



Bethel-Harrisonburg.org

The purpose of this congregation shall be to worship God in accordance with the faith of Judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the Jewish heritage; to strengthen the ties within the Jewish community; to strengthen the bonds of loyalty with the Jewish people everywhere; to bring nearer the Dominion of God on earth through an emphasis on the principles of righteousness and harmony in society at large, and to engage in social action projects in pursuit of social justice and Tikkun Olam (repair of both the human and nonhuman components of the world).

SEPTEMBER 2020

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, From the Board August 17, 2020

- Rabbi's Report: "I've been spending my time preparing services with the focus on adapting them for Zoom and Live-streaming, shortening them, adding some relevant readings for this unusual year. I concluded daily "My Word!" articles to concentrate on the services and sermons. I wrote to our four potential Confirmation students."
- Treasurer's report: Ron Rubin reported that over half of all the dues have been returned. He will contact folks he hasn't heard from after the High Holydays. He is planning for quarterly statements.
- Trustee's report: Les Mintzer reported on work needed on trees in the cemetery prior to HH. Adult Education: Two sessions scheduled by Rabbi Grumbacher in September.
- Building and Grounds: Fruit from our trees is readily available. We will have a cleanup day prior to the HH. Mary Handley and others continue to tend our garden beds.
- Library /Archives: The committees met briefly, reviewed potential donations to the library and catalogued one new book (on Jewish baby) names, and Dan Bly took the donated documents for the archives home to be properly put into archival sleeves.
- Pulpit Search Committee: Andy Kohen, Kate Neckowitz, and Amanda Friss will meet to discuss revised plans prior to sending in the advertisement to CCAR.
- Social Action: Linda Kohn and Andy Kohen report that
 - (1) Gemeinschaft Home is celebrating its 35 Anniversary. Information shared.
 - (2) The URJ Religious Action Center has launched their "Every Voice, Every Vote: Reform Movement 2020 Civic Engagement Campaign". The link can be found on the RAC website.
<https://rac.org/take-action/congregations-communities/rac-civic-engagement-campaign-2020>
 - (3) The Interfaith Association (Beth El is a member) continues to work through the Virginia Interfaith Technology Committee: Rachelle Dorne reports that work continues to prepare for the HH and beyond. Leslie Harris, Mickey Glago, and Ron Ornstein recently met at the Temple to tweak sound and visual quality for streaming. Congregants are encouraged to contact Rachelle with questions about accessing Zoom or Streamspot.
- Old Business:

- 1) Finalization of Religious School plans for 2020. Roni Goldberg, board liaison to RS will dialogue with Dara and Liz to gather more information in this fluid situation.
- 2) Beth El Calendar is available on our website. Please note the addition of Sunday, September 20 @11:00AM for the Memorial service at the Beth El Cemetery. Everyone is also encouraged to refer to the dates and times included in Bridge. Additional reminders will be included in the Wednesday emails to congregants.

3) HH so far: Michelle has made arrangements for security. We are limiting the numbers of participants on site. The people who will be present will be those with readings or Honors, and Leslie Harris will be contacting them. Participants may also access the services through Zoom. We have a plan for book distribution via drive-thru in the parking lot. There will be a gift bag for each member of the congregation that includes apples and honey, and flowers. We will also collect non-perishables for our Holyday food drive for First Step. More information to follow.

- New Business: Initial discussion about the possibility of using the social hall as a satellite site for Second Home. We are conflicted and will revisit at our next meeting.

- Next meeting: Monday, September 21, 2020 @

6:30PM. Michelle Ornstein, board president

MY (MONTHLY) WORD!

A Letter to Each of You as We Approach This New Year

Dear Friends,

On the one hand we find ourselves in the most difficult situation most of us have endured. On the other hand, when we consider the privation of our parents and grandparents during the Great Depression and World War II, let alone those who experienced the Holocaust, we know that others have been through worse. What's more, depending on our age, some in our families knew the truly unparalleled tragedy of the 1918 Flu epidemic.

