Temple Israel of Highlands County 1305 Temple Israel Drive Sebring, Florida 33870 863-382-7744 January 2022 / 5782



Temple Israel's Web Page www.templeisraelofhcfl.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

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### 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 Dear Congregants,

2021 has continued to be a year of reinvention, redefinition — of learning how to do things we had never done before – how to still find a sense of community and caring as we met on Facebook for our Shabbat services. When we finally met again at the temple for the two times in December, it was a wonderful gift. But we also realized that we still had to make our services available to those who could only be with us virtually on Facebook Live, and we had to figure out how to do it from the temple!

The numbers of those infected with the coronavirus have spiked again. We take very seriously our responsibility to keep all as safe as possible. So, we are back on Facebook Live again until we feel it is safe to have our services back again in our sanctuary.

2021 has continued to be a transformative year for us in that it forced us to look at our own humanity in relation to others on this planet, to accept responsibility to behave as moral, ethical and spiritual people, to care about others enough to get vaccinated and to wear a mask.

2021 has continued to teach us Perseverance – We have experienced anguish, fear and uncertainty. If nothing else 2021 has taught us to remain steadfast in our commitment to helping one another. We could not allow ourselves to succumb. We had to find creative means of succor. Succor became survival." Although we thought we were coming out of the cloud that kept us from socializing together, it still has been a year of missing missing friends and family and life events, missing traditions, of being together in our beloved sanctuary and making new memories, missing feelings of well-being, joy, safety, lost time.

For what can we be grateful as we slip into 2022? We can certainly be grateful for the impact that the Covid vaccine has had on saving lives and will continue to have in protecting us and others from, major sickness and even from the possibility of death. We can continue to hope for the time when joy and freedom will be part of our lives again. We can commit to living lives of gratitude, because of the gift of life that God has given us. We can be grateful that we have learned to take nothing for granted.

Let us begin 2022 with a sense of optimism.

"The coronavirus changed and took away a lot in our personal lives. However, one good thing that happened is that this pandemic has forced us to find new ways to make our lives happy and fulfilling. Despite so much of life being on hold, we can develop an even more intense appreciation and love for life and for those we love.

As Oscar Wilde told us: "When it rains look for rainbows. When it's dark look for stars."

Let us raise a glass to a New Year filled with Health, Joy, Goodness, and Shalom.

Cantor Baín



Dear Friends and Family;

<u>Julia Ruden</u>

We are resuming virtual services for January and cancelling in person services at the Shul. The Covid numbers are out of control again and you really do not want to get sick. Gathering inside should be avoided at this time. We will be monitoring the Covid numbers and will let you know about February. At this point, we'll take it one month at a time and pray the numbers go down quickly!

We are so fortunate to have the live services on Cantor Riselle's Facebook page. I look forward to seeing you all there Next Friday January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

We have replaced the wall on the bemah and all the lights work throughout the building; I can't wait until we can be back at Shul.

Donna Wasson thank you again for the amazing butterfly garden and for all you DOooooo!

For those who are recovering -- Mishabera! Heal Faster please!

Thank you everyone for your continued support of OUR Temple!

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

Wishes for a Healthier, Happier, Safer 2022 for everyone!!

Stay SAFE!!!

Thankxoxox you ALL for ALL you Dooooooo!!

Love Julie

# Announcements







1/1/

January Onegs are sponsored by:

On hiatus until further notice!

Challah, wine, decaf coffee & fruit are the basics for our onegs. <u>If you</u> would like to sponsor an Oneg contact Karen del Valle 863-260-0325



Jay & Nebecca Clarke	1/14
George & Pearl Zelma	1/18
Judy Albin & Clint Wallbank	1/24

NEXT BOARD MEETING On hiatus until further notice

### LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group is at Logan's of Lake Placid, 381 East Interlake Blvd, Lake Placid on 31 January, 2022.



Contact Renee Tepper <u>863-414-8811</u> or <u>reneetepper@gmail.com</u> <u>and let her know you'll be</u> <u>there</u>.

רבה 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.

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January Yahrzeits		
** Memorial Plaque in our Schul		
Miriam E. Amster **	David Levy	
Elliot Berkowitz **	Jennie Liss	
	Judy Mass	
Louis Biener	Michel Miller **	
	Freda Moscowitz	
Mary D. Blumenthal **	Milton M. Myers **	
THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF	Gertrude Pearl	
	Bella Romer	
Mariah H. Brenner **	PFC Seymour C. Rosen **	
Sam Chinsky	Max Rosenbaum **	
	Frank Roth	
Irving Dorfman	Simon Ruden	
	Nate Sadowsky	
Samuel Fishman	Arthur Schwartz	
Nora Good **	Ida Schwartz	
	David Sheldon	
Nathan Gottlieb **	Esther Sewelson	
Jordon Greenberg **	Jennifer Aimee Sherr **	
Ralph Greenberg **	Elmer D. Spence	
Ralph Jaret	Nettie Spero	
Olivia Johnson	Sarah Vinik	
Marc Randall Kahn	Charles Wasoff	
Jacob Kamen	Olivia Wortman	
Bernard Krasner **	Gladys Zenchoff	
Jack Kravitz**	Calman Rosen **	

## JANUARY 2022 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: Congregation, Board of Directors, Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain

To: Howard Salles, Bruce Behrens

#### Mazel Tov:

- By: Congregation, Board of Directors, Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain
- To: Michelle Herchick & Bethany Spiece on the birth of Inara Eden.









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

# Cantor Bain's Schedule:







## **Future Erev Shabbat Services** 6:30 PM (subject to change)

Your health and safety is of the utmost concern to us. With the situation engendered by the current public health emergency around the country and the world, we want to protect everyone.

Here is the link to access the live services or the saved videos of our past services since we closed our doors due to the pandemic.

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

The following is our schedule of services:

- Friday January 7 Parashat Shemot 6:30 PM
- Friday January 21 Tu B'Shevat (Actually January 17) 6:30 PM
- Friday February 4 Parashat Yitro 6:30 PM
- Friday February 25 Purim 6:30 PM
- Friday March 11 Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei 6:30 PM