



B'nai Israel Reform Temple Bulletin



Rabbi Rosenthal's Message

The secular New Year is both a joyous time and a time of reflection. It's a time to make promises for the things we'll change, like the resolution that we'll eat better and exercise more this year (maybe this year!). And, it's a time to reflect over everything that has happened. This year, I find it's a bit difficult to do. It feels as if 2020 just continued and never really ended. And yet, at the same time, 2021 brought great joy as well as its own unique challenges.

As a Temple community, we too have had our share of joy, as well as our own challenges.

We went from zooming every service to gathering once more in person, and in the process have learned (and are continuing to learn) how to run hybrid services.

We had an interactive choose your own adventure Purim celebration, a multimedia Passover with food to pick up, and in person joyous celebrations of Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

We made use of our outdoor space for prayer during our High Holidays and shabbat services, not only creating a safe worship experience but one that was enhanced by the beauty of nature and the outdoors.

We stretched ourselves to allow creative possibilities to engage in High Holy Day services, in ways we never have before.

We purchased new High Holy Day machzors, prayerbooks, that afforded us the opportunity to engage in new translations and interpretations of our sacred holidays.

We introduced circles of friends and found new ways to socialize in person and online.

We explored social justice topics and studied our sacred texts.

We transformed our assisted living visits into more personalized visits, spending extra time to speak with residents and connect more deeply in addition to celebrating Jewish holidays.

We honored traditions like lighting menorahs around the county, and we tried something new: online bingo.

We watched our students and teachers master distance learning and celebrated when our students and teachers once more reentered the school building to learn in person.

It was a year of accomplishments, and we should all be proud of not only what we accomplished, but that we did so with kavod.

But I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that yes, this past year was also incredibly hard. It seemed that each month introduced a new unique challenge. And like our accomplishments, we learned from them, and we grew.

We, like many congregations around the country, were zoom bombed during our interfaith thanksgiving service, turning that moment around to add a layer of safety and to declare that we will not let anti-Semitism stand in the way of our celebrations.

We faced weather threats that flooded our parking lot and had us rethinking on the fly how to run events.

We witnessed difficult clashes in core values highlighted in our national dialogue.

And the hardest challenge of all, we as individuals and as a community lost beloved family members, community members, and friends.

Overall, this past year, we stayed true to who we are as a community, overcoming each challenge, embracing a love for Temple and Judaism at the core throughout, even and especially when there were differences of opinions.

As we prepare to enter a new year, I know that we will continue to build on our successes, learn from all of our

(Continued on page 2)

Rabbi Rosenthal's Message (continued)

innovations, and continue to grow as individuals and as a community.

This coming year our resolution is to continue to highlight and expand on what makes us a great community and a temple family.

May we celebrate our successes, our creativity, and our compassion and may we take them with us into 2022.

Happy New Year to all! And to all a good night!

Rabbi Rosenthal

May we celebrate our successes, our creativity, and our compassion and may we take them with us into 2022.

- Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal

Religious School News



The Religious School Shabbat Service for

Grades 1-6 **has been moved to February 11, 2022 at 7:15 pm.** Students will be active participants in the service! Please come and worship with your entire family at this very special service!

Please bring nonperishable food for the food pantry.

The Library is OPEN!!

It is very organized and we encourage you and your children to borrow books!



In case of emergency school closings or delayed openings announcements will be made by email.

We will move to our Google Classrooms for live instruction.

Parents:

Please check your email regularly for announcements of upcoming events and any missed assignments as this is our primary method of communication. If we do not have your current email address and you have not been receiving correspondences, please email us at school@bnai-israel.org with your current email address.

Please continue to bring in tzedakah, \$ A Week and food for outreach!

President's Message

Paul Fink



Dear Temple Families,

Welcome to secular year 2022. I certainly hope that it will be a much better year than 2021 for all of us, and that some of the divisions in this great country of ours will begin to heal.

