



# TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM BULLETIN



Number 7, 2020-2021

March 2021, Adar – Nisan 5781

Rabbi Moti Rieber



## Beineinu – Between Us By Rabbi Moti Rieber

Last month I explored Black History Month as a Jewish holiday. This month I would like, similarly, to offer Women’s History Month, which takes place in March, as an opportunity for Jewish exploration and celebration. In honor of this holiday, I would like to introduce you to several women who have made, or are currently making, significant contributions to the Jewish people — religious, political, or cultural. (Information primarily comes from the Jewish Women’s Archive, [jwa.org](http://jwa.org) and Wikipedia)

**Emma Lazarus (1849-1887).** Poet, essayist, activist, one of the first successful Jewish American authors. Author of the “New Colossus,” the poem on the base of the Statue of Liberty. In her later years, she wrote bold, powerful poetry and essays protesting the rise of antisemitism and arguing for Russian immigrants' rights. She called on Jews to unite and create a homeland in Palestine before the title Zionist had even been coined.

**Molly Picon (1898-1992).** Star of Yiddish theater and film for over 70 years. Her engaging persona and powerful performances (including as Yenta the Matchmaker in the film version of “Fiddler on the Roof”) helped keep Yiddish culture alive by bringing it out of the shtetl and into mainstream American culture.

**Henrietta Szold (1860-1945).** Zionist leader, founder of Hadassah. The first editor for the Jewish Publication Society, a position she held for over 23 years. After her first trip to pre-state Palestine at the age of 49 she helped to found Hadassah, which recruited American Jewish women to upgrade health care in Palestine. In the 1920s and 1930s she was a supporter of Brit Shalom, a small organization dedicated to Arab-Jewish unity and a binational solution. In 1933 she immigrated to Palestine and helped run Youth Aliyah, an organization that rescued 30,000 Jewish children from Nazi Europe.

**Sally Priesand (1916-2000).** The first woman ordained as a rabbi in the United States, by Hebrew Union College in 1972. She struggled with the inevitable notoriety of being the first woman rabbi, serving as an associate rabbi at the Stephen Wise Free Temple in New York before settling as the rabbi in Monmouth, NJ for most of her career, until her retirement in 2006. She also served on the CCAR’s Task Force on Women in the Rabbinate to help create a supportive environment for

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women rabbis, and she continues to work to raise awareness about the challenges women rabbis face.

**Debbie Friedman (1951-2011).** Singer/songwriter, liturgist. Debbie Friedman used her gifts as a singer and songwriter to blend traditional prayers and biblical passages with English translations and moving folk music to bridge, bring spirit and connectedness to Jewish prayer. Her prayer for healing is used in hundreds of congregations around the country, and many of her songs have become so well known that they are considered “traditional.” Her impact on congregational music is profound, so much so that the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's School of Sacred Music in New York was renamed in her honor after her death.

**Rabbi Jill Jacobs (1975- ).** Conservative rabbi, executive director of T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, a nonprofit organization of 1,800 American and Canadian rabbis who act on the Jewish imperative to respect and protect the human rights of all people in North America, Israel, and the Palestinian Territories. She is the author of *Where Justice Dwells: A Hands-On Guide to Doing Social Justice in Your Jewish Community and There Shall be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice through Jewish Law and Tradition*. She is also the author of a teshuvah (legal position), passed by the Rabbinical Assembly's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards that says that Jews should pay their workers a living wage, create dignified workplaces, and hire union workers when possible. She was named to *Newsweek's* list of the fifty most influential rabbis in 2009 and 2010.

It is one of the great contributions of Reform Judaism to the Jewish community and to the world that women are now included in every facet of community life, from organizational and congregational leadership to developing liturgy to the rabbinate. Our community is stronger, and Judaism is stronger, for their contributions, and it is worth a moment this month to reflect with gratitude those who paved the way.

