Temple Israel of Highlands County 1305 Temple Israel Drive Sebring, Florida 33870

863-382-7744

FEBRUARY 2025 / 5785

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 insure Jewish continuity in Highlands County.





Congregational Board

Of	ffi	ce	rs:	
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President: Julia Ruden

Vice President:
Sara Rosenbaum

<u>Treasurer:</u>
Cathy Blumenthal

Secretary: Mary Ann Romer

Trustees:

Phyllis Behrens

Karen DelValle

Lois Lewis

Pamela Paralikis

Rolph Rosenberg

Donna Ruden

Herb Weiss

Alan Wildstein

Officiating Cantor: Cantor Riselle Bain

voiceofgladness@aol.com

Cell: 813-600-8013

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

Rabbi Emerita:

Lorraine Rudenberg

Newsletter Staff:

Mary Ann Romer

Cantor Riselle Bain's Message February 2025 / 5785

What's the buzz? Tell me what's a happening? The Hundredth Anniversary Celebration of our little Temple's dedication and existence, 1925-2025, that's what's happening!

The date of our celebration February 14-16 will also be 16th, 17th, and 18th of the Hebrew month of Shevat 5785.

I have wondered what it might have been like when our Temple opened the doors in 1925 of our first building located on South Orange Street one hundred years ago. What did they sing for their opening hymn? Could it have been Hinei Ma Tov, as we do every Shabbat when we are together?

How did the congregants of one hundred years ago feel that first time they were able to do a hakafah – the Jewish tradition of walking the Torah around the congregation so that each person can touch her – with the newly purchased Torah that Michael Kahn and Alfred Wolfe found in New York City? One hundred years later, that same Torah still resides in our Ark, and we proudly parade her around the congregation. Our congregants read and chant the Torah portion Nitzavim from her every year on Yom Kippur morning!

When the original building was damaged and could not be used anymore, our people came together to build the present structure 1305 Temple Israel Drive. The land was donated by Tommy and Marjorie Wohl. Ron Handley built the structure but did not charge for the labor, only the materials. The mural on the back wall of our social hall was created by Elsa Kahn and her artist friends and represents the city of Jerusalem.

Our dear Phyllis Behrens and Pamela Jay Paralikis, along with other members, designed and painted the area around the Bimah (altar) in the front of the Sanctuary.

The stained-glass windows add more beauty to our sanctuary, especially the one donated by Dr. Lisa Earle, which is dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust.

We treasure our Holocaust Torah #409 on permanent loan to us from the Holocaust Memorial Trust Fund. Some synagogues keep their Holocaust Torahs in a glass case on display. We continue to read, chant, and learn from her most every Shabbat, in a way acknowledging the memory and the souls of those who perished from her original home in Prostejov, Czechoslovakia.

One hundred years have passed, and each time we walk into Temple Israel, it is as if we are walking into a little gem. Our Temple was founded in the spirit of brotherly love, and it has continued to exist in that way for a century. We are truly "The Little Shul That Can."

A big thank you to each and every congregant who volunteers, who participates in our services, and who helps us financially. You keep our synagogue alive. Let us continue to be worthy of the blessings we have inherited and carry them forward as builders for the next generation!

Cantor Ríselle Bain



Message From the President

Julia Ruden

Dear Friends and Family;

We are on the final approach to our 100th Anniversary celebration starting 2/14/2025 at 6:30PM, when we will gather for our Shabbat service.

Saturday 2/15/2025 is our invitation-only 100th year celebration dinner and the beginning of our next century of continued Jewish Community and Traditions in our community of Highlands County, Florida.

Sunday February 16, is our Gershwin to Garfunkel fundraising concert (\$20 per ticket) which is SOLD OUT!!! Thank you, Mary Ann Romer!! If you can't attend, please let us know as soon as possible as there is a waiting cancellation list for these tickets!

Thank you to Sara Rosenbaum, Mary Ann Romer, Cathy Blumenthal, Phyllis and Bruce Behrens, Vicky Meyer, Tyler Carroll, Dixon Taylor, Rolph & George Rosenberg, Donna Ruden, Seanna Makepeace, Andrew Haines, our whole Board and other volunteers as well as our Cantor Riselle Bain for ALL the efforts you put in to our Temple and our celebrations!

Speaking of celebrations... We need participants for our Purim spiel next month, March 14^{th.} Please reply as soon as possible to Cantor Riselle when she reaches out for your role in this year's spiel so you have time to rehearse; time flies so fast!

Passover is also around the corner on April 12th. The reservation form is included in this newsletter. Please print it and mail it in to the Temple with your checks as soon as possible.

We are truly blessed with LIFE! The Life is YOU! Thankxoxoxo YOU! It is always great to see and celebrate with you!

I still light a third candle on Shabbat for all the IDF and innocent suffering souls of this war! The hope lives for World PEACE, Tikkun Olam!

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!!

Stay Safe! Love Julie



Announcements

FEBRUARY 2025 / 5785





February Onegs are sponsored by:

February 14, 2024 - Susie & Jay Luck February 28, 2024 - The Board

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



LUNCH BUNCH

The next Ladies Lunch Bunch Group Monday, February 24, 2025 at 12:30PM



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





Happy Anniversary 2/17

Ronald & Renee Tepper

- Thank You Alan Wildstein for your continued and generous support by **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.