One thing that I'm looking forward to is getting a little more daylight each and every day until summer solstice. I'm also looking forward to spending more quality time with my two grandchildren, after having wrapped up a stressful consulting project.

We went into 2020 knowing that we were in the midst of a pandemic and thinking that the newly created vaccines were soon going to allow life to return closer to normal. Unfortunately, by July, those hopes were dashed by the Delta variant, and we are coming into 2022 with more COVID uncertainties due to Omicron.

On the other hand, most of us have figured out how to run our errands and see family members safely, and the Temple has reinvented itself with in-person and online activities for our many members. I'm pleasantly surprised with how many of us have figured out new technologies such as Zoom and participating in live events on Facebook.

I've been happy to see many successful services and mitzvah events conducted in-person in the sanctuary, and that our school has been able to meet in person through the first half of the school year. Kudos to the clergy, the faculty and you!

Please remember that the Temple is here to support you. You can reach out to the Rabbi, Cantor, me, or any of the other trustees if you need something or have suggestions to make. We are your Temple, and we want you to value your membership.

L'shalom,

Paul



Ritual Committee

Sandy Weber

TODAH RABAH to Rabbi Rosenthal, Natalie Berhumoglu, Paul Fink, Ellyn Harris, Alice Lambert, Mike Lambert, Debby Lazen, Ellen Motlin, Rich Motlin, Stephanie Plewka, and Barbie Saslau for participating in the visits to the Assisted Living Facilities for Hanukkah. We were able to spend quality time with the residents and bring some Hanukkah joy! You brought happiness and light to a lot of people!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TREES!!

Join us on Friday, January 14th at 7:15 p.m. when we will all celebrate Tu B'Shvat during our Family Shabbat service. After the service, we will be decorating flower pots and planting parsley seeds, making bird feeders, etc. in honor of Tu B'Shvat. Other ways to celebrate Tu B'Shvat at home could be to:

...eat the seven significant species of the land of Israel: wheat, grapes, barley, figs, pomegranates, olives, & dates.

...conduct a Tu B'Shvat Seder

...organize a clean up to collect litter

...make a family tree

...commit to a recycling program in your home.

No matter how you choose to celebrate, remember to take care of our precious Earth.



Happy and Healthy New Year from the Ritual Committee!

End-of-Year Blood Drive Update

Joel Silverman

Our end-of-year drive to support the Long Island Blood Center and our local community took place on Sunday, December 19th. In response to a severe shortage of whole blood due to the combination of Covid-19 and the busy holiday season, twenty-five donors, mostly Temple members, turned out that morning. By early afternoon a total of twenty-two units of blood had been donated and on their way to be processed for immediate distribution to area hospitals.

We thank everyone in the B'nai Israel family who took the time to stop in and help. Their donation is very much appreciated and is guaranteed to be put to good use in the days ahead. Thank you as well to Alice Lambert who kept a watchful eye on the event throughout the day.

Our Congregation strives to be a "good neighbor" and a valued member of the greater Suffolk and Long Island community. When the need is greatest, B'nai Israel steps in to help, as we did once again in December. We expect to follow-up with our annual spring blood drive once again in the Passover time frame.

Many thanks to those who donated!

Stay warm.
Joel



**THE NEW MAH JONG CARDS ARE COMING!!!!
ANOTHER YEAR! ANOTHER CHALLENGE!**

The 2022 Mah Jong Card orders will be taken from now until January 15th, 2022.

This year the prices from the League, per card, are as follows:

Standard card @ \$9.00 and Large card @ \$10.00

All checks are to be made payable to B'nai Israel Sisterhood and mailed along with a list of names and addresses to: Thea Gunther, 219 Normandy Road, Massapequa, New York 11758

A form is supplied for your convenience below. Any questions, please feel free to contact

Thea at 516-541-1332 Your Sisterhood thanks you for your support. ENJOY!!

