

The Temple Times

2710 Genesee Street, Utica, New York 13502

TE 315/724-4177 ★ TBE 315/724-4751

Kislev / Tevet 5781
Vol.12.4 December 2020

Temple Beth El Service Schedule



Services via **ZOOM** at
5:30 PM Friday
By: Cantor Kalman Socolof
See your email for an invitation.
If we don't have your email
please call the office or email it
to tbeutica@gmail.com

Temple Beth El Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING – 5781

December 4, 2020	4:05 PM
December 11, 2020	4:08 PM
December 18, 2020	4:09 PM
December 25 2020	4:13 PM
January 4, 2021	4:18 PM

Please notify Temple of any **ADDRESS CHANGES** you have for the **winter or summer months**, we need these address changes if we are to continue sending the bulletin – Thank You.



Temple Beth El Organization

Cantor Kalman A. Socolof

Dr. Stanley Gerstein, Rabbi Emeritus

Officers

Marsha Silverman, President

Mark Smith, Treasurer

David Lowitz, Secretary

Trustees

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Rae Rosenfeld

Dan Cohen

Stephen Rosenfeld

Michael Damsky

Yevgenii Samoshuk

David Lowitz

Brad Sklar

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Mundy B. Shapiro, Executive Director

Julie Cain, Secretary

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the Practice of Righteous Deeds*

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Temple Beth El Cantor Message

I have, lately, been thinking about faith and belief. These thoughts have been prompted by items in the news, as well as things written by people I know. Most recently, I saw a piece, reported by CNN but picked up by many other outlets, about an ER nurse in South Dakota. She says that many people in her care who contract and die of COVID-19 refuse to believe that they have contracted the disease because, they say, it's not real.

Faith, when not in a specifically religious context, denotes a confidence or trust in a person or thing. Belief indicates an acceptance that something is true. We tend to use these terms as alternatives for stances based on demonstrable fact, as in "I can't prove it is true, but I believe it to be."

Awash as we are in a sea of information of dubious provenance, a heightened degree of skepticism is prudent. But when you are dying of something and you refuse to recognize the reality of that which is killing you, you have transcended skepticism and gone on to a realm of denial that is literally self-defeating.

What has this to do with Judaism? There is the injunction to rescue our fellow Jews and, by extension, our fellow human beings. We are prohibited from letting harm befall others due to our inaction (or, as Helen Sperling used to say, "Thou shalt not be a bystander.") Observance of social distancing and masking guidelines is in keeping with this mitzvah. There is more than sufficient data to support the efficacy of these practices, if one but believes them.

Judaism is a rather pragmatic religion. It is rooted in the here and now, not in a world-to-come. One's actions, rather than one's thoughts, are the measure of adherence. And yet, in a real sense, we are also defined by our beliefs. Is faith or belief in God essential for being Jewish? I think not, although it

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Temple Beth El Cantor's Message (Continued from Page 2)

certainly helps. I think of my father, who was an avowed agnostic, yet kept a kosher home, attended and supported his synagogue, and saw to it that his children received a comprehensive Hebrew education. Which is more important to God? That we believe in His existence, or that we follow His precepts and treat others properly? The answer is clear if one reads the prophets.

If, as we say we do, we believe in the primacy of preserving life and that we bear a responsibility for the welfare of others, it is then incumbent on us to act in accordance with those beliefs. To do otherwise is, at best, disingenuous.

As we enter the season of winter holiday celebrations, we will feel anew the loss of being able to gather with those we love, near and far. If we forego that enjoyment in the short term, don't we help secure the possibility of doing so in the future? I believe that we do.

Cantor Socolof



Temple Beth El President's Message

"We isolate now
so when we gather again,
no one is missing!"

Remember, you are special!

We have planted eleven lilac bushes at temple in memory of the congregants that lost their lives two years ago at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. This was made possible through a gift from the Jewish Community Federation. The bushes were donated by Mark Smith's daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Peter Casatilli. Many thanks for their contributions in making this a living memorial.

Please remember to return the Machzors (black book) to temple. You may leave them inside the back door but please put your name with them so we may check you off the list.

The Sim Shalom (blue book) will be needed for Friday nights and Saturdays.

We will continue to Zoom for Erev Shabbat (5:30pm) and Shabbat morning (9:30am) as we go through this spike of Covid-19.

The search committee has begun the task of looking for a new spiritual leader. If you have any insights, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I will miss our annual Chanukah Dinner and the warm glow as we lit the menorah together. May the smell of your latkes bring you wonderful memories and the hope that next year we will celebrate together.

Stay safe and be well.

Happy Chanukah,
Marsha

In Memory of
Leon Paikin



In Memory of
Howard Solomon



In Memory of
Vivian Berkowitz



Temple Beth El Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends,

As I write this bulletin message for December it is almost 70 degrees out doors and beautiful. Much has happened to our country, the world and our community over the last week.

We have a new president, however we voted and have to wish our new leadership good, healthy and progressive days ahead to find the way to get our country healthy again, since the pandemic is soaring again and to put the economy on an even keel and be able to do it all successfully as the need shows itself.

Our Temple has lost two long time caring members whose families were so active in TBE for many years.

We sincerely extend our deepest sympathy to the Berkowitz and Solomon families on the passing of Vivian Berkowitz and Howard Solomon. May their memories always be for a blessing.

If you are Jeopardy fans you will be sad, we have lost a friend when we learned Alex Trebek had lost his fight to live. Alex was a true professional in a sophisticated game show for over 30 years. We tried never to miss Jeopardy and learned a lot from his answers and the questions from many bright and entertaining contestants. We send our sympathy and thanks to his family for all the time he spent in our homes.

As we all know life hands us all kinds of emotions, some heavy, some happy, so I am happy to close my message with good wishes for a happy Chanukah to all the families, especially the children from Temple Beth El and Temple Emanu-El. Our Temples can't have our usual Chanukah dinner, but enjoy at

home and let's look forward to being together soon at Temple.

A joyous Chanukah to all.
Shalom,
Mundy



Temple Beth El Simcha Boards

Temple Beth El has Simcha Boards to celebrate birthdays, Bat and Bar Mitzvahs, anniversaries, graduations, weddings and honors.

If there is someone in your family or a friend you would like to recognize, you may do so by sending all the necessary details to the office. For \$125.00, you can make someone proud and happy forever.

Temple Beth El Memorial Boards

The long hallway where Temple Beth El's sanctuary and office are located contains our Memorial Boards. If you have a family member that you would like to memorialize and have a memorial light lit on the week of their yahrzeit year after year, you may call the office. The cost of the plaque is \$300.00.

For any questions or additional information to honor or memorialize a loved one call the office at 315 724 4751.

Mundy

Help Temple Beth El Locate Families

If you know anyone who has family buried in any of our cemeteries that have family members who have gravestones in disrepair, please ask them to contact us or simply send us their address and we will contact them. This way when they come to visit their loved ones, they will be greeted with a clean well maintained monument.

Temple Beth El Donations

THE VICTOR H. FLAX FUND

In Memory of: Vivian Berkowitz

- ☆ Judy and Al Lovenheim
- ☆ Cecily Eidelhoch
- ☆ Joanne T. Reitz
- ☆ Evy and Michael Damsky
- ☆ Marsha Silverman
- ☆ Linda Dresher
- ☆ Chuck and Jan Silverman
- ☆ Myrna Lobenstein
- ☆ Richard and Myrna Labaer
- ☆ Charles Davis
- ☆ Marian and Steve Lustig
- ☆ Sherry Cooperman
- ☆ Bob and Ellen Rose
- ☆ Adele and Robert Sossen
- ☆ Stan and Denise Kessel
- ☆ Paul and Marna Blood
- ☆ Sharon and Arnold Glass
- ☆ Judy Vogel
- ☆ Joseph and Anita Sabatino
- ☆ Marna and Irwin Burstein
- ☆ Randy and Judeanne Rockford
- ☆ Terry and Dan Cohen
- ☆ Dr. Lewis and Beverly Feiges
- ☆ Mark and Kathy Smith

In Memory of: Howard Solomon

- ☆ Judy and Al Lovenheim
- ☆ Evy and Michael Damsky

In Memory of: Leon Paikin (Gail Bartnick's dad – 100 years old)

- ☆ Judy and Al Lovenheim

In Memory of: Stanley DeHann

- ☆ Judy and Al Lovenheim

The Yahrzeit of: Mollie Wertheim

- ☆ Sherry Cooperman

The Yahrzeit of: The parents and grandparents of

- ☆ Sherry Cooperman

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

In Memory of: Vivian Berkowitz

- ☆ Cindi and Barry Diamondstone

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of: Vivian Berkowitz

- ☆ Marian Freeman
- ☆ Charles and Rita Manning

In Memory of: Isabel H. Manning

- ☆ Charles and Rita Manning

Cemetery News

Cleaning Headstones and Footstones

at

Temple Beth El Cemetery
House of Israel Cemetery
Shaarei Tefillah Cemetery
Mason Road Cemetery
Jonathan Lodge Cemetery

We have had 15 headstones and over 20 footstones cleaned this fall. They look remarkable and make the cemetery look so loved and well cared for.