Across the years, people, those of Beth El included, have said to me, "Compared to others, my problems are nothing," but my response is, "Perhaps that is true, but at the moment you are facing problems that are yours and yours alone; they cannot be minimized." The point is that this pandemic is being experienced in different ways. If we ourselves haven't been the victims of the virus, we know how awful isolation, quarantine, and familial distance can be. Students – from the kindergartner to the college senior – know how their education has been impacted.

How can these holydays speak to us so that the annual message of hope will be renewed despite the problems?

I don't have the answers; I wonder as well. What I do know is that we are amazing creatures. Whether or not you believe that God created us, join me in at least believing that we were created in the Divine image, owing it to ourselves and others to imitate the Eternal (Imitation Dei). When we think we've reached our limit in patience, compassion, the ability to listen, the opportunity to communicate kindness, know that we have it in us to push a little harder.

There are those of us who grieve, if not for loved ones who died from the virus, even for those who became ill because of it, then surely for the millions whose lives and the lives of their loved ones have been upended. That's a thought for Yizkor this year. The root of Yizkor means "remember." We remember our deceased loved ones but let us realize that "death" can mean something other than the stopping of the heartbeat and the brain's functioning. We must remember the "death" that so many are feeling and put ourselves in their position. Empathy is a response that makes us truly human, and a return to the best of our humanity is what the holydays are all about.

The pandemic isn't our only national, indeed international, tragedy. Our prayers must focus as well as those who feel there is little hope when their loved ones have been needlessly killed by those in authority...and somehow we must be with them, for perhaps we can all regain hope if we labor together towards justice.

And let us not forget that hate abounds against our faith community and against so many who have felt the winds of hate fanned in the past few years. Despite the pain, the divisiveness, these Days of Awe must inspire us to be proud of who we are. We cannot shrink believing if we "disappear" the problem will as well. Indeed, it is time to renew our commitment to end hate across the board by showing what we JEWS and our JUDAISM stand for. Those values must be restored for they are the values of true Americans regardless of faith or any other label.

May we be blessed in this year of 5781 with the best of health, the return of sanity, family cohesiveness, and above all, peace.

Most sincerely,

Peter H. Grumbacher, Rabbi

Leadership

Rabbi: Peter H. Grumbacher

President: Michelle Ornstein

Vice President: Amanda Friss

Treasurer: Ron Rubin

Secretary: Phil Renick

Corresponding Secretary: Gale Clemons

Trustee: Lester Mintzer

Trustee: Eric Rynar

Trustee: Ron Ornstein

Past President: Andy Kohen

At large member: Rachelle Dorne

At large member: Roni Goldberg

Sisterhood Presidents: Sherri Alt + Rebekah Greenfield

Men's Club President: Lester Mintzer

Religious School Principals: Dara Hall + Liz Webb

Bridge Editor
Elliott Golub
Elgolubret@comcast.net
540-289-5336

Yahrzeits

JULY Yahrzeits

03 Joseph Brooslin	1966		Ruth Clayman's Father
Ralph Miller		Member	
Shirley Borodkin			
04 Jerry Minskoff	2017	Member	
05 Jessie Masnikoff			
06 Theresa Loewner	1937		
Edgar Wise	1882		
09 William Robinson	1949		Josh Robinson's Uncle
Carol S Ney	2004		Bill Ney's Mother
10 Nellie E Robinson	2009		Saul Robinson's Wife
Blanche Spitz Slott	2016		Chuck Slott's Mother
11 Regina Ney	1930		Bill Ney's, Eddie Ney's & Leo Zindler's Great Grandmother
12 Florine Ney	1995	Member	
Max Wolf Landsman	2015		Lenore Price's father
13 Max Helbraun			Erwin Helbraun's Father
William Schechter	2017		Marlene Brumbaugh's Brother & Sherri Alt's Uncle
14 Vincent Elkind	1995	Member	
15 Miriam I Hirsch	1942		
16 Siegfried Meyers	1975	Member	
Bernard Rubin			Dave Rubin's Father
Adrian Sonn	1995		Responsible for the building of the new Temple
17 Molly Hirsch	1904	Member	
Mary N Loewner			
Gail Gorlitzz	2017		Sara Trantum's stepmom