It is a Jewish custom on Shabbat to bless our daughters that they should be like our matriarchs, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. Perhaps to this we can add that we bless them to be like Emma, Molly, Henrietta, and Sally!

**At this tough time for Temple Beth Sholom, we would appreciate any extra donations.**

**Make donations and contributions to Temple at this secure link (in the message box on the checkout page, put what the donation is for):** <https://tbs.convertri.com/donate>

## **Contributions**

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support Temple Beth Sholom by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

### **General Fund**

#### **Einsteins**

#### **Will and Esther Potts**

#### **Russ and Jane Greene**

-Yasher Koach Hayley Magee, thanks for the wonderful job in leading our service

-Happy Birthday to Jack and Rhoda Wisman

-Congratulations to Irv Cohen on the publication of his book *Fighting COVID-19: The Unequal Opportunity Killer*

#### **Nick Dyer**

#### **Jack and Rhoda Wisman**

-In memory of Sam Wisman

-In memory of Nathan Einstein

-In memory of Frances Rosenberg

-In memory of Larry Goldstein

-In memory of Lois Facher

#### **Larry and Patty Pressman**

-In memory of Idaleone Pressman

#### **Jared and Danelle Harsin**

-Support of the mission of Temple Beth Sholom

#### **Simon Joseph**

### **Holocaust Fund**

#### **Midwest Center for**

#### **Holocaust Education**

### **Endowment Fund**

#### **Adam Treen and Julie**

#### **Petrucelli-Treen**

-In memory of Helen Petrucelli

### **Security Fund**

#### **Len and Terry Richter**

-In memory of Rubie Scott

-In memory of Richard Hoffman

-In memory of Donald Benson

-In memory of Tony Caruso

-In memory of Shirley Richter

### **Blintze Brunch**

#### **Doug Meyers**

### **Adult Education Fund**

#### **Ron and Frayna**

#### **Scrinopskie**

-In memory of Nancy Epoch

- In memory of H. Irvin Goodman

-In memory of Harriette Scrinopskie

## **Calendar of Jewish Holidays for 2020-2021**

<https://jrbajc.org/resources/religious-calendars.html>

## **Yahrzeits**

**March 5** – Cyrus B. Cohen, Harry Endlich, Louis Pozez, Joy Cumonow, Danny Goodman, Jerry Katz, Jacob Stein, Sam Zlotky, Vivian Wallach, Heiman Shapiro, Harley Treen, Shelby James Edwards

**March 12** – Ronald Weinsaft, Bert Marks, Estella Barnum, David Iselin, Emanuel Verbin, Herbert Levy, June Shapiro, Herbert Stein, Carroll Stein, Ila Lempka

**March 19** – Betty Nightingale, Chana bat Aliya, David Bristol, Blanche Samuels, Isador Katz, Pauline Hunter, Esther King, Sally Gartner, Berniece Sessel, Ronald Cohen, Bill Scott

**March 26** – Estelle Mildred Dolgoff, Chaye Sarah Hurwitz, Phyllis Stein, William Garfield, Leah Kartman, Kathryn Nowick, Raisih Wisman, Dorothy Bittinger, Al Finston, Henry Gartner, Bernard Steindler, Ann Marshall-Levine, Alice Trainor



*Please join the Potts family as Davin Potts will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah, Saturday morning, April 24, 2021 at 10:30 am via Zoom.*



**MARCH SHABBAT SERVICES**

**Religious Services for March via Zoom**  
(Zoom Links are in Weekly emails or reminder service emails)

**Friday, March 5, Shabbat Service – 7:30 pm**  
Julie Petruccelli-Treen and Rhoda Wisman will lead the service. Susan Zuber-Chall will give D’var Torah.

**Friday, March 12, Shabbat Service - 7:30 pm**  
Rabbi Moti Rieber will lead the service. March birthday and anniversary blessings will be given.

**Friday, March 19, Shabbat Service – 7:30 pm**  
Julie Petruccelli-Treen, Warren Sickel and Stephanie Schuttera will lead the service. Susan Zuber-Chall will give D’var Torah.

**Friday, March 26, Shabbat Service - 7:30 pm**  
Rabbi Moti Rieber will lead the service.

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**Join Your TBS Community for Passover Seder!**

Our Temple seder will take place on Sunday, March 28, starting at 6:00 pm, via Zoom. We will tell the story of the Exodus and liberation with all the song, story and ritual that you would expect from a Pesach seder! Rabbi Moti will conduct, and members of the community will lead various parts of the celebration.

The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82261268925>

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**Dillion’s on Urish and 29<sup>th</sup> Street and Hyvee will have Passover foods available this year.**



## A Guide to Eating on Passover from [www.ReformJudaism.com](http://www.ReformJudaism.com)



You know how the food you eat can sometimes trigger memories? Jewish tradition knows this too, and a kosher for Passover diet is a yearly reminder of the Jewish people's distant past as slaves in Egypt. During Passover we eat matzah, or unleavened bread, and avoid eating **chametz**, to remember our past and celebrate our freedom. Many of us also avoid eating **kitniyot**.

### **What is chametz?**

**Chametz** refers to food containing any amount of wheat, barley, rye, oats, and spelt, that has leavened.

### **Isn't matzah often made from wheat?**

That's true, matzah is made from wheat. But, when matzah is made, the wheat flour is kept absolutely dry until it's mixed with water and immediately baked. Technically, it takes 18 minutes for flour to ferment and rise, so matzah must be baked for fewer than 18 minutes.

### **Ok. Now, what's kitniyot?**

**Kitniyot** includes legumes, beans, peas, rice, millet, corn, and seeds. Many Ashkenazi Jews choose not to eat **kitniyot** on Passover.

### **Why don't people eat kitniyot on Passover?**

There have been many reasons that Ashkenazic communities have refrained from eating **kitniyot** on Passover. For example, there was a concern that because **kitniyot** can be ground to make flour and then baked, one could mistakenly assume that their neighbor was eating **chametz**. There was also concern that **chametz** grain might get mixed up with **kitniyot** if they were stored in close proximity. This **kitniyot** prohibition was not accepted by most Sephardic Jews.

### **Didn't I read somewhere that Reform Jews can eat kitniyot on Passover?**

You likely did read that somewhere! Actually, three groups of Rabbis in the recent past have met and, independent of each other, ruled that both Ashkenazim and Sephardim should be permitted to eat rice, corn, and **kitniyot** during Passover. These groups were the Responsa Committee of the Reform Jewish Movement (a responsa is a rabbinic decision), the Responsa Committee of the Israeli Conservative Movement, and the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards.

These rabbinical committees determined that the prohibition of eating rice, beans, and *kitniyot* is in direct contradiction to the opinion of all the sages of the Mishnah and Talmud (except one), and also contradicts the theory as well as the practice of more than fifty post-Talmudic Sages. Opposition to the ban on eating **kitniyot** dates to 13th century France, where one rabbi called it "a mistaken company," and another calling it a "foolish custom."

Still, it is a personal decision, and many Reform Jews choose to abstain from eating **kitniyot** on Passover.

Visit the ReformJudaism.org [Passover Recipes](http://www.ReformJudaism.org/Passover-Recipes) page for some kosher for Passover meal inspiration. **Chag sameach!**

## **Passover – Online Resources**

<https://www.haggadot.com/> - make your own haggada

<https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/passover> - Union for Reform Judaism Passover 2021

## **Passover Resources**

The Temple has haggadot that we can either give away or loan out for a Passover Service in your home. To arrange to pick up the number of haggadot needed, please call the Temple office. Someone in the office will set a box of haggadot outside the office for you to choose from.

Dear Temple Beth Sholom Family,

It is with much sadness and regret that I announce that April 16 will be my last service as a soloist and as a co-director of music. I need May and June for some other endeavors, and it is not fair to TBS if I try to do too much.

