

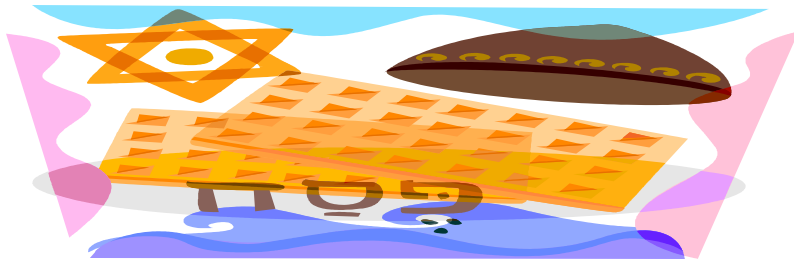
Temple Israel of Highlands County  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
863-382-7744 *APRIL 2023 / 5783*



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

#### **Treasurer:**

Cathy Blumenthal

#### **Secretary:**

Mary Ann Romer

### **Trustees:**

Phyllis Behrens

Karen del Valle

Lois Lewis

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:**

Mary Ann Romer

Michelle Herchick

Dear Congregants,

About 1600 B.C.E., a group of disunited Hebrew tribes left Palestine (because of draught and famine) for Egypt, a rich agricultural land made so by the periodic overflow of the river Nile. Jacob and his family were among those who settled in Egypt. At this time a mixed group of Asiatic nomads, Hyksos, who had taken over the country 100 years before were ruling Egypt, and they welcomed the Hebrews.

Many scholars believe that it was only after the overthrow of the Hyksos rulers by the native Egyptians 1550 B.C.E that the Hebrews were made slaves. "A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph ...And the Egyptians set task-masters over them to oppress the Hebrews with forced labor and they built garrison cities for Pharaoh: Pithom and Rameses. (Exodus 1-8, 11)

About 1250 B.C.E. Moses comes on the scene and with his tribe, Levi, and he is foremost in organizing those slaves who were willing to chance the break for freedom.

And so, we have the beginning of our time of redemption by God and our holiday of Passover.

Passover gives us the opportunity to remember our history, to recognize the divisiveness, disregard, and coldness we can still see in modern society, and to work together today to create a place of unity, care and warmth. As we recite the 10 plagues from the Passover story, we also include plagues that we must continue to eradicate in our own modern times.

Expanding our concern and following that concern with actions of mitzvot is a part of what gives a deeper meaning to the Passover holiday. Passover points out what makes the Jewish people unique.



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## Cantor Riselle Bain's Message Cont.

Unlike other nations and races, the Jewish people did not emerge organically from familial offspring. The Jews were originally a gathering of people who became known as “the Jews” when they dedicated themselves to uniting and accepted the responsibility of being “a light unto nations.” The Hebrew word for “Jew” [*Yehudi*] comes from the word for “united” [*yihudi*] writes the book *Yaarot Devash*, Part 2. *Yaarot Devash*, is a collection of sermons on ethical matters composed and delivered by R' Jonathan Eybeschutz c.1714 - c.1764 CE.

Through a long process, the people of Israel ultimately stood by Moses, demanded their unity, and triumphed. They united at the foot of Mount Sinai and accepted the law of “love your friend as yourself.”

Time is precious and sacred. Passover helps us to relive the miracles of the Exodus story as if we were really there when they happened. We love to tell the story at our Temple Israel seder. We commemorate the Israelites becoming redeemed from Egyptian bondage and finally reaching the Land of Israel after 40 years of wandering in the desert. It is recognized as a New Year because of the formation of the Jewish people after we received the Torah on Mt. Sinai.

As we come together to celebrate our wonderful holiday, may we find unity, peace, redemption, love, and goodness.

Wishing you all a Sissen (sweet) Pesach!