19 Jack Neckowitz	1978		Alan Neckowitz' Father
21 Dorothy Fox			Marian Frankel's Mother
22 William Wender	1932		
24 Harry Lewin	1993		
25 George Becker	1986		
26 Samuel Klingstein	1912	Member	
Ronnetta (Ronnie) Kahn 2001			
Member 27 Henry Ney 1946			
Member			
Emanuel Loewner	1980	Member	
28 Theresa Zisman			
29 Alvin Ney	1945	Member	
31 Leon Wise			
Louis Issacs	1909	Member	
Maude Snyder			Gladys Ney's Sister
<u>AUGUST YAHRZEITS</u>			
01 Jord Poster	2012		
04 Eugene Berney	1976		
Robert W Rudd			
09 W.C. Ward	1997		Michelle Ornstein's father
11 Velerie Ney	1981	Member	
Chuck Slott	2018	Member	
12 Blanche Goldman			Maureen Goldberger's Mother
Betty O'Callaghan			Irma Nemoytin's Mother
13David Aaron Kraus			
Lena Raff	1982		

14 Jessie Frankel

15 Moses Rosenbloom

Alexander Auerbach 1975

Dave Frankel's Mother

Sarah Loewner's Father

Suzi Trubitz' Grandfather

16	Robert Hirsch			
	Ali David Good			Estelle Robinson's Father
17	Carrie Ney Scheuer	1954	Member	
18	Albert Ash			Eddie Ney's Grandfather
	Adele Bilsker Moses	1968		
	Louis Slott			Chuck Slott's Father
19	Suzanne Glazer			John Stewart's Sister
20	Arlette Lewin	1999		
21	Irving Ney	1966		Eddie Ney's Father
23	Rubin Peck			Beverly Zindler's Father
24	David Robinson	1968	Member	Josh Robinson's Brother
26	Raymond Hoffman			Rabbi Dan Fink's Grandfather
27	John Stewart	2010	Member	
29	Rose Poster Carr	2005		Allan Poster's Mother
30	Joseph Mintzer	1967	Member	Erwin Helbraun's & Anne Mintzer's Uncle
	Marvin Poster	1976	Member	
	Abraham Goodman	1976		Suzi Trubitz' Father

SEPTEMBER YAHREZEITS

02	Lena Paul Miller		Member	
03	Beverly Zindler	2011	Member	
05	Rose Minskoff	1942		Jerry Minskoff's Mother
	Edythe Sanders	1959		Bill Ney's & Leo Zindler's Great Aunt
	James Handley	2015		Mary Handley's father
06	Arthur H Hirsch	1940	Member	
	Thomas Blatt	1956	Member	Franklin Blatt's Uncle
	Dr. Alfred Agrin	2004		Cathy Brookshire's Father

Norman Kaiser			Paula Kaiser's Father
10 Lee G Loewner	1936	Member	
11 Alfred Raff	1981		Irma Nemoytin's Father
Gilbert Litvin	1969		Herb Rodbell's Cousin
12 Sidra Nemoytin Dubell	1993	Member	
16 Fannie Myerberg			
Harry Blatt	1959	Member	Frank Blatt's Father
Bertha B Kaye			Ruth Clayman's Sister
Barbara Clayman Callihan	1990		Harry & Ruth Clayman's Daughter
Beth A Ney	2000	Member	Eddie Ney's Mother
17 Virginia Pearl Blatt	2018		
18 Roslyn Loewner	1940	Member	
Solomon Loewner	1927	Member	
Gladys Wise	1919	Member	
Joseph Ney	1988		Bill Ney's Father
19 John "Bud" Shapiro	2008		Becky Mintzer's Father
20 Simon Marrick	1972		
Samuel R. Nebelkopf	1961		Shirley Merlin's Father
21 Kattie Ney	1877	Member	
23 Kalman Meyer	1964		Joyce Helbraun's Father
25 Berdie F Ney	1942	Member	
Kattie Iseman	1909		
Nettie Berney			
Theodore Weiss	1952	Member	
Ben Handler	1973		Lenny Handler's Father
Sara Loewner	1982	Member	Sissy
27 Samuel Fisher	1968		
Alexander Nemoytin	1967		Gene Nemoytin's Father
29 Belle Neckowitz			Alan Neckowitz's Mother