If you would like to purchase your Mah Jong Cards Online, Click Here

[illegible]



**Michael & Jaime Kofsky on their daughter Emily
becoming a Bat Mitzvah on January 8, 2022.**

**Gil & Paige Sacks on their son Aaron
becoming a Bar Mitzvah on January 15, 2022.**

Torah and Haftarah Readings

January 1st: Exodus ch. 6 vs. 2 through ch. 9 vs. 35
Ezekiel ch. 28 vs. 25 through ch. 29 vs. 21

January 8th: Exodus ch. 10 vs. 1 through ch. 13 vs. 16
Jeremiah ch. 46 vss. 13 through 28

January 15th: Exodus ch. 13 vs. 17 through ch. 17 vs. 16
Judges ch. 4 vs. 4 through ch. 5 vs. 31

January 22nd: Exodus ch. 18 vs. 1 through ch. 20 vs. 23
Isaiah ch. 6 vs. 1 through ch. 7 vs. 6; ch. 9 vss. 5 through 6

January 29th: Exodus ch. 21 vs. 1 through ch. 24 vs. 18
Jeremiah ch. 34 vss. 8 through 22; ch. 33 vss. 25 through 26

Click Here to Register!

“Oh, I Have to visit a sick person?” Oh, I need to make a Shiva call? The “What to do” to be there for others in need!”

Rabbi Moss will be providing Zoom classes on January 12th and 26th at 7:30 pm. He will share the various do's and not do's when visiting those who are ill or in mourning and will offer some of the rituals and customs involved with these aspects of our lives that so many feel uncomfortable with or just don't know what to do. The first session will deal with visiting the sick and the second with funerals and mourning.





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If your raffle ticket number matches the evening New York State 3-digit drawing you win the prize shown on the calendar below on that date.

Donation: \$5.00 per ticket

To purchase tickets
please either contact the Temple Office
or **CLICK HERE to purchase online.**

April 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 \$100	2 \$25
3 \$50	4 \$75	5 \$25	6 \$50	7 \$25	8 \$50	9 \$25
10 \$50	11 \$100	12 \$25	13 \$50	14 \$25	15 \$100	16 \$75
17 \$50	18 \$25	19 \$50	20 \$50	21 \$25	22 \$25	23 \$50
24 \$25	25 \$50	26 \$25	27 \$50	28 \$25	29 \$25	30 \$500

*Please
Join Us*

*You're
invited*



Family Service
Friday, February 11, 2022
7:15 pm

**WATCH
and
KVELL**

*Students will participate
and perform in:*

- Special readings
- Prayers
- Songs
- Class projects

Students are encouraged to come early to meet their teachers and receive their roles and assignments.

Temple protocols for Covid will be in place (social distancing, masks, and vaccine proof for those over age 16.)



2021-2022

ADULT ED TORAH STUDY

Dates:

- January 22 - yitro
- January 29 - mishpatim
- February 5 - terumah
- March 12 - vayikra
- March 26 - shimini
- April 2 - tazria
- May 7 - kedoshim
- June 4 - bamidbar

Saturdays starting at 10:00 am with Torah Study & Adult Ed. Dates are subject to change.

Please watch weekly emails for additional information.

CONTACT RABBI ROSENTHAL
WITH ANY QUESTIONS

Sisterhood News

Happy New Year to all! It is 2022, and as a Mah Jongg player, that number sounds intriguing, and I wonder what the new MJ card will look like. For those of you who do not know, the Mah Jongg League changes the card every year, and some of the hands are based on the number of the year. Twos are going to be difficult to collect this year, as I predict you will have to use so many of them to make a hand.

I love Mah Jongg; it is a great game. You must use your brain to figure out new hands, to think about what other people are playing, and to figure out a strategy to create your hand. I also feel like I am protecting my memory by exercising my brain power. However, the best part of this game is the people you meet. Often, groups stay together for years, and great friendships develop. Most players play in a weekly game and seeing these people all the time leads to creating bonds that are hard to break.

