

Temple Israel of Highlands County  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
863-382-7744 *DECEMBER 2021 / 5782*



Temple Israel's Web Page [www.templeisraelofhcf.org](http://www.templeisraelofhcf.org)

Temple Israel is a Reform Temple that promotes the enduring and fundamental principles of Judaism.

Through prayer, study and friendship we strive to enrich our lives and ensure Jewish continuity in Highlands County.



## **Congregational Board**

### **Officers:**

#### **President:**

Julia Ruden

#### **Vice President:**

Howard Salles

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#### **Treasurer:**

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Phyllis Behrens

Karen del Valle

Lois Lewis Gill

Narola Rosenberg

Sara Rosenbaum

Alan Wildstein

### **Officiating Cantor:**

**Cantor Riselle Bain**

Cell: 813-600-8013

\*American Conference of Cantors  
Clergy Committed to Judaism and  
Jewish Music

### **Rabbi Emerita:**

**Lorraine Rudenberg**

### **Newsletter Staff:**

Michelle Herchick

### **Bulletin Board:**

Howard Salles

Chanukah, O'Chanukah come light the menorah! Let's have a party we'll all dance the Hora! Finally, after one year and nine months, we will come together to celebrate our Festival of Lights together on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Temple Israel has opened its doors for in person Shabbat services. We are also continuing to make use of the miracle of technology by making our services available on Facebook Live for those who cannot be with us in person.

As the year is coming to an end, we cannot deny that it has continued to be a difficult time for all. There has been fear, suffering, loneliness, loss of life. The world still suffers from terrorism and violence. Our president, Julie reminds us, "We pray for the world."

As our ancestors before us did so many years ago, we have prevailed. At this time when there is darkness in the world, it is so important for us to bring light into the world – to find light within ourselves and to emanate that light to others.

I thought about the lighting of our chanukiah (menorah for Chanukah!). I thought about praying and creating light and hope for a world of peace, health, respect, and harmony. The great teacher Hillel taught us to add light each night. I thought about dedicating the light of each candle for the eight nights of Chanukah to one of our cherished Jewish values.

The first candle to FREEDOM. The Maccabean revolt against Antiochus Ephiphanes and his forced Hellenization of the Jews (167-160 B.C.E.) was a struggle for freedom – for their very existence – for rights of the minority without threat of repression. Let this candle's light inspire us to protect freedom for all. We also pray for the freedom to hug and be close to each other again.

The second candle to TOLERANCE. Let us continue to strive for a world in which the voice of hatred is no longer taught. Let this candle light the way for us to work for a world of mutual respect and tolerance among all the peoples of the world.

The third candle to PEACE. Let us use our precious freedom to create a world that uses words to build bridges among people and does not employ weapons of destruction – a world in which "they shall beat their swords into plow-shares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, and they shall not learn war anymore."

# Cantor Riselle Bain's Message *Continued*

The fourth candle to COURAGE – most importantly to have the courage to stand strong with our moral ideals and convictions. Let this light remind us that without that kind of courage, those ideals will remain unfulfilled. Let us always make the courageous choice when it comes to protecting ourselves and others.

The fifth candle to KNOWLEDGE. The quest for Jewish knowledge for ourselves and our children can enrich our lives as Jews, and so enable us to transmit the beauty and depth of our heritage to future generations. Let this light symbolize our commitment to expanding our Jewish knowledge.

The sixth candle to TZEDAKAH – TO JUSTICE – by giving of ourselves and easing the burdens of others. Let this light remind us of other's needs, physical, emotional, spiritual - - and inspire us to share what we have and what we are with generosity and love. A phone call to check on a friend at this time is a great mitzvah.

The seventh candle to RESPONSIBILITY – that we understand that each of us has a significant degree of responsibility for the welfare of others. Let the light of this candle remind us that we can proudly bear this responsibility.

The eighth candle is to the CONTINUITY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE – to be an active participant in Jewish life, so that future generations will learn the joy and beauty of their Jewish heritage from our actions as well as our words. May the light of this candle encourage us to make all the wonderful aspects of Judaism a priority in our lives, intrinsic to our very being. May we never give up on the teachings of our heritage.

In lighting our Chanukah candles, in singing our songs of freedom, in the telling of our people's stories, we will join with Jews all over the world – today – in the past – as well as in the future. May the candles illuminate our minds and warm our hearts and rekindle our commitment to each other and to the Jewish people.

Cantor Riselle Bain



# Message From the President

**Julia Ruden**

DECEMBER 2021 / 5782

Dear Friends and Family;

I count my blessings everyday. I am so Thankful for Temple Israel and everything that happens here! I appreciate everyone's efforts and time spent keeping things going; it truly is a team effort and maintenance never seems to end.

Our Board, volunteers, and workers are the BEST!

It's so nice to welcome our congregation back to shul! Thank you Lois Lewis and Mary Ann Romer for putting together that beautiful oneg for our first service back in person = that was awesome!! I am looking forward to celebrating Chanukah December 3rd at 6:30 PM.

Bring your menorahs for the party.

Donna Wasson thank you for the butterfly garden. It is exquisite and Thank you for all you do!