*Cantor Riselle Bain*

# Message From the President Julia Ruden

**April 2023 / 5783**

Dear Friends and Family;

Thank you Mary Ann Romer for your awesome Public Relations, filling our shul with 84 people for our guest speaker Carrie Gutman, Holocaust survivor, what a great night that was! Thank you Phyllis Behrens for having Carrie as a friend and inviting her to speak to us and our community.

Thank you Sara Rosenbaum for getting our internet upgraded to Comcast/Xfinity. Our live Facebook streaming should work much better now! Sara Rosenbaum has also arranged for our Passover Seder food this year, you are a blessing!

I am looking forward to our Passover Seder on Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. We will be setting the tables up on Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10AM and need all the help we can get. Please come help!!!

It is almost that time to vote again for our Board members. I ask- BEG actually, that everyone remain on the Board that is already on the Board and if you can join us in the decision making and care giving of our shul. Please let me or any Board member know ASAP and we will add you to the ballot.

Thank you again to Donna Wasson for the amazing butterfly garden. Your hard work and continued efforts brings so much beauty and life to our shul.

We are a small mighty Shul that will be here for a very long time and being a part of this Temple is a special honor, we are so blessed to be here and our services are amazing with the brilliance and beautiful voice of our Cantor Riselle Bain.

You can visit Cantor Riselle's Clergy page and see any of our previous online services whenever you need to be uplifted. I love that they are recorded and that we can do that.

Continued Prayers Mi Shebeirach for all those who are recovering and healing.

May we continue to go from strength to strength!

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

Love to all, Julie

**Phyllis Behrens (left), member of Temple Israel of Highlands County  
With Speaker Carrie Gersten Gutman, “Child of the Holocaust”  
A survivor of WWII and the DP (Displaced Persons Camps)**







## Announcements April 2023 / 5783

### Elections are coming up for 2023 – 2024.

*We are looking for candidates for Trustee. If you are interested in participating in the administration of your synagogue, contact any member of the Board.*

*Terms begin June 1<sup>st</sup> thru May 31<sup>st</sup>.*

*The By-laws state that anyone running for the Board of Trustees must have been a member of the Temple for one year. Candidates for Secretary and Treasurer must have served on the Board for at least one year. Candidates for President and Vice-president must have been on the Board for at least two years consecutively. Only one member of a family may serve on the Board of Trustees.*

*All of the Officers must run for reelection if they desire to stay in that position.*



Celebrate any occasion while benefitting Israel and our temple. For only \$18.00, plant a tree in *Eretz Yisrael*. Simply e-mail the donor and recipient information to: jruden18@gmail.com  
Mail your check to the temple, payable to Temple Israel.

**A Tree has been planted in Memory of Marvin Kahn by Temple Israel Congregation**

### **Don Elwell**

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING  
& PUBLIC RELATIONS  
401 U.S. Hwy 27 S. Sebring, FL 33870  
Email: don.elwell@ALANJAY.COM  
Phone (863) 314-5334

**ALAN JAY**  
Automotive Network

Board of County Commissioners  
COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2  
600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870  
Email: delwell@hcbcc.net Phone: (863) 402-6835  
Cell: (863) 381 - 5622



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

207 N. Ridgewood Dr.  
Sebring, FL 33870

**863-402-9190**



# *April Jahrzeits We Remember*



*\*\* Memorial Plaque in our Shul*

Abraham Allen Bain	Germaine Rosenberg
Deana Bezark **	Leo Rosenberg
Leslie Bezark **	Schanet Rosenberg
Sarah L. Blumenthal **	Susan Sari Ruden
Louis Davis	Ann Salles
Maurice Jankower **	Sylvia Schaffer
Carolyn L. Kaplan **	Charles Sewelson
David Karp	Mary Sherman Smith **
Haima Kelly	Hyman Tepper
Edith Kravitz **	William Wallace **
Herb Liebeck	Morris Weiss
Isador Liss	David Werner