Friendships are an important part of my life. My Temple friends are especially important to me. You have helped me through the most challenging times of my life. I have made so many connections through Sisterhood. There are so many wonderful women that enjoy being together. We are a very eclectic group of women. We are flexible and creative. We have found ways to stay together even though the pandemic has separated us.

In the new year, why don't you make a resolution to commit to participate in a Sisterhood meeting? I think that you will be making a good decision. Perhaps you have already realized that it is important to make new connections in your life. Maybe you are ready for making a change. Please think about how important it is to stay connected to a group of women who care for each other. Act on these thoughts. Join with us. You will never feel alone, and you will always feel supported.

Please join us for a special evening on January 18, 2022. Speaker and genealogist Chuck Weinstein will discuss three widely held misbeliefs about our ancestors who immigrated from Europe as well as how to research your family history. We will meet in the Temple social hall at 7:30 PM. In case of inclement weather, we will be on Zoom. Masks and vaccination cards are the only requirement to attend. All Temple members welcome. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in 2022.

Shalom, Stephanie Plewka, Sisterhood President

Happy New Year

**Perfect
Winter
Binge
Watching**

**Looking for something new to binge?
Check out these Israeli shows.
(Netflix and Amazon)**

Shtisel	When Heroes Fly
Fauda	Srugim
Unorthodox	Betpul
Black Space	Hashoter Hatov
Mossad 101	Maktub

*Save the
Date*



**February 15
Book Discussion**

(details to follow)



B'nai Israel Reform Temple Sisterhood presents

*“The Three
Great Myths of
Jewish Genealogy”*

with Speaker **Chuck Weinstein**

*(Past president of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island
and current Vice President of the Genealogy Federation of Long Island)*

Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 7:30 pm

Chuck will discuss how to research family history, including how to get started, sources of information and using the internet. A question-and-answer session will follow.

All Temple members & friends welcome

Donations & Contributions

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their contributions to B'nai Israel Reform Temple:

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Nicholas & Nadine Scott

Thank you Rabbi for welcoming our son Ethan Into your community

Help-A-Family

Toby Bolson

Rochelle & Gerald Slochevsky

Toby Bolson

In loving memory of my father-in-law Robert Bolson

Donation

In loving memory of my mother Bess Leibowitz

Outreach

Barbara & Bob Kersch

In honor of our Ducks volunteers...
and our General Manager Joel Silverman

Sisterhood

Natalie Berhumoglu

Donation

Ethan William Snair Memorial Fund

Gammie

Grandma

Roberta Snair Saraceni

In loving memory of my beloved grandson Ethan William

In loving memory of my grandson Ethan William Snair

Happy 19th birthday to my grandson, Elliot Ray Snair

Religious School

Sandie & Joe Bolze

In honor of Nathaniel Bolze's Bar Mitzvah

General Fund

Ellen Fink

On the occasion of Paul A. Fink's birthday and his
dedication to leading the synagogue

High Holy Day Book Plates

Sisterhood

Sisterhood

In memory of Roberta Miller, a long time "sister" of Sisterhood

In honor of the marriage of Jenn Miller & Josh Diamond! Mazel Tov!

Ira Rosenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund

Laura Weisberg

Alice & Mike Lambert

In memory of Roberta Miller

In memory of Leah Kaufman

To make a donation online please visit

bnai-israel.org/donations

We are selling Grocery Store Food Cards!

Contact Rich Lindner (516) 641-8050

or the Temple Office to purchase.

Consider donating food cards to the Temple's

Outreach Committee to help others in our
community who are in need of some assistance.

Cards can be delivered to you!



BOOKPLATE SALE

Honor and Remember Your Loved Ones



There is an opportunity to place a bookplate in each of our new High Holy Day prayerbooks honoring or memorializing a loved one or friend. If you would like to order bookplates please visit our website or [click here to order online and pay by credit card](#). The cost for the first bookplate is \$36.00. Each additional bookplate is \$18.00

For updates visit bnai-israel.org and see the weekly emails.