THINK SPRING

We will be taking orders in the spring for next year's cleaning. Our plan is to have all the requests in by the second week in August so we can schedule the cleanings before the High Holy Days.

The cost of cleaning is very reasonable:

- Headstones \$50.00
- Footstones \$35.00

So in the spring if you are planning to have your family plot cleaned send a note, send an email or give us a call and we will take care of the rest.

Perhaps you could even send a little extra and have a headstone or footstone cleaned for someone who has no family left to care for their plot.

THIS WOULD BE A

MITZVAH FOR YOU!

Many of the family members buried at our cemeteries were members of the military. If you let us know we could add a flag to their grave.

We want to keep these cemeteries as beautiful as possible.

The 8 Crazy Stations of Chanukah: A DRIVE THRU Celebration!



Sunday, December 13th
Drive through anytime between 4-5 PM

- Decorate your cars and come enjoy the festivities
- Enter the Temple parking lot from Sunset Avenue
- The 8 (socially-distanced) stations include
games, photos, songs, food, other goodies and more...
- Please bring a toy or money to donate to the Ronald McDonald House
- Please RSVP that you are coming by December 7th by visiting:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0d45a5ac28a0fd0-8crazy>

Temple Beth El January Simcha Grams



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS	Date	JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES	Date
Ellen Orkin	5 th		
Vicki Socolof	9 th		
Alan Rosenblum	12 th		
Joanne Hirshfeld	13 th		
Logan Oster	14 th		
Kathy Smith	17 th		
Debbie Nathan	26 th		
Brian Jonas	31 st		

Enclosed is \$1.50 per name that I have indicated. I have enclosed a check made out to the Sisterhood of Temple Beth El for \$_____ for _____ (#) of Simcha Grams

Mail to:

**Rae Rosenfeld
3008 Oneida Street
Sauquoit, NY 13456**

Due by the 15th of the month

I have printed my name and date as I wish it to appear on the Simcha Gram.

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Please call the Temple Office 724-4751, if you wish to add any names to the list

Temple Beth El December Yahrzeits

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of Dec 5 to 11, 2020 – 19 to 25 Kislev 5781

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 4, 2020

Sarah Albert	Lenore Kowalsky Greene*	Anna Newman	Nathan D. Savett*
Jack Abrams*	Leah S. Gilbert*	David E. Rothstein*	Moe J. Silverman*
Milton H. Betrkowitz*	Sherry Goldstone	Israel Rosen*	Anna Savett*
Mayer Cohen*	John Stewart Haven*	Frieda Rosenblum*	Ruth Treister Schwartz*
Harry Cummins*	Marian S. Hoffman*	Ida Rosenthal*	Jacob (Jack) Samuels
Mary Ettel Chait*	Lena Herzog*	William D. Ribyat*	Beatrice Samuels
Minna Cramer*	Leopold & Rose Illfelder Family*	Harris Solomon*	Helen Sperling*
David Cramer*	Philip Jacobson	Lena Silverstein*	Ruben VanLeeuwen
Jacob Fink*	Rose. W. Jacobson*	Esther Simons*	Jacob Wishman*
A. Meyer Friedman*	Clara Kennedy*	Morris Schneider*	Mary Wasserman*
Casper Goldberg*	Sidney Lacher*	Yuda & Yenta Gittle Szmulewski*	Ida C. Wolfe*

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of Dec 12 to 18, 2020 – 26 to 29 Kislev 1 to 3 Tevet 5781

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 11, 2020

Bessie Arlen*	Harris Goldstein*	Rachel Lewis*	Chema Saltzburg*
Samuel Berman*	Dorothy Goldstone*	Helen Meyer*	Abraham B. Singer*
Joseph D. Braverman*	Rose Goldstein*	Meyer Philipson	Hannah D. Sitrin*
Theodore Berkeley	William R. Goldbas*	Benjamin Philipson*	Lily Socofsky
Rose Berkowitz*	Sadie Goldstone*	Sylvia G. Philipson*	Herman Sonneborne*
Nathan Brooks*	Solomon Harris*	Rose R. Rizika*	Murray Schor*
Daniel J. Blaugrund	Harry L. Freeman*	Sadie Rogow*	Dorothy Weitzman Seely*
Moses A. Cohen*	Sylvia Hymes*	Sarah Rockford*	Harry Weiss*
Hyman Feldman*	Anna Krohn*	Irving S. Rokeach*	Dr. Joseph Wolhandler*
Ruth Feldman*	Ruth B. Klein	Jerry Rosenblum*	

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of Dec 19 to 25, 2020 – 4 to 10 Tevet 5781