Julius Berman
Charles Rodbell 1968

Lenny Berman's Father
Herb Rodbell's Father

DONATIONS

Judy Freudenthal – Bought Martin's & Food Lion cards

Lenore Stallard – Yahrzeit – Mx Wolf Landsman

Bill Ney – Bought Martin's and Food Lion Cards

Phil Renick – Charitable Foundation donation to Temple Building Fund

Eddie Ney & Margee Greenfield – Yahrzeits - Albert Ash & Irving Ney

Lois Poster – General Donation

Michael & Maureen Goldberger – Yahrzeit – Betty O'Callaghan

Nancy Stewart – Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

Bruce & Sheri Alt – Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

Shulruff & Lee Family – In Memory of Mary Shulruff

Alan Poster – Yahrzeit - Rose Carr

Lois Poster – Happy New Year, Shanna Tova!!

High Holidays Schedule and Protocols

In order to reduce risks during the High Holydays, there will be limited access to our building. Only those actively participating in the services will be in the sanctuary. This will include Rabbi Grumbacher, Leslie Harris, and those involved in music, individual honors, and security. Please read further for clarification and to see what will be available for others not in the sanctuary.

Not only is Leslie the lead in the Ritual Committee when determining honors, she also will be our on-site lead in technology. Please note that individuals with honors have the option of being present in the sanctuary. If you have an honor, you may choose to participate via Zoom.

Leslie will be sending out information about specific honors and readings to congregants soon. Please respond to her in a timely way.

Our new live streaming option (when noted on our schedule) is available for those not on site or participating using Zoom.

We suggest you bookmark this for easy access to any and all Beth El live streamed services.

Current schedule of High Holyday services and events:

All HH services and adult education sessions will be led by Rabbi Grumbacher.

- Friday, September 11:
Shabbat services @7:30 PM (zoom + streamspot)
- Saturday, September 12:
Adult Education part 1 - Themes of the High Holydays - 10 AM (zoom)
Selichot services @ 9 PM (zoom)
- Tuesday, September 15:
Adult Education part 2 - Prayers of the High Holydays - 10 AM (zoom)
- Friday, September 18:
Prayer book & HH gift bag distribution @ the Temple parking lot between 3-5 PM.
Prayer books also may be picked up at additional times TBD.

Erev Rosh Hashanah @ 7:30 PM (zoom + streamspot.)

- Saturday, September 19:

Rosh Hashanah @ 10:00 AM (zoom + streamspot.)

Rosh Hashanah Outdoor Family Service including symbolic Tashlich
at Beth El 2 PM

- Sunday, September 20:

Memorial service at the Beth El Cemetery @ 11:00 AM (Addition)

- Wednesday, September 23:

Sanctuary open for quiet/private in person meditation 1-3 PM

- Thursday, September 24:

Sanctuary open for quiet/private in person meditation 7-9 PM

- Friday, September 25:

Lay led Shabbat Service (details TBD)

- Sunday, September 27:

Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidrei) @ 7:30 PM (zoom + streamspot)

- Monday, September 28:

Yom Kippur morning @ 10 AM (zoom + streamspot)

Yom Kippur Outdoor Family Service (including afternoon Torah/Jonah
Haftarah) @ 4 PM

Yom Kippur - Yizkor (and Neilah) around 5 PM (zoom + streamspot)

Welcome to the Out of the Darkness Greater Shenandoah Valley Experience

*While the Greater Shenandoah Valley Out of the Darkness Walk is going to look different this year, our mission to **Save Lives and Bring Hope to Those Affected by Suicide** has not changed. We are a strong and resilient community, united in our effort to fight suicide, raise awareness, educate our communities, support those who have lost loved ones, and support those with lived experience. We use our voices and share our stories to provide hope.*

We invite you to join us October 10th & 11th for an Out of the Darkness Experience. We're working hard to plan meaningful opportunities to connect and inspire you, and we will share more details about our exciting plans in the coming weeks.