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	5	6 10:30am Chair Yoga 8pm Fundraising Committee	7 8pm Shabbat Service	8 10am Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Emily Kofsky
9	10 Bulletin Deadline	11	12 7:30pm Rabbi Moss Zoom Class	13 10:30am Chair Yoga	14 7:15pm Family Service & Tu B'Shevat Celebration	15 3pm Afternoon Service with Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Sacks
16	17 7:30pm Finance Committee	18 7:30pm Sisterhood - Genealogy	19	20 10:30am Chair Yoga 8pm Temple Board Meeting	21 7pm Tot Shabbat 8pm Shabbat Service	22 10am Torah Study & Adult Ed (yitro)
23	24	25	26 7:30pm Rabbi Moss Zoom Class	27 10:30am Chair Yoga	28 8pm Shabbat Service	29 10am Torah Study & Adult Ed (mishpatim)
30	31					



Have you been
reading
our weekly
emails?

It's the best way to stay up to date on what's
happening at BIRT! Visit our website to sign up.

Condolences: The B'nai Israel Congregational Family extends its deepest condolences to the Miller family on the loss of their mother, Roberta Miller and to the Kaufman family on the loss of Scott's mother, Leah Kaufman. May they find comfort in the blessings of good memories that will always be theirs.



Yahrzeits

January 7

*Joseph Abuelo
Merrill Altman
Naomi Aronson
*Regina Barb
*Robert Bard
*Abner N. Berenblatt
*Jack Bermowitz
*Sara Bonsey
Debra Cernieux
*Helen Cernieux
Phyllis Cooper
Irving Crone
Murray Fine
*Sylvia Fineberg
Howard Fisher
Eileen Garber
*Milton Ginsburg
*Ethel Goldenberg
*Yetta Goldsmith
*Louis Goldstein
*Anne Serra Haines
*Harry Harfe
Herbert Haselkorn
*Albert H. Holmes
Harry Kaplan
Eleanor Lesch Kelly
Abe Krasner
Alec McKeefry
*Harry Lefkowitz
*Karen Levine
*Alec McKeefry
*Bruce P. Mowbray
*Trudy Neckameyer
*Shirley Pollack
*Abraham Pomerantz
*Jacob Moshe Rivlis
*Dorothy Rosenberg
*Sophie Rosenberg

*Samuel B. Rosenthal
*Jacob Rosenzweig
Hudes Rothman
*Phyllis Rubin
*Harry A. Samuels
Jeanette Sass
Muriel Schechtel
*Ben Scherr
*Jack Schneider
Sam Shayer
*Samuel Singer
*Harold D. Travin
*Edna Ullman
Lynette Wagner
*Rose Wasserman
*Esther Wiener
*Ruth Zuckerman

January 14

*Ida Abramowitz
*Jennie Abramowitz
*Harry Adoff
*Gershon Altman
*Helmut Altman
*Martha Altman
Joseph Aronson
Samuel Ballin
*Harry Berman
*Linda Burg
Anne Dachinger
*Louis Epstein
Pauline Ehrlich
*Renee Fishman
*Marvin J. Freedman
*Glenn Steven Friedman
*Sarah Gaba
*Bessie Goldstein
Katherine Goold
*Mary Gottlieb

*Anna Greenberg
*Victoria Lynn Greenspan
Stanley Hellin
*Seymour Israel
*Samuel Karmelin
*Henrietta Kaufman
Ed Kersch
*Betty Lentin
*Pearl Levine
*Samuel Luria
*Henry Joseph Neidish
*Harold Perkal
*Leah Persoff
Ben Pettick
Renee Rosenberg
*Simha Sabah
*Joseph Saunders
*Frank Schwartz
Abraham Seltzer
*Carl Siegal
Ida Skolnick
*Rose Sobel
*Lizette Temple
*Joseph L. Terry
*Barbara Truocchio
*Benjamin Weiss
*Theodore Wenacur