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 18, 2020

Meir Abelow Family*	Howard Feiner	Eunice G. Kahn*	Dorothy E. Smith*
Augusta Abelow*	Abraham S. Goldman*	Sina Kowalsky	Samuel Silverman*
Sarah Boyer*	Harriet Goldberg*	Harris Lazarus*	Sol Schneider*
Max W. Caplan*	Jennie Goldstone*	Leopold Lewus*	Harold Schechter*
Meyer J. Cohen*	Helen K. Jacobs*	Hannah Leah Lyons*	Raymond Wolfe*
Sylvia M. Cone*	Barney Krohn*	Faye Norwalk*	David Whitestone*
Jacob H. Ekstein*	Sarah R. Kowalsky*	Sylvia B. Philipson*	Anne Whitestone*
Rebecca C Friedlander*	Bella Kohn*	Gerald Leonard Richelson*	Morris Zavotsky
Eli Freeman*	Ethel S. Kowalsky*	A. Philip Rosen*	

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of December 26, 2020 to January 1, 2021 – 11 to 17 Tevet 5781

These names will be read from the pulpit on Friday December 25, 2020

Barney Abelson*	Hyman Fialko*	Esther Myers	Benjamin Targer*
Reba Abelow*	Joseph Galinsky*	Robert Markson	Barnet Trolin*
Arthur S. Bonnett*	Mendel Golding	Max Nozik	Lawrence A. Tumposky*
Louis Cramer*	Minnie Gusoff*	Eva Pollicove	Arline (Osna) Trapanick*
Samuel Cohen*	Stuart Greene*	Morris Rothenburg*	Florence Weitzman*
Rabbi A H. Dolgoff*	Edward F. Jacobson*	Irving Seldin*	Bertha Yetra*
Sarah Danzig*	Rabbi S. Jacobs*	Jeanette Weiss Schwartz*	Julia Yust*
Robert Ellis*	Bertha Glick Krohngold*	Harry Schnier*	
Else Elias	Betty Kowalsky*	Hyman Sitrin*	
Dorothy Friedlander*	Israel Levinson*	Enid Savett	

(Continued on Page 19)

Temple Beth El December Yahrzeits

(Continued from Page 18)

The following Yahrzeit will be observed during the week of January 2 to 8, 2021 - 18 to 24 Tevet 5781

These names will be read on Friday January 1, 2021

Harris Berger*	Ella L. Eidelhoch*	Adrienne Gail Kroll*	Pearl G. Nathan*
Barnet Berlin*	Minnie G. Frank*	Jennie Kamino*	Esther R. Ornest*
Zeld Berkowitz*	Hyman Freeman*	Betty Kamino Kowalsky*	David M. Philipson*
Sarah Berger*	Jacob Goldstone*	Leo Lenchner*	Moses Rosenthal*
Joseph Berson	Flora Glick*	Sara Reba Levinson*	Jacob Schneider*
Hattie Bloom	Sara Greenburg	Roseleine Levine	Esther B. Sanzel
Samuel L. Baker*	Edward W' Jacobson*	Judson Leve*	William T. Sitrin*
Bella Cramer	Hyman L. Jacobson*	Esther Levine	Dorothy Movsh Smith
Sara Ida Comins*	Pearl Kushner	Sarah R. Nusbaum*	Sara Smith*
Anna E. Demsky*			Ruth Weitzman*

GOOD-BYE

So long

Go Away

2020

Welcome

2021



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Ads in the Bulletin

If you are interested in placing an ad in The Temple Times, now is the time to do it. Your ad will be in each monthly bulletin for the next year at the following prices:

Business Card Size	\$125.00
Quarter Page	\$150.00
Half Page	\$175.00
Full Page	\$200.00

If you are interested, please contact either Rita (Temple Emanu-El) 315-724-4177 or Mundy (Temple Beth El) 724-4751.

DECEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 TBE Board Meeting 7:00 PM	2	3 TBE Religious School 4:00 PM	4 TBE Service 5:30 TE 4 th and 5 th Grade Shabbat Services 6:00 PM	5 TBE Service 9:30 AM TE Bagels and Torah 10:00 AM TE The Armenian Century 7:30 PM
6	7 	8	9	10 Erev Chanukah TBE Religious School 4:00 PM 	11 Chanukah TBE Service 5:30 	12 TBE Service 9:30 
13 TE Consecration followed by Religious School 9:00 AM TE 8 Crazy Station of Chanukah 4-5 PM Rabbi Lighting Chanukah 5:00 	14 	15 	16 TE Religious School 4:00 PM 	17 TBE Religious School 4:00 PM 	18 TBE Service 5:30	19 TBE Service 9:30 AM
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas TBE Service 5:30	26 TBE Service 9:30 AM
27	28 	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	