

Temple Israel of Highlands County  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
863-382-7744 JUNE 2025 / 5785



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.



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## **Congregational Board**

### **Officers:**

#### **President:**

Julia Ruden

#### **Vice President:**

Sara Rosenbaum

#### **Treasurer:**

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](mailto: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

JUNE 2025 / 5785

Dear Congregants,

We have almost finished counting the 49 days of Omer and we are preparing to celebrate Shavuot – our Jewish festival on which we give thanks for the gift of receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai.

So, how does Reform Judaism think about the concept of the giving of the whole Torah to Moses and the Israelites on Mount Sinai?

Reform Judaism's views on the giving of the Torah are complex, and include a variety of beliefs. Reform Judaism is based on the idea that Judaism should adapt to the needs of the present day, and that Torah is a living document that helps people face every day challenges. Reform Judaism also believes in progressive revelation, which means that all holy scripture, including Torah, was written by humans who were inspired by God, but also reflected their own understanding and the spirit of their own time. Torah results from the relationship between God and the Jewish people. The records of our earliest confrontations are uniquely important to us. Lawgivers and prophets, historians and poets gave us a heritage whose study is a religious imperative and whose practice is our chief means to holiness. Rabbis and teachers, philosophers and mystics, gifted Jews in every age amplified the Torah tradition. For millennia, the creation of Torah has not ceased, and Jewish creativity in our time is adding to the chain of tradition.

I am thrilled to share this heartwarming, meaningful invitation from The Memorial Scrolls Trust Fund: with you. It came to me as an email a day ago – perfect timing!

*You and your congregation are warmly invited to a special commemoration of Kristallnacht – an afternoon to honor history, memory, and survival.*

*This powerful gathering will center on a solemn tribute to the Memorial Scrolls Trust (MST) and the Survivor Torah Scrolls that were rescued and restored after the Holocaust. These sacred scrolls represent enduring faith, resilience, and the unbreakable spirit of the Jewish people.*



## **Cantor Riselle Bain's Message Cont.**

*As your congregation keeps one of these sacred scrolls, we especially invite you to join us for a meaningful Torah Scroll Procession with fellow MST scroll-holding synagogues and institutions. Together, we will reflect on the horrors of Kristallnacht while uplifting the legacy carried forward by these scrolls and the communities who cherish them.*

***Date:** Sunday, November 9, 2025*

***Time:** 1:00 PM*

***Location:** David Posnack Jewish Community Center  
5850 S. Pine Island Road, Davie, FL*

*More details to follow. We hope you will stand with us for this unforgettable event of memory, honor, and hope.*

*Lynda Farber, Chairperson*

I sent this invitation to our President, Julie Ruden, and she replied, “Yes!!!! Let’s go!”

We will continue to remind our congregation of the date. We hope that those who can travel will join us as we proudly add our Holocaust Torah #409, born in Prostejov, Czechoslovakia in 1890, to the procession which will honor these sacred scrolls. The heritage of our Holocaust Torah #409 continues to live every time we bring her out of the Aron Kodesh, our “holy ark” and read from her. At Temple Israel, our Holocaust Torah #409 has truly found the place where she belongs.

What a wonderful way to celebrate the month of June!

*B’shalom,  
Cantor Riselle Bain*

# Message From the President

**Julia Ruden**

**June 2025 /5785**

Dear Friends and Family;

First, I want to thank all the Board members who continue to keep our Shul running. It does take a village to keep us open!

We had a Board meeting May 18 and the State of our Temple Israel is AMAZING and the budget is Status Quo which means we are open and will remain open. Every year we are approximately \$40,000.00 short or in the red for what it costs to continue to operate as we are at this time. Thankxoxo you to our generous donors who help with these monetary challenges year after year!

I want to thankxoxo and welcome Seanna Makepeace to our Board of Trustees. We are so lucky to have you and your family as members.

Being a part of this Temple is a special honor. We are so blessed to be here. The brilliance and beautiful voice of our Cantor Riselle Bain is such a gift which we do not take for granted. We love you!

I want to wish safe travels for those of our members who are on the go this summer!

I hope you will join us online for services when we have them.

Our summer schedule begins with our once-a-month services. We will have a Havdalah Service July 12 in between our normal scheduled summer services. A comedy movie / potluck, build your own pizza night. Sign up at the next service so we know how much pizza dough to bring for everyone there.

Please pay your annual dues as soon as possible! They are due now and very much needed. Anything extra is truly appreciated.

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!!**

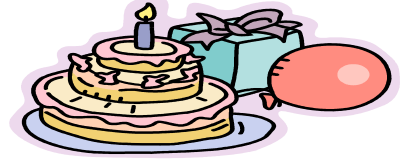
Love to all, Julie



## Announcements

JUNE 2025/ 5785

**תודה רבה - Thank You**  
**Alan Wildstein** for your  
 continued and generous  
 support for Alan Jay  
 Automotive for our  
 transportation to and from  
 Services! Please Contact  
 Cantor Riselle Bain 813-  
 600-8013 if you need  
 assistance to get to  
 services.



### Happy Anniversary

Bruce Sherwood & Sara Rosenbaum	6/19
Denise & Lee Weisberger	6/30

### LUNCH BUNCH

The Ladies Lunch Bunch  
will be on hiatus until  
October 27, 2025.



Contact Renee Tepper  
 863-414-8811 or  
[reneetepper@gmail.com](mailto:reneetepper@gmail.com)

### June Oneg is sponsored by:

**June 20, 2025 – 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**



**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

# In Loving Memory



## June Yahrzeits

### \*\* Memorial Plaque in our Shul

Judith Abrams	William Mazen
George Albin**	Arnold Neumann
Sadie Bellin	Selma R. Neumann
Patricia G. Bezark**	Leon Novich**
Helen C. Dallas	Benjamin Pintzow
Emanuel Duncan	Jodi Richstone**
Martin Elias	Theodore Romer**
Fanny Erskine	Elizabeth A. Rosