

Temple Israel of Highlands County  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
863-382-7744 *DECEMBER 2022 / 5783*



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 insure Jewish continuity in Highlands County.



## **Congregational Board**

### **Officers:**

#### **President:**

Julia Ruden

#### **Secretary:**

Mary Ann Romer

#### **Treasurer:**

Cathy Blumenthal

### **Trustees:**

Phyllis Behrens

Karen delValle

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

Chanukah, O'Chanukah come light the menorah! Let's have a party we'll all dance the Hora! Let us gather in our beautiful sanctuary, we'll give you a treat – a wonderful celebratory Shabbat/Chanukah Service, and after the service, some delicious latkes to eat.

As the year is coming to an end, we cannot deny that it has continues to be a difficult time for many. The world still suffers from terrorism and violence and rising antisemitism. Our little temple is still recovering from damage from Hurricane Ian. Our president, Julie reminds us, "We pray for the world."

As our ancestors before us did so many years ago, we have prevailed. 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.

Each year, I think about the lighting of our chanukiahs (menorahs for Chanukah!). Each year, my prayers are filled with hope for a world of peace, health, respect, and harmony. The great teacher Hillel taught us to add light each night. This year, I will rededicate the light of each of my Chanukah candles for the eight nights of Chanukah to one of our cherished Jewish values.

The first candle to FREEDOM. The Maccabean revolt against Antiochus Epihanes 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."

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.

*Happy Chanukah!*

*Cantor Riselle Bain*



# Message From the President

**Julia Ruden**

DECEMBER 2022/5783

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 and repairs never seems to end. We still can use donations for repairs from Hurricane IAN please. Thankxoxox SO much for those who have already donated!

Thankxoxox to Our Board, volunteers, and workers, YOU are the BEST!  
It takes a village to keep us open and going.

I am looking forward to celebrating Chanukah December 23rd at 6:30 PM.  
Bring your menorahs for the party.

For those who are recovering Mishabera! You are missed!!!  
Thank you everyone for your continued support of OUR Temple!!!

*Be thankful grateful for everything, everyone, everyday – I am!*  
Be Safe for the Holidays! Life changes on a dime,  
WE remember!

Thankxoxox you ALL for ALL you Dooooooo!!

*Love Julie*



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.



**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



# Announcements

DECEMBER 2022/5783



## LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group Monday, Dec. 26 at 12:15 at The Olive Garden, Sebring



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

DECEMBER Onegs are sponsored by:

DEC 2nd The Board  
DEC 23rd Chanukah Party

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

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**



## DONATION CARDS SENT

*(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](mailto:matromer@aol.com).

Write "Temple card" in the email subject box.

Send your minimum \$5.00 donation to temple.

### Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent

To: Michael & Donna Wasson

### Get Well Greeting Cards Sent

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

To: Narola Rosenberg, Phyllis Behrens

### Mazel Tov Greeting Card Sent

By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees

To: Cantor Riselle Bain & Michael Duncan on the wedding of their son, Joshua

### Thank You Card Sent

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

To: Wauchula Bank for storing the Torahs during Tropical Storm Nicole

### Donation Thank You Cards Sent

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

To: Rabbi & Mrs. Fred Natkin for Hurricane Ian repairs,

Karen DelValle



# Cantor Bain's Schedule:



## Future Erev Shabbat Services

6:30 PM (subject to change)

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

Friday 12/2 – Torah Vayetzei

Friday 12/23 – Chanukah

Friday 1/6 – Torah Vayechi

Friday 1/20 – Torah Vaera – Observe Holocaust Remembrance actual date 1/27

Friday 2/3 – Tu B'Shevat/ Beshalach

Friday 2/17 – Torah Mishpatim

Friday 3/3 – Purim

Friday 3/17 – Torah Vayakeil/Pekudei

Wednesday 4/5 – Passover

Friday 4/21 – Torah Tazria/Metzora

Friday 5/5 – Torah Emor

Friday 5/19 – Yom Yerushalayim/Shavuot