We want to keep you up to date with the most current information so be sure to sign up and join us here!

*We are always **#TogetherToFightSuicide***

Registration is free and open to the public. Donations are accepted until December 31st.

As far as WALK details are concerned, anyone interested can learn more about how the 10/10/20 WALK will be adjusted to meet COVID19 guidelines by liking our Facebook page:

Greater Shenandoah Valley Out of the Darkness Walk. To register a team, use this link: <https://afsp.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=71131f>

[If you are interested in joining the Temple House of Israel Walkers, contact Debbie Jacobs at Deb1130@hotmail.com](#)

It's different quantitatively, of course. We don't have as many members as they have in large congregations.

But---even more so—it's different qualitatively from large congregations. There are things they have that we don't.

But there are other things—very important things—that we have that they don't. And a lot of them are spending a lot of time and money trying to capture—or recapture—that something that we have.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF FAMILY. We have members we are close to, members we get along with, and members who drive us crazy. But there aren't enough of us that we can afford to get uppity. We need each other. And so, we care about each other, and we know that every last one of us is important. We aren't an institution. We're still people. WE HAVE A SENSE OF TENACITY. We know how fragile our presence is and how important it is that we stay alive, stay involved and stay together—no matter what. So, we do.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF INVOLVMENT. When organizational research indicates that most organizations operate on an average level of involvement of 5 per cent of the membership, it's rewarding to know that most of us are involved most of the time.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY to THE CONGREGATION. When everyone depends on you, you tend to carry through. You might not always want to, but you do what you have to do, and you usually end up glad that you did.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF TOLERANCE. we often exist in areas isolated from mainstream Jewish life where many (if not most) of our marriages are (or were) mixed, and where some of our best friends aren't Jewish. And our kids' best friends aren't Jewish. And our survival may depend less on turning in on ourselves than on sharing what we have with others so they can see that we have something worth working for. WE HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR. In a congregation with no building, no permanent rabbi, and no money, we have to have something enduring!

WE HAVE A SENSE OF INTIMACY WITH OUR RABBI (or student rabbi, as the case may be). We really get to know the rabbi, one—on—one. And the rabbi gets to know us.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF CONTINUITY. we grow up with close personal role models of all ages. We have a wide diversity in age range, but we aren't big enough to stratify by age. So, nobody thinks about age. We're just us.

WE HAVE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY. In a very real way, we are Judaism in our respective communities.

We realize that we have the responsibility to carry on the traditions of Judaism in places not ordinarily known for their Jewish culture.

And we do it with all the enthusiasm and energy we can summon.

Because there's nobody to do it but us by Mary Hofman Congregation Etz Chaim, Merced, CA

SEPTEMBER 2020

	Mon 31	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5
30						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
SHORTY Meeting	Labor Day				7:30pm Shabbat Services (Zoom + Streamspot)	10am Adult Education Part 1: Themes of the High Holydays (Zoom) 9pm Selichot Services (Zoom)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		10am Adult Education Part 2: Prayers of the High Holydays (Zoom)			Rosh Hashana Eve	Rosh Hashana
					3pm Prayer Book & HH Gift Bag Distribution 7:30pm Erev Rosh Hashanah (Zoom + Streamspot)	10am Rosh Hashanah (Zoom + Streamspot) 2pm Rosh Hashanah Family Service including Tashlich (Outdoor)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Rosh Hashana (Day 2)	6:30pm Board Meeting		1pm Open Sanctuary for Quiet Reflection	7pm Open Sanctuary for Quiet Reflection	Lay Service	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Yom Kippur Eve 7:30pm Kol Nidrei (Zoom + Streamspot)	Yom Kippur 10am Yom Kippur Morning (Zoom + Streamspot) 4pm Yom Kippur Family Service including Torah and Jonah Haftarah (Outdoor) 5pm Yizkor and Neilah (Zoom + Streamspot)				Sukkot Eve	Sukkot (Day 1)