It would seem that TBS could be back in person in July. It is that possibility that leads me to this decision. I am unable to endure the fatigue involved in 2 + hours round trip from Olathe and a 1-hour service coupled with dealing with the demands of diabetes. Having been able to do this for 8 years, I hate that diabetes has dictated this decision. I will greatly miss the experience of being on the bimah leading music. It is an indescribable spiritual encounter of joy to lead music from the bimah. The reality is that I owe it to my 9-year-old granddaughter to take care of myself. I did not know my grandparents for a variety of health reasons with one of those reasons being diabetes.

I will always be grateful to TBS for all the music opportunities afforded me. The congregation showed great patience and understanding with me as a soloist at the beginning of that journey. I grew musically within the realm of Judaism at TBS. My music experience with TBS allowed me to reach and experience aspirations that I could only dream about early in my adult years. TBS is an incredibly caring and compassionate congregation with a proud heritage. I submit that TBS is a positive role model for the Union for Reform Judaism. I wish TBS all the best.

With gratefulness and humility,

Warren Sickel



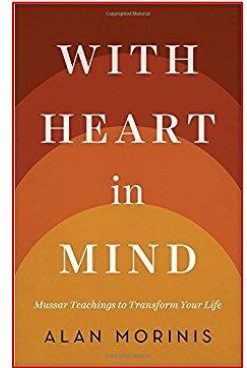
## **Doorstep News ~ March, 2021**

Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our **Souper Bowl Sunday** collection! A can of soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations helped stock our pantry, and provide meals for your neighbors in need! We did not set a goal this year with the pandemic, and most of our congregations not meeting in person. Last year 5,483 pounds of food was donated! So far by mid-February we had over 4,600 pounds donated. With the cold weather surge there is still more food to come in, which will up that total.

We know these past 11 months have been challenging for everyone in various ways, and we appreciate all of the support Doorstep has continued to receive! We feel very blessed to have the support that we do in the Topeka community. Thank you

**Middot Va'ad: Gaining Jewish Wisdom and Understanding**  
**Next Meeting: March 17 at noon via Zoom**

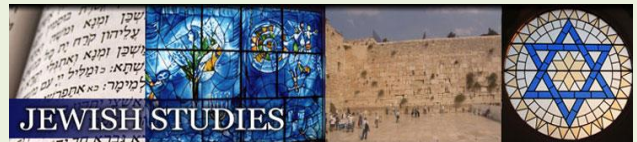
We read Alan Morinis' *With Heart in Mind ~ Mussar Teachings to Transform Your Life*. We study the character traits (*middot*) and work on bringing them into our lives in the right amount. Please have the book for the *Va'ad* meetings. We will review Chapter 37 and read Chapter 38. Newcomers are always welcome. The Zoom link will be in the Temple Beth Sholom weekly e-mail.



**Monthly Shabbat Morning Study Opportunity**

**Kabbalah Study - 9:00 - 10:30 am, Saturday, March 13 and 27, via Zoom.**  
***Introduction to the Zohar*, by Arthur Green.**

Our group is reading Art Green's excellent and thorough introduction to the Pritzker edition of the *Zohar*. If you want to get an inside look at the *Zohar*, please join us for this fascinating read! Let the Temple Office know if you want to attend via Zoom.



