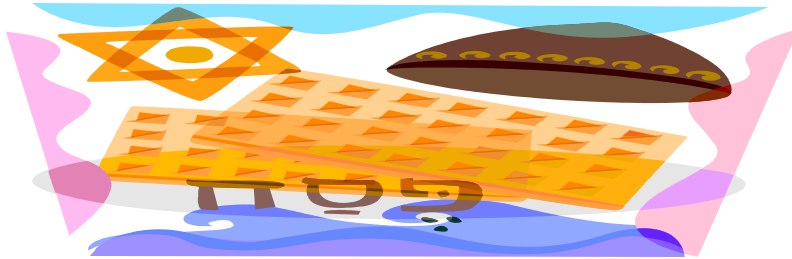


Temple Israel of Highlands County
1305 Temple Israel Drive
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-382-7744 APRIL 2024 / 5784



Temple Israel's Web Page 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.



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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:

Mary Ann Romer

Michelle Herchick

Dear Congregants,

The first words I must say in my newsletter are words and praise and appreciation for our fabulous congregants who jumped in to make our Purim celebration and our Spiel “The Megillah According to Fiddler on the Roof” a resounding success! Kol Hakavod (Well done) and Mazal Tov!

Many thanks to Seanna Makepeace and Jennifer Allen, Andrew Haines, Karen DelValle, Rolph Rosenberg, Cathy Blumenthal, Sara Rosenbaum, Donna Wasson, Julie Ruden, and Joy Katzen-Guthrie for preparing the wonderful accompaniment.

Passover is approaching soon. It is a celebration of freedom from bondage, as the Israelites were freed from their slavery in Egypt. We continue to pray that by Passover we might also have welcomed the return of the hostages

But if not, hundreds of seats will be left vacant at Seder tables this year. CNN reported that Israel believes there are 99 hostages alive, and six are American. Hamas is holding the bodies of 31 who have died. When will the hostages be freed from Hamas' tentacles?

A movement called “The Special Seder Seat for a Hostage” has started where an extra place at the Seder table is kept as a reminder of the hostages still in captivity. I would suggest that we also set an empty chair for our brothers and sisters who are still enslaved as we prepare for our Temple Seder for Tuesday, April 23rd.



APRIL 2024 / 5784

Cantor Riselle Bain's Message Cont.

At our Seder table, the youngest among us will ask the traditional Four Questions. But for many of us, there will be another question this Pesach, left unanswered. “How can we discuss being redeemed from slavery, when Hamas still holds men, women and children in a most vile captivity? How can we celebrate our freedom, when our brothers and sisters are not free?”

As in ancient days, we call out: ‘Let Our People Go. All the hostages must come back to their homes.

At this time of miracles and redemption in our Jewish history, we pray for the release of all the hostages and for this terrible conflict to come to an end with Hamas uprooted, so that Israelis and Palestinians can together build a better future.

And when we recite the words: ‘Next year in Jerusalem’, we will be thinking of all those who are not with us for the Seder this year, never giving up for their safe return.

Chag Pesach Sameach – May you have a happy, meaningful Passover holiday.

*Please complete the attached form for the Passover Seder and mail your checks to:
Temple Israel
1305 Temple Israel Drive
Sebring, FL 33870*

Cantor Riselle Bain

Message From the President Julia Ruden

April 2024 / 5784

Dear Friends and Family;

Our Purim Spiel was AWESOME!

Thankxoxox so much to Cantor Riselle, Rolph Rosenberg, Karen DelValle, Cathy Blumenthal, Sara Rosenbaum, Andrew Haines, Donna Wasson, Seanna Makepeace and Jennifer Allen for all your efforts and rehearsals that paid off. It was the best Purim Spiel yet! I loved that some of our congregation also came in costume, Well Done!

PASSOVER Seder will be the 2nd night, Tuesday April 23rd. Please get your reservations / checks sent to the Temple as soon as possible the deadline is April 2nd. Our Seder will begin at 6PM. Prices have gone up for everything and we charge \$36.00 for members and \$46 for non members, this will change for next year because we are not covering the costs for our Seder.

If you can donate more this year it will be greatly appreciated!!

Last year for our elections we voted for 2 year terms so no voting this year except if someone else would like to join our Board.

Please let me or any of our Board members know that you would like to be on our Board and we will gladly welcome more Board members to help with everything about our Temple. It does take a village to keep our Shul going.

THANKXOXOX YOU ALL FOR ALL YOU DOoooo!!!

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 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

Temple Israel 2024 Purim Spiel according to Fiddler on the Roof



Cantor Riselle Bain as Haman



The Purim Spiel cast



Announcements April 2024 / 5784

This notice is from Bobby Lee, President of HALL. Congregants should come to the meeting to support Cantor Bain. Lunch is on your own.

“Cantor Riselle Bain of Temple Israel, who happens to be a former Broadway and Hollywood actress, will be the guest speaker at the HALL (Heartland American Israeli Initiative) meeting April 24, 2024 at 11:45, at Chicanes Restaurant. Inn on the Lake.
Bobby Lee, President”



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.

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 600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870
 Email: delwell@hcbcc.net Phone: (863) 402-6835
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Riselle Bain serves as cantor to a congregation in Florida (left); Bain appears as Miriam in 'The Ten Commandments.'
Courtesy of Riselle Bain



A 'Rightful Place' on the Silver Screen, and Bimah

By [Avi Dresner](#) March 2024 Appearing in the Hadassah magazine

Everyone knows the biblical Miriam played a crucial supporting role in the Exodus, but few are aware that the 8-year-old who portrayed her in the 1956 Cecil B. DeMille classic *The Ten Commandments* grew up to be a cantor.

"I feel like Miriam inspired me," said Cantor Riselle Bain, sole spiritual leader of Temple Israel of Highlands County in Sebring, Florida.

At 4'11" and weighing 88 pounds, Bain isn't much bigger than when she sent baby Moses down the Nile in a basket and, like the biblical figure, she took her time becoming a leader of her people.

Growing up in Los Angeles during Hollywood's Golden Age, Bain followed her father, Abie Bain, a former boxing champion turned actor, onto the silver screen, singing, dancing and acting with stars like Bob Hope, Buster Keaton and Judy Garland. She later appeared in multiple stage productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* and as Eva Peron in the second national tour of *Evita*.

She was in her early 40s when her rabbi, Barry Altman of Temple Beth El in Ormand Beach, Florida, asked her to fill in for a sick cantorial soloist. "I couldn't even read Hebrew," Bain admitted, but "he ignited the match" when he said after the services, "I think you missed your calling."

From there, Bain returned to school for a music degree, then Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's School of Sacred Music, where she was ordained as a cantor in 2006.

Describing the difference between theatrical and liturgical singing, Bain said, "In theater, you take something unreal and try to make it real. When you're praying, it's a real moment; it's real people." And yet she is aware that she has touched exponentially more people as Miriam.

For many Jews, watching *The Ten Commandments* is as much a part of their Pesach observance as Miriam's cup, and Bain embraces that. "It's gratifying because I'm part of something that has endured," she said. At the same time, she notes that the film—like the Bible itself—comes with a dose of patriarchy.

Bain, a Hadassah life member who performed at the Florida Hadassah Centennial celebration in 2012, laments the fact that the adult Miriam's song at the sea never made it into the film.

"Miriam didn't get her rightful place in Torah, and she didn't get it in *The Ten Commandments*," she said. "Maybe a woman needs to make a film about Miriam—*Miriam the Prophetess*?"

And who better to play the grown-up version than Bain herself?"

BAY AREA CANTORIAL ASSOCIATION (BACA)

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Lev b'Lev: Heart to Heart – Songs from our Hearts to Yours

featuring Tampa Bay & Sarasota/Manatee Area Cantors, Cantorial Soloists, and Musicians

Hosted by Temple Ahavat Shalom • 1575 Curlew Rd • Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Sunday, April 7, 2024 • 3:00 PM • Open Seating • Sanctuary Doors open 2:20 PM

Suggested Donation \$18 per person | Dessert Reception Following Concert

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NO RESERVATION NECESSARY « OPEN SEATING « 3:00 PM « SANCTUARY DOORS OPEN 2:20 PM



