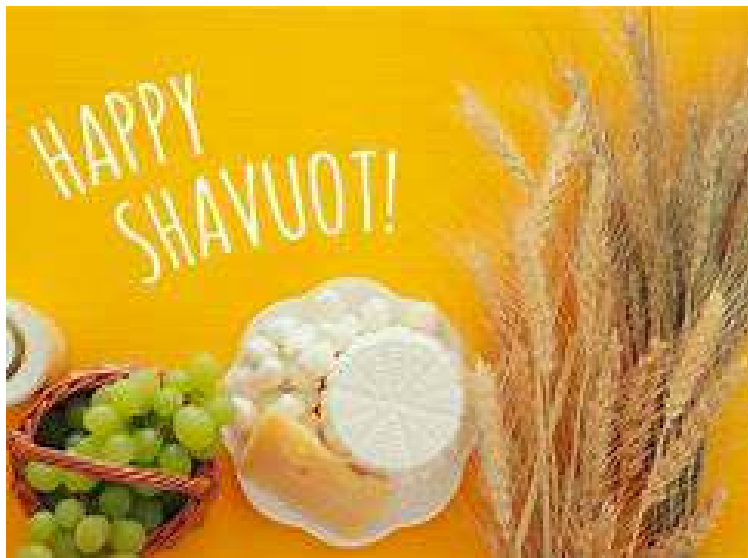
6/4 Robert Holt
6/5 Joel Kaplan
6/16 Susan Adelman Bortnick
6/16 Kel Seliger
6/22 Matthew Bunce
6/25 Josephine Weir
6/29 Freddy Gens
6/29 Richard Chelf

June Anniversaries

6/23 Eileen and Paul Pan

Note:

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



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.

In 2022, Shavuot starts on Saturday June 4th.

Why is it Customary to eat Dairy Foods on Shavuot?

Rabbinic tradition has suggested a number of reasons for this custom. Chapter 4, verse 11 of The Songs of Songs compares Torah to honey and milk. As a result of this lovely comparison, it is typical on Shavuot to eat blintzes, cheesecake, and noodle kugels.



Rose Garden Blooming



Roses are blooming again. The Temple grounds are coming to life and with it is the need for some gardeners to give it some tender loving care. If you would like to help with gardening, please contact Preston at cowboypmd86@icloud.com or Mary Blinderman at marybli@outlook.com. Let's set up a date to make the garden beautiful!!

What To Watch -- A Jewish Woman Takes On Neo-Nazis in New PBS Series

By Andrew Lapin From [Jewish Telegraphic Agency](#)



It sounds like it could be the story of Purim: A Jewish woman uses her sex appeal to enter the upper reaches of a group whose members are hell-bent on destroying the Jews.

But instead of Esther with King Ahasuerus, imagine her becoming romantically involved with Haman himself — and instead of the Persian Empire, it's the British Empire, circa 1962.

“Ridley Road,” a gripping and provocative four-part miniseries, is a fictional story set in the very real world of British neo-Nazis. Led by Colin Jordan, the National Socialist Party enjoyed a postwar resurgence among antisemites and fascist sympathizers in London.

After the local Jewish community felt stymied by their efforts to reach out to law enforcement, a group of committed Jews formed the underground antifascist 62 Group, which sent undercover members to infiltrate the neo-Nazis and shriek about “Zionist scum” while sniffing out their plans to attack local synagogues and funerals.

The series imagines how one such undercover operation might have gone, by inventing the character Vivien Epstein (Agnes O’Casey), a Jewish hairdresser who joins the 62 Group, dying her hair blond to pose as an Aryan and attract the infatuations of Jordan (Rory Kinnear), who marches his militia through London holding signs like “Free Britain from Jewish Control” and “Keep Britain White, Stop Jewish Immigration.”

Initially just trying to ensure the safety of her lover, who is also posing undercover within the National Socialists, Vivien quickly realizes that her feminine intuition gives her greater access into Jordan’s schemes, and she becomes a top courier of information to the local rabbi and 62 Group leaders, all while trying not to blow her cover.

Based on the 2014 novel by Jo Bloom, “Ridley Road” is named after the real London street uneasily shared at the time by Jews and fascists alike, along with many other cultures equally derided by the National Socialists. It was adapted for TV by writer-director-actress Sarah Solemani, a British Persian Jew and the daughter of an Orthodox marcher in the Anti-Nazi League (a post-62 Group organization formed in 1977 that helped organize an anti-racist rock concert) who was himself the victim of antisemitism in 1960s London.

While the throughline of the story is fictional, its is based on real people and events. The show’s instigating incident is a 1962 Nazi rally the National Socialists held in London’s Trafalgar Square. A pivotal Nazi attack on a yeshiva that leaves a Jewish boy dead is also based on a real event, and there are appearances by George Lincoln Rockwell, who was the real leader of the American Nazi Party, as well as by Françoise Dior — the French fascist and member of the haute-couture family who was Jordan’s real-life wife and true believer in the movement.

Though the espionage in the series is gripping, what’s most striking about “Ridley Road” is how it depicts even the casual antisemitism among the non-Nazis of the era. Even before she goes undercover, Vivien is hiding her Star of David necklace from rowdy youths on the train in one scene, and none of the Jews trust the local police to root out the bad guys. In a climactic chase scene, Vivian begs ordinary Londoners to help her flee from the Nazis — and in a chilling reminder of what the norm was during the war, they all refuse.

We also see the general ease with which economically displaced white people could blame Jews and immigrants for their misfortunes — a lesson that has, sadly, proven timeless. For example, Jordan blames the demise of locally owned grocery stores on the rise of “Jewish-owned” national chains like Tesco, and also rants about his belief that Jews are behind the rise of communism.