**MARCH**

**TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:30 am VIA ZOOM**

No Religious School on March 7 and 14

Sunday, March 21, All Classes meet

Sunday, March 28, All Classes meet



**Reform Jewish Calendar of Major Jewish Holidays 2020-2021 (5781)**

Passover  
Shavuot

March 27- April 3, 2021 (sunset Saturday-sunset Saturday)  
May 16-17, 2021 (sunset Sunday-sunset Monday)

## Recent Recipients of Temple Beth Sholom Recognitions:

### 2015

Terry Richter  
Jane Greene  
Laura Silverberg  
Wendy Moore  
Eric Zerkovitz  
Gary Fussenegger

### 2016

Irv Rosen  
Len Richter  
Barb Schwartz

### 2017

Robin Gordon  
Elaine Zlotky  
Irv Cohen

### 2018

Miriam Award  
Barbara Ginzburg  
Leora Forstein  
Barbara Shapiro  
Deborah Edelman-Dolan

### 2019 Miriam Award

Susan Zuber-Chall  
Frayna Scrinopskie

### 2020 Miriam Award

Elaine Schwartz

### Lawrence Litwin Social Action Award

2008 Jack and Rhoda Wisman  
Alan and Molly Wisman

2013 Geri Goldstein

2015 Carolyn Litwin

### Jane Cohen Greene Leadership Award

2008 Warren Sickel and Rhoda Wisman

2015 Lauren Cohen and Liz Bergmann-Harms

## Temple Beth Sholom Recognition Award: Miriam's Award

### Submit your Temple unsung hero today!

In the last few years, the Temple has recognized a few outstanding volunteers at each annual meeting and presented them with the Miriam award. This award is given for outstanding support for the Temple Beth Sholom community through acts of deed and love. These qualities are much like those demonstrated by the strong and courageous Miriam, often the unsung hero.

Each year the Miriam's Award recipients (who can be male or female) will be selected from submissions from the congregation. This award is for a person who makes a continuous and significant contribution (perhaps behind-the-scenes) without whose efforts many activities and events in the Temple would not enjoy as much success. In the above box is a list of award recipients from the last few years. Who else should be recognized? Please fill out the form below and mail it in (or e-mail it) to the Temple office by [March 31](#).



**Suggested Award Recipient:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What has congregant done over that last few years that has contributed to the success of our temple?**

**As a result, how has this congregation benefitted from this person's contributions?**

**Why do you feel this congregant is an "unsung hero?"**

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Information about Zoom:

Here are some helpful videos from Zoom.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362283-How-Do-I-Join-or-Test-My-Computer-Audio>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362313-How-Do-I-Test-My-Video>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362153-How-Do-I-Share-My-Screen>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362603-What-Are-the-Host-Controls>

### RJ on The Go

Interactive Jewish Experiences for Everyone in Your Family

**RJ ON THE GO**

<http://cloud.email.rj.org/RJonTheGo->

[Info?utm\\_source=InsideLeadership&utm\\_campaign=Resources&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=2020\\_10\\_20](http://cloud.email.rj.org/RJonTheGo-Info?utm_source=InsideLeadership&utm_campaign=Resources&utm_medium=email&utm_content=2020_10_20)



### Adult Education: Third Thursdays with Rabbi Moti

Join Reb Moti for a monthly exploration of topics in Jewish thought and text, the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, via Zoom.

March 18 - Pesach texts: an exploration of halakhic (Jewish legal) material and commentaries about the Exodus and seder. This session is sure to open new areas of thought for your Pesach celebration this year!

April 15 - Reconstructionism 101. Everybody knows that Reb Moti was ordained as a Reconstructionist rabbi but not everybody knows what that means! Join him for a brief introduction to Reconstructionist history and thought and learn about one of the seminal thinkers of 20th century Judaism, Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan.

May 16 (Sunday evening instead of Thursday) - Shavuot. It is a common custom to learn on this special night, which celebrates revelation at Sinai. We will explore texts related to revelation and covenant, the themes of the holiday.

Join us with the Zoom link <http://bit.ly/RM3rdThurs>

## **Article for Temple newsletter – Melissa Householder, Temple Beth Sholom**

This time last year, we were rearranging our lives to fit a new reality. Some of us were moving our offices home to work remotely, while others were dealing with layoffs, furloughs, and insecurities about the present and the future. COVID-19 hit the US in February and March 2020, causing us all to upend our lives in a way we never thought possible. My personal experience with COVID's life—changing effects culminated the first week of February this year when my company's annual conference was held online, rather than in person. We were supposed to have been in Las Vegas greeting old friends and making new ones, networking, and doing business-as-usual. The virtual event was well received, but it was also a reminder of what was taken from us over the last 12 months – travel, fellowship, memories that were never made, and life events that had to be postponed or canceled altogether.