Temple Israel of Highlands County

Presents a 100th Anniversary Celebration Performance

Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 3PM

"From Gershwin to Garfunkel"

Gary Kurnov and Cantor Riselle Bain

Piano accompaniment by Joy Katzen-Guthrie

Tickets: \$20/person made payable to Temple Israel

Order your tickets ASAP by contacting Mary Ann Romer

matromer@aol.com

Cell: 352-442-0830 or Home: 863-314-0422



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 Temple Israel.

January Greeting Cards Sent

Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent

By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain
To: Jay & Rebecca Clarke, George & Pearl Zelma, Amy Rose & Mel David,

Rob & Marni Zuckerman

By: Congregation

To: Judy Albin & Clint Wallbank

Thank you for Donations

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

To: Rabbi & Mrs. Stuart Altshuler for the 100th anniversary celebration

To: Dr. David & Francine Rosenberg for the 100th anniversary celebration

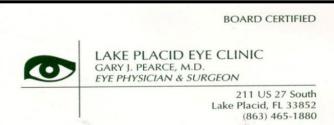
To: An anonymous donor for the 100th anniversary dinner celebration

Get Well Greeting Cards Sent

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

To: Karen DelValle, Lois Lewis, Evelyn & David Stahl, Annette Owens







We Remember



February Yahrzeits ** Memorial Plaque in our Shul

** Memoriai Plaque in our shu	
Max Blumenthal **	Martha C. Ross **
Donald Chinsky	Hyman Rotman
Selma Yarrow	Elliot Salles
Horace G. Davis **	Rabbi Moses Sapir
Dorothy Donde	Hilda K. Schamis **
Dr. Vincent R. Faulds **	Jacob N. Schamis **
Fanny Glazer	Beatrice Schwartz
Sylvia Goldstein**	Abraham Sherman **
Shelly Greenstein	Ileana Lilly Sherman **
Kenneth S. Gross **	Solomon Snoll **
Celia Leveene	John Stimple
Judith Frances Liebeck	Ida Tepper
Thelma Napp**	Dr. Hershel Ullman
Sarah Rosenbaum **	Richard Wilson
Sylvia Rosenthal **	Fritz Rosenberg
Harry Romer	Ruth Kahn Davis
Harold Abrams	Dora Tarabori



To plant a tree, email your information of who you're honoring/remembering to <u>iruden18@gmail.com</u>
Mail check (\$18.00/tree) to Temple Israel. Write "Tree" in the memo line on check.



YAHRZEIT DONATIONS



ZICHRONAH LIV'RACHAH

Given By: In Memory Of:

Cathy Blumenthal Max Blumenthal

Jeff Donde Dorothy Donde, Rita Donde

Jill Liebeck Judith Frances Liebeck

Mary Ann Romer Horace Davis, Selma Yarrow, Harry Romer, Harold Abrams

Sara Rosenbaum Sarah Rosenbaum, Max Rosenbaum

Bruce Kirshner Dr. Harold Kirshner

Rolph Rosenberg Fritz Rosenberg

Marvin & Elsa Kahn Marc Kahn, David Levy, Ruth Kahn Davis

Ron & Renee Tepper Ida Tepper

Joseph Snoll Solomon Snoll

Andrew Haines Mary Dellmann, Edward Haines



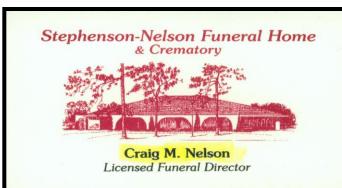
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS 401 U.S. Hwy 27 S. Sebring, FL 33870 Email: don.elwell@ ALANJAY.COM Phone (863) 314-5334

Cell: (863) 381 - 5622



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





Cantor Bain's Schedule:









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

Friday 2/14/25 – Shabbat Service Celebration of 100th Year Anniversary of Temple Israel

Saturday 2/15/25 – Havdalah/Dinner Celebration, Congregation members invited 100th Year Anniversary of Temple Israel

Sunday 2/16/25 –100th Anniversary Temple Celebration Concert "From Gershwin to Garfunkel" – 3 PM

Friday 2/28/25 – Torah portion Terumah

Friday 3/14/25 – Purim

Friday 3/28/25 – Torah portion Pekudei

Saturday 4/12/25 – Passover

Friday 4/25/25 – Yom Hashoah -- Torah Portion Shmini

Friday 5/16/25 – Torah portion Emor

Friday 5/30/25 – Shavuot -- Torah portion Bamidbar

Friday 6//20/25 – Torah Portion Sh'lach L'cha

Friday 7/25/25 – Torah Portion Mattot -Mas'ei

Friday 8/29/29 – Torah Portion Shoftim

Friday 9/12/25 – S'lichot

CELEBRATE PESACH WITH YOUR TEMPLE FAMILY AND FRIENDS ON MONDAY APRIL 12, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

IN TEMPLE ISRAEL'S SOCIAL HALL A TRADITIONAL PASSOVER MEAL WILL BE SERVED

**RESERVATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 20, 2025

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION AND CHECK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO: TEMPLE ISRAEL OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY 1305 TEMPLE ISRAEL DRIVE, SEBRING, FL 33870 TELEPHONE (863) 382-7744



NAME	
ADULT MEMBERS @ \$40.00 EACH	\$
ADULT NON-MEMBERS @ \$50.00 EACH	\$
YOUNG ADULTS (UNDER 18) \$18.00CHILDREN 12 & UNDER are Free	\$
TOTAL	\$
PLEASE LIST NAMES AND CHOICE OF CHICKEN	
1	
3	
4	
5	
6	