April Yahrzeits We Remember



**** Memorial Plaque in our Shul**

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



YAHRZEIT DONATIONS



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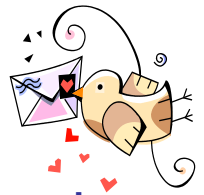
***Herb Moscowitz
Cathy Blumenthal
Sara Rosenbaum
Julie Ruden
Ron & Renee Tepper
Jill Liebeck
Bonnie & Sharee Salles
Herb & Kathleen Weiss
Mary Ann Romer
Rolph Rosenberg
Marjorie Wohl
Cantor Riselle Bain***

In Memory of:

***Rose Frankel
Sarah L. Blumenthal, Maurice Jankower
Leo Rosenbaum
Schanet Rosenberg & Susan Sari Ruden
Hyman Tepper
Herb Liebeck
Ann Salles & Sophie Levy
Morris Weiss, Dr. Kenneth Johnson, Jr.
Louis Davis
Germaine Rosenberg
Thomas Wohl, William Wohl
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.

Write "Temple card" in the email subject box.

Send your minimum \$5.00 donation to the temple.

March Greeting Cards Sent

Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent

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

To: Max & Sarah Sherwood, Brittanie & Daniel Franklin

Get Well Cards Sent

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

To: Sue Rosendall, Andrew Haines, Ronna Williams

Condolence Card Sent

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

To: Shawn & Annette Owens on the passing of Annette's father, Larry Clark

Thank You Card Sent

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

To: Joy Katzen-Guthrie for the piano recording accompaniment for Temple Israel's Purim Spiel according to Fiddler On The Roof

Announcements

APRIL 2024 / 5784



April Onegs are sponsored by:

April 5, 2024 – The Board
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 **PASSOVER
SEDER**

Challah, wine, decaf coffee & fruit are the basics for our onegs. If you would like to sponsor an Oneg contact:
Karen DelValle 863-260-0325

LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group

Monday, April 29, 2024 at 12:30PM

Havana Restaurant & Bakery
2912 US Hwy 27N
Sebring, FL 33870

Contact Renee Tepper

863-414-8811 or

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

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TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

IN TEMPLE ISRAEL'S SOCIAL HALL

A TRADITIONAL PASSOVER MEAL WILL BE SERVED

**** RESERVATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 2, 2024****

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION AND CHECK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:

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NAME _____

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_____ **CHILDREN 12 & UNDER are Free**

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PLEASE LIST NAMES AND CHOICE OF CHICKEN OR BRISKET

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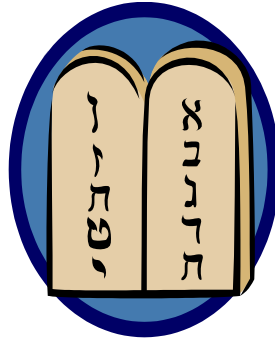
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Cantor Bain's Schedule:



Future Erev Shabbat Services

6:30 PM (subject to change)

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

- Friday 4/5/24 – Torah Portion Shmini
- **Tuesday 4/23/24 -- PASSOVER SEDER (signup by 2 April)**
- Friday 5/3/24 – Yom Hashoah/Yom Haatzmaut – Torah Portion K'doshim
- Friday 5/24/24 – Torah Portion Behar
- Friday 6/7/24 – Torah portion Bamidbar
- Friday 7/12/24 – Torah portion Chukat
- Friday 8/9/24 – Torah Portion Devarim
- Friday 9/13/24 – Torah portion Ki Teitzei
- **Wednesday 10/2/24 and Thursday 10/3/24 – Rosh Hashanah**
- **Friday 10/11/24 and Saturday 10/12/24 – Yom Kippur**
- Friday 10/25/24 – **Sukkot**, Sh'mini Atzeret, **Simchat Torah**
- Friday 11/8/24 – **Kristallnacht** – Torah portion Lech L'cha
- Friday 11/22/24 – Torah Portion Chayei Sarah
- Friday 12/13/24 – Torah portion Vayishlach
- Friday 12/27/24 – **Chanukah** (3rd night) – Torah portion Miketz