This time last year we were also preparing for Pesach. Many plans were put on hold or canceled, and many of us were forced to celebrate alone, or with only those in our immediate household. Pesach 2021 begins at sundown on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan (Saturday, March 27), and we are still in a global pandemic. While there is hope on the horizon with a vaccine, the festival holiday will once again be a smaller version of past Pesach celebrations. It is easy to become disheartened about the state of the world and the memories we continue to miss out on. However, we can choose to look at the past year and see all the things we do have to be grateful for.

This lesson in perspective can be seen in our observance of Passover, as well. Many of us, including myself, tend to focus on the fact we are prohibited from eating chametz. So much so, that grocery shopping, house cleaning, and other holiday activities seem restrictive and difficult to achieve. But this year, we can all focus on what CAN be had during this annual festival holiday. Rather than focusing on what cannot be eaten, we can focus on the wonderful items available to us. Instead of worrying about ingredient lists and stressing about additives, focus on the large amount of fresh produce, meat, and fish we are lucky enough to have available at our local stores. Maybe try one new vegetable or fruit each day of the holiday, something you have never tried before! Or maybe try a different way of preparing something so it seems new and exciting.

Being grateful for what we do have at our disposal, rather than focusing on what we are prohibited from having, can be a wonderful, cathartic exercise. I can admit to being depressed, negative, and generally non-positive about what my little world looks like these days. But this year, I pledge to make a concerted effort to look for the things I can be grateful for, even if only beginning with one area of my life. That is the thing about gratitude – it spreads exponentially.

Just as fasting on Yom Kippur reminds us of those who deal with hunger daily, being grateful for what we have can compel us to remember those who have less. While we stress about getting the chametz out of the house, or worry over the seder table setting, we can be reminded of those who do not have a table or family to share it with, as well as those who would be thankful for any bit of chametz they could get their hands on. For those of us blessed with much, it is our responsibility to help take care of those who have so little. The Exodus story we retell each year over the seder plate is the story of escape from Egyptian slavery and the redemptive power of G-d to right the wrongs and injustices of the world. But the work does not only belong to G-d; it belongs to all of us who must continue working to right wrongs and injustices every day. Gratitude not only helps us see what we must be thankful for, it gives us the humility to recognize what we are able to give as we work towards a more just tomorrow. Chag Pesach Sameach!



# BLINTZE BRUNCH



Temple Beth Sholom  
56th Annual Jewish Food  
and Cultural Fair

## COOKING DATES AND TIMES

Cooking Dates:	Sunday, March 7	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Cabbage Rolls
	Sunday, March 21	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Knishes

**While cooking, we will practice social distancing, and everyone will be wearing a mask.**

If you can help with the cooking or have questions, please call Jack Wisman at 357-4104. Jack would like some volunteers to prepare the day before (Saturdays) for each cooking date.

**SILENT AUCTION ITEMS ARE NEEDED!** We need items that will be popular and bring in the money! Please bring items to the Temple during office hours or the Einstein's store.

### Blintze Brunch for 2021 Re-Scheduled

The 2021 Blintze Brunch will be Sunday, May 2. The plan is to have an online purchase and curbside pick-up Brunch again. The Silent Auction and variety of bake goods will be available, too. Watch for more details.



### How Can you help Temple Beth Sholom Financially? By Jack Wisman

Why not do what I did and give all or part of your government stimulus money to the Temple! They are talking about an additional check so if you have already used the first check, you can use all or part of the second stimulus check! Whatever you do, you are performing a wonderful mitzvah for the Jewish community. We hope to hear from you soon! If you have questions about this, give me a call at 785-357-4104.