Yet despite the darkness at play, it’s also exciting to see a Jewish community take such an active role in not just condemning but actually fighting (sometimes physically) those who would wish to destroy it.

“It doesn’t matter whether you are a non-racist or non-fascist,” Vivien’s uncle, the head of the 62 Group, tells her at one point when she is considering bailing on her undercover work. “The only thing that matters is that you’re anti... An anti-fascist *fights*.”

Note: Currently you are able to watch “Ridley Road” streaming on DIRECTV, PBS Masterpiece, Amazon Channel, Spectrum On Demand or buy it as download on Apple iTunes, Amazon Video, Google Play Movies, Vudu.

Good News about Jews

Mel Brooks, comedic actor, writer, and director released his memoir My Remarkable Life in Show Business earlier this year. The book is proving to be another triumph for the 95-year-old Brooks, much of whose humor is based on Jewish experiences. The book is available at the Amarillo Public Library.

The late Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died in 2020, will be honored by the U.S. Navy, when a ship will be named for her. In doing so, Secretary of the Navy, Carlos Del Toro, stated that “RBG” will be remembered for her contributions to the advancements in civil and human rights, women’s rights, and gender equality. On April 1, 2022, Justice Ginsburg

posthumously received the Smithsonian National Museum of American History “Greatest American Medal” for her extraordinary leadership.

Israeli Prime Minister, Naftali Bennett, met in Negev with U.S. Secretary of State, Anthony Blinkin, and world leaders from Egypt, Morocco, U.A.E., and Bahrain. The leaders jointly condemned the terrorist attacks in Israel, which resulted in multiple incidents of terrorist murders in the week of March 30, 2022.

In the coming months, my we see more good news of Jews, and fewer devastating stories of Jews in the news.

Weekly Parsha ~ June

Bamidbar: Numbers 1:1 – 4:20

June 3, 2022

We’re starting a new month and a new book of the Torah, Bamidbar, which means “in the wilderness” and which tells the story of the Israelites on their long journey from Sinai to the Promised Land. Bamidbar begins with a census of the people (the English name “Numbers” and then describes how the 12 tribes would camp in a certain formation around the Tent of Meeting. The Levites were in the center of the encampment. Beyond the Levite circle, the twelve tribes camped in four groups of three tribes each. The formation was kept while traveling.

Naso: Numbers 4:21 – 7:89

June 10, 2022

Completing the headcount of the Children of Israel taken the Sinai Desert, a total of 8,580 Levite men between the ages of 30 and 50 are counted in a tally of those who will be doing the actual work of transporting the Tabernacle.

Aaron and his descendants, the kohanim, are instructed on how to bless the people of Israel.

The leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel each bring their offerings for the inauguration of the altar. Although their gifts are identical, each is brought on a different day and is individually described by the Torah.



Behaalotecha: Numbers 8:1

- 12:16

June 17, 2022

Aaron is commanded to raise light in the lamps of the menorah and the tribe of Levi is initiated into the service in the Sanctuary.

A “Second Passover” is instituted. G-d instructs Moses on the procedures for Israel’s journey and encampments in the desert, and the people journey in formation from Mount Sinai, where they had been camped for nearly a year.

The people are dissatisfied with their “bread from heaven” (the manna) and demand that Moses supply them with meat. Moses appoints 70 elders to assist him in the burden of governing the people. Miriam speaks negatively of Moses and is punished with leprosy; Moses prays for her healing, and the entire community waits seven days for her recovery.

Shelach: Numbers 13:1 – 15:41

June 24, 2022

Moses sends twelve spies to the land of Canaan. Forty days later they return to report on a lush and bountiful land. But ten of the spies warn that the inhabitants of the land are giants and powerful. Caleb and Joshua insist that the land can be conquered, as G-d has commanded.

The people weep that they’d rather return to Egypt. G-d decrees that Israel’s entry into the Land shall be delayed forty years, during which time that entire generation will die out in the desert.

The laws of the menachot (meal, wine and oil offerings) are given, as well as the mitzvah to consecrate a portion of the challah to G-d when making bread.

Yahrzeits for June

*Louis Altman 6/3	Frank Blackburn 6/13	Gloria Medoff 6/28
Bessie Rasor 6/3	Shirley Tessler 6/13	Ellen Atha 6/29
*Sam Herman 6/4	Caroline Haskell 6/14	Marion A. Dresner 6/30
*Minnie Lee Solnick 6/6	Sol Metz 6/15	Eloise Wolf
*Louis Gold 6/7	*Baile Bagelman 6/15	Max Bassman
Rhoda Shapiro 6/7	*Sylvia Seid 6/16	Sam Replin
Tillie Kaplan 6/7	Albert Sidney Chism, Jr. 6/18	Esther Tonkin
*Jack Duman 6/8	Ida Bendalin 6/19	Sadie Gelder
Heinz D. Jacob 6/8	Rose Raizes 6/20	Max Aronson
Sally Chartoff 6/9	Samuel Stern 6/21	Dr. N.E. Springer
*Sylvia Rudelson 6/9	*Leo Latman 6/22	Mary Bender
Mae Moskowitz 6/10	*Abe Wolfson 6/25	Hannah Bergelofsky
Henry Saxe 6/10	Lenore Miller 6/25	Sylvia Alpert
Carolyn Geyer 6/12	Faye Reisin 6/25	
*Mamie Axelrod 6/12	*Mary Ann Herring 6/26	
Manuel Ramos 6/14	*Chasheh Leah Axelrod 6/27	

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.