For those who are recovering Mishabera! You are missed!!!

Thank you everyone for your continued support of OUR Temple!!!

*Be thankful for everything, everyone, everyday – I am!*

Be Safe for the Holiday's

Thankxoxox you ALL for ALL you Dooooooo!!

*Love Julie*



# Announcements

DECEMBER 2021/5782



**NEXT BOARD MEETING**  
Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup>  
at 11A.M.

**DECEMBER Onegs are sponsored by:**

**DEC 3<sup>rd</sup> Chanukah Party**

**DEC 17<sup>th</sup> The Board**

**Challah, wine, decaf coffee & fruit are the basics for our onegs. If you would like to sponsor an Oneg contact Karen del Valle.**



**LUNCH BUNCH**

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group **Monday, Dec. 27** at 12:30 at Casa Tequila Mexican Restaurant, 1979 Placid Lakes Blvd, Lake Placid



**Contact Renee Tepper 863-414-8811 or [reneetepper@gmail.com](mailto:reneetepper@gmail.com) and let her know you'll be there.**

**תודה רבה - Thank You Alan Wildstein for your continued and generous support for Alan Jay Automotive for our transportation to and from Services! And for ALL YOU Dooo!**  
**Please Contact Cantor Riselle Bain 813-600-8013 if you need assistance to get to services.**

# December Yahrzeits

## \*\* Memorial Plaque in our Shul



Ida Biener	Gerda Levy**
Ida Chinsky	Frieda Moscowitz
Sylvia Cohen	Albert M. Moses**
Ralph E. Crews**	Gertrude Pearl
Ruth E. Davis**	Lena Pintzow
	Herman Pintzow Past President
Sylvia Dorfman	Helen Rivers
Elaine Eckles**	Jacob Rosenberg
Isaac Elias	Nate Sadowsky**
Benjamin Garthwait**	Ethel Gottlieb Shapiro**
Ella Garthwait**	Steve Siegel
Roger Jarlow	Marilyn Schustrin
Kathleen Johnson	Joseph Sornstein**
	Mamie Asher Smith
Michael Kahn**	Harry Stoller
Lillie H. Kessler**	Meyer Vinik
Jean Levene**	Ethel Werner
Eleanor R. Trachtenberg	Sam Wolkove**

### YAHARZEIT donations

### ZICHRONAH LIV'RACHAH

#### Given by:

**Catherine Blumenthal**  
**Mary Ann Romer**  
**Julia Ruden**  
**Nancy Beyer**  
**Marjorie Wohl**

#### In Memory of:

**Maurice Blumenthal**  
**Marilyn Schustrin**  
**Jacob Rosenberg, Zack Kelly**  
**Benjamin Gordon**  
**Martin Wohl**



# DECEMBER 2021 DONATION CARDS

*(All donations go to our Temple.)*

To send a birthday, anniversary, get well, sympathy or mazel tov card

contact **Mary Ann Romer** at **matromer@aol.com**.

Write "Temple card" in the email subject box.

Send your minimum \$5.00 donation to temple.

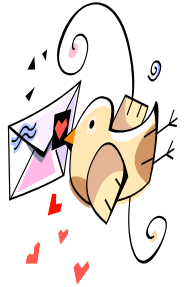
## Get Well

**By:** Narola & Rolph Rosenberg

**To:** Joyce Richardson for Nanette Batt

**By:** Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain

**To:** Beverly Wills



## Thank you:

**By:** Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain

**To:** Susan Herman and family for generous donation to Temple Israel In Memory of Bernice Snoll

**By:** Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain

For donation to the Cantor's Discretionary Fund

**To:** Robin & Philip Ratushewitz, Benjamin & Sigal Strauss, Denise Kronenberg, Richard & Amy Greenberg, Del Webb LWR Association of Veterans & Military



**Mrs. Blumie's  
Porcelain Doll Studio**

207 N. Ridgewood Dr.  
Sebring, FL 33870

**863-402-9190**

BOARD CERTIFIED



LAKE PLACID EYE CLINIC  
GARY J. PEARCE, M.D.  
EYE PHYSICIAN & SURGEON

211 US 27 South  
Lake Placid, FL 33852  
(863) 465-1880

## **Trees planted in Israel by Cantor Riselle Bain for:**

*Dear Cousin Barbara Skyer – as a living tribute to her memory*

*Dear Cousin Mel Cohen – as a living tribute to his memory*

*Dearest Father Allen Abraham Bain – as a living tribute to his memory*

*Dear Friend Sandra Keller – as a living tribute to her memory*



To plant a tree, email your information of who you're honoring/remembering to [jruden@embarqmail.com](mailto:jruden@embarqmail.com). Mail check (\$18.00/tree) to the temple. Write "Tree" in the memo line on check.



# Cantor Bain's Schedule:



2021 / 5782

## Future Erev Shabbat Services

6:30 PM (subject to change)

The temple is open, also services are online

December 3 – Chanukah 6<sup>th</sup> candle

December 17 – Torah portion Vayechi

<https://www.facebook.com/662042600572611/live/>