A new feature in the Bulletin will be a list of birthdays and anniversaries of members for the month. The office did not have a birth date or anniversary for everyone. If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or if you do not want your birthday or anniversary listed, please inform the Temple office. We hope you enjoy seeing who else has a birthday the same as you.

### March Birthdays

Jennifer McBee – 1st  
Harold Bryan – 3rd  
Paul Nusbaum – 5th  
Linda Baraban – 7th  
Ben Lange – 9th  
Paul Hungerford – 11th  
Esther Potts – 12th  
Ezra Ginsburg – 14th  
Andrew Becker – 15th  
David Chall – 18th  
Dennis Dobson – 21st  
Bruce Levine – 22nd  
Max Briman – 23rd  
Lauren Cohen – 23rd  
Steve Blum – 24th  
AJ Feldman – 27th

### March Anniversaries

Todd and Tara Gordon – 11th  
Allen and Beth Kossoy – 22nd



### Temple Beth Sholom 2021 Annual Meeting Sunday, June 13 10:00 am

- Election of Officers and Board members
- Slide show of past year's happenings
- Approval of the budget and discussion of other Temple matters

### Directory Updates

Please make the following updates in your January 2021 directory:  
Parker, Alan and Marilyn – the 783-2140 phone number is no longer in service.  
Perkins, Kelly – add Apt. C to her address.

### Highlights from Temple Beth Sholom Board meeting, February 3, 2021

- Rabbi Simcha Rafael's Scholar-in-Residence program was very informative and a big success. If you missed it, you can watch a replay - it is on the TBS public FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/TempleBethSholomTopeka>
- A beautiful new Tree of Life, donated by Ron and Frayna Scrinopskie, is being delivered to Temple very soon. Once we are all allowed back in the building, we will arrange a dedication ceremony to celebrate this mitzvah.
- We are entering a busy time of year, with planning for a special Purim, Passover, the Holocaust Commemoration, the Blintze Brunch, and our Annual Meeting.

## **Elaine Schwartz, Temple Beth Shalom Board Member and Grant writer, comments on Scholar-in-Residence**

I wanted to share my thoughts on how wonderful the Scholar-in-Residence speaker was on February 4 and 5, 2021. I think all of us, young and old, are very interested in the topic of the afterlife. I would like to see us invite Rabbi Raphael to do at least one more session with us at some time in the future.

During the Friday night session, Hurst encouraged me to share about a special website, [www.lastinglegacyonline.com](http://www.lastinglegacyonline.com) which features the life story of Chief Justice Kay McFarland. I briefly mentioned that the site is for anyone to tell their life story for safekeeping and to pass it on to family and friends. And, there is no cost to using the site. There are 75 questions from your birth to the Final Chapter to help you write your story. It can also be used to store important documents, photos, and other memorabilia electronically. If you need further assistance in using the site, please let me know.

In conclusion, thank you to Reb Moti and to Rabbi Raphael for providing us with a very educational and informational opportunity. We can plan for more educational opportunities to learn and grow in our Jewish faith by identifying grants to support the cost of a Scholar-In-Residence in the future. In the past, I had written a grant with the help of several Temple members. It was approved and we sponsored Danny Siegal in October of 2018 for a Scholar-In-Residence weekend session.

### **Church Using Temple**

The Apostolic Assembly Church is using the Social Hall at the Temple. They are in the building on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 pm and on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:30 pm. Please greet them when you see them. They will be adhering to strict cleaning and social distancing guidelines.



### **Religious School Tu’B’Shevat celebration!**

A BIG Thank you to Laurie McKinnon and our Temple Religious School teachers for all of their time and efforts this year!