January 21

Renee Byan
Joan Meyer Cimino
*Charles Cohen
*Muriel Cohen
*Max Gelband
*Celia Geller
*David Gluck
Sylvia Goldbaum
Morton Goldberg
Seymour Gross

*Lajos Gutman
Martha Herzfeld
*Joe Kaplan
Louis Klinger
Shirley Klinger
*Sigo Lack
*Henry Lazen
*Ruth Levine
*Dorothy K. Levy
Sidney Lowenberg
Hyman Malkin
Joseph Marrapodi
*Lila R. Morrison
*Audrey Doris Neidish
*Eugene Russell
*Robert Roth
*Jacob Ryskind
*Morris Salth
*Louis Schneider
*Jacob Schuchman
Walter Sprague
Betty Stone
Sam Stulzaft
Phyllis Taitz
*Shirley Tieman
*Libby Toback
Ruth Ann Turoff
*Harry Weber
*Lena Weinstein
*Ruth S. Weiss
*Jacob Zimmerman

January 28

*Albert Abrams
Robert Atkins
*Gus Cohen
*Elsie E. Cole
*Hannah Deckinger
*Lawrence Ellner

Michael Feuer
*Gertrude Frankel
*Morris Gelbert
Florence Goldberg
*Norman Green
*Annie B. Grushoff
Sheryl Lynn Hechler
*James F. Interlicchio
*Teri Irthum
*Herman Kalt
Judith Katz
Freda Krasner
*Rita Leibowitz
Zonia Lesser
Seymour Levine
Charles Meyer
*Samuel Ringle
*Sarah Robin
*Eli Rosen
*Louis Rosen
*Dora Rosenberg
*Joseph Rubin
*Sheila Schisler
*Bernard Schuster
Faye Schwenk
Sam Spergel
*Arthur Howard Sumner
Sanford Tannenbaum
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*Florence Weiman
*Nathan Weisberg
*Liane West
*Rosalie Wetzler
*Barbara Wunderlich

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**PLEASE CONTACT US WHEN
SOMEONE IS SICK OR IF THERE
IS A DEATH IN THE FAMILY**

so that the Temple can
extend its assistance.
Before making any funeral
arrangements, please call.

See Temple Directory
for phone numbers.

Temple Directory

67 Oakdale, Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769
Phone (631) 563-1660 **Fax** (631) 563-9816

Website
Email

www.bnai-israel.org
office@bnai-israel.org

Clergy

Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal (928) 925-3279 rabbi@bnai-israel.org
Cantor Ilana Plutzer cantor@bnai-israel.org
Rabbi Emeritus Dr. Steven Moss rabbiemeritus@bnai-israel.org

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Committees, Groups, and other individuals to know...

Choir Director, Roselyn Selmanoff
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Jeannette Berman (631) 775-6147 webmaster@bnai-israel.org

Temple Office

Karen Smollins

Religious School

Chairperson, Alice Lambert
(631) 589-1375

Religious School Office
(631) 563-1663
school@bnai-israel.org

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Scheduling
Fran Baker
(631) 567-1537

Advertising

To place a Business Card sized advertisement please contact the office. Space is limited.

Temple Caterers

B'nai Israel is limited to these caterers for any celebration in the Temple Social Hall. Please see Kitchen Committee with any questions or requests.

Lessing's Caterers
(631) 277-7800
(631) 581-0022

Mitzvah Caterers of Plainview
(516) 938-1310
(516) 351-0661

Woodbury Kosher
(516) 681-7766

Zan's Kosher Caterers
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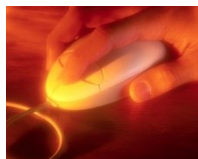
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