## *YAH RZEIT DONATIONS*



### Given By:

*Herb Moscowitz  
Cathy Blumenthal  
Sara Rosenbaum  
Julie Ruden  
Ron & Renee Tepper  
Jill Liebeck  
Bonnie & Sharee Salles  
Herb & Kathleen Weiss  
Mary Ann Romer  
Rolph Rosenberg  
Cantor Riselle Bain*

### IN Memory of:

*Rose Frankel  
Sarah L. Blumenthal  
Leo Rosenbaum  
Schanet Rosenberg & Susan Sari Ruden  
Hyman Tepper  
Herb Leibeck  
Ann Salles & Sophie Levy  
Morris Weiss  
Louis Davis  
Germaine Rosenberg  
Abraham Allen Bain*

## CARDS SENT

*(All donations go to Temple Israel.)*



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 the temple.

### **March Cards Sent**

#### **Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**To: Max & Sarah Sherwood, Michael & Donna Wasson**

#### **Get Well Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**To: Joyce Wiebbecke, Lois Lewis, Renee Tepper, Thea Rubenstein**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees**  
**To: Michael Duncan**

#### **Condolence Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**To: Elsa Kahn on the passing of Marvin Kahn, past President of Temple Israel**  
**To: Bruce Behrens on the passing of his sister, Lynn Wingert**  
**To: Barbara Sherr on the passing of her Significant Other, Jim**

#### **By: Norman & Anna Spero**

**To: Elsa Kahn for donation made by Norman & Anna Spero in memory of Marvin Kahn**



**CARDS SENT**  
*(All donations go to Temple Israel.)*



**Donation Thank You Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**To:** Ron Horowitz & Kathy Horowitz for unveiling of father & husband, Moshe Horowitz  
**To:** Norman & Anna Spero for their donation in memory of Marvin Kahn  
**To:** Linda Kolarik for donation during the March 17th service with Holocaust survivor Carrie Gutman

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**For:** Donation in Memory of Howard Salles who represented Temple Israel at the Sebring Ministerial Association  
**To:** Pastor Ron DeGenaro, St. John United Methodist Church Sebring, FL  
**To:** Pastor David Thoresen, Atonement Lutheran Church, Sebring, FL

**Thank You Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**To:** Sharon Weatherhead, reporter Highlands News-Sun article for March 17 service  
**To:** Sharon Weatherhead, reporter Highlands News-Sun for her follow-up article on Holocaust speaker, Carrie Gutman  
**To:** Carrie Gutman for speaking at our March 17 service on her survival during the Holocaust



# Announcements

APRIL 2023 / 5783



April Onegs are  
sponsored by:

**April 21, 2023 – 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 863-260-0325**



**Happy Anniversary**

**Dixon Taylor & Denny Swing 4/01**

## LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group  
Monday, April 24, 2023 at 12:30pm

The Albatross of Sebring  
Country Club of Sebring  
4800 Haw Branch Road  
Sebring, FL 33875

**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 from  
Alan Jay Automotive Network for  
our transportation to and from  
Services!

**And for ALL YOU Dooo!**  
Please, if you need assistance to  
get to services.

**Contact Cantor Riselle Bain**  
**813-600-8013**

**Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home  
& Crematory**



**Craig M. Nelson**  
Licensed Funeral Director

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

# Cantor Bain's Schedule:



## Future Erev Shabbat Services

6:30 PM (subject to change)

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

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023, Passover Seder at 6PM**

Friday 4/21 – Torah Tazria/Metzora

Friday 5/5 – Torah Emor

Friday 5/19 – Yom Yerushalayim/Shavuot

Friday 6/23 – Torah Portion Korach

Friday 7/21 – Torah Portion Devarim

Friday 8/18 – Rosh Chodesh Elul – Torah Portion Shoftim

Friday and Saturday – 9/15-16 – Rosh Hashanah

Sunday and Monday – 9/24-25 – Yom Kippur

Friday 10/6 – Sukkot/Simchat Torah