# State of Kansas Holocaust Commemoration Service



Monday, April 26, 2021

1:00 pm \*Virtual\*

**\*76 Years After Auschwitz: Stand Together\***

Keynote Address:

Megan Felt, *Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project*

Norm Conard, Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes

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**“The Steadfast Courage of Irena Sendler, Fearless Rescuer”**

**By Norm Conard and Megan Felt of the *Life in a Jar: the Irena Sendler Project* and the Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes**

The State of Kansas, led by Governor Laura Kelly, memorializes the victims of the Holocaust. Founders of the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants recognized that the lives of citizens are vulnerable to the power of elected officials. Their years of many efforts resulted in the government supported Yom HaShoah observance.

Governor Laura Kelly will present the Kansas Proclamation for the Days of Remembrance, which includes the following: “...the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators...the people of the State of Kansas should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution and tyranny; and the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of Kansas to remember the victims of the Holocaust, as well as to reflect on the need for respect for all peoples...”

Megan Felt was a high school student in Norm Conard’s class when her life was changed by Irena Sendler. Irena Sendler was a Polish social worker who acted fearlessly during the destructive and brutal years of the Holocaust. In 1999, Megan Felt and her classmates wrote the play “Life in a Jar” for a National History Day project. “Life in a Jar” is the story of Irena Sendler, who risked her life repeatedly to rescue Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto by placing them in hiding. Those she saved would have been deported to Treblinka, a death camp.

Life stories of brave persons can transcend time and remind us of the persistent need to defend human rights and freedom. Megan Felt said of Irena Sendler, “She challenged us to continue her story and inspire others. This is a tremendous but rewarding task we will all try to achieve for the rest of our lives.” By making it their life’s work to share the story of Irena Sendler, Norm Conard and Megan Felt have found their way to make the world a better place. Norm Conard is now the Executive Director of the Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes in downtown Fort Scott, KS. Megan Felt is the Program Director. Norm and Megan work with educators around the world to help students conduct in-depth primary research while creating inspiring projects that share the stories of unsung heroes.

Kansas’ clergy, lawmakers, and students will be participating in the service. Holocaust survivors, World War II veterans, and second-generation sons and daughters will be recognized. Registration and login information will follow. ([www.lowellmilkencenter.org](http://www.lowellmilkencenter.org))

# MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Board Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm	4	5 Shabbat Service via Zoom 7:30 pm Julie Petruccelli-Treen/ Rhoda Wisman/ Susan Zuber-Chall	6
7 Cabbage Roll Cooking 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  NO Religious School	8	9	10	11	12 Shabbat Service via Zoom 7:30 pm Rabbi Moti Rieber	13 Kabbalah Study Group 9:00 am via Zoom
14  NO Religious School	15	16	17	18 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday with Rabbi Rieber via Zoom 7:00 pm	19 Shabbat Service via Zoom 7:30 pm Julie Petruccelli-Treen/ Susan Zuber-Chall/ Warren Sickel/ Stephanie Schuttera	20
21 Knish Cooking 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  Religious School via Zoom 10:30 am	22	23	24	25	26 Purim Shabbat Service via Zoom 7:00 pm Rabbi Rieber	27 Kabbalah Study Group 9:00 am via Zoom Passover 1 <sup>st</sup> night seder
28 Passover 2 <sup>nd</sup> night seder 6:00 pm via Zoom Religious School via Zoom 10:30 am	29 Passover	30 Passover	31 Passover	Want to keep up with Temple EVENTS?! Access Temple's Calendar:  <a href="https://templebethsholomtopeka.view-events.com/calendar/73982531/">https://templebethsholomtopeka.view-events.com/calendar/73982531/</a>		

# Temple Beth Sholom

4200 SW Munson Ave, Topeka, KS 66604-1879

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## UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION:

We are updating our directory and email list. Please send any updates to your mailing address, phone numbers and email addresses to the Temple office at [office@tbstopeka.org](mailto:office@tbstopeka.org).

## MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

If you know anyone who is not receiving the monthly email bulletin but would like to receive one, please inform the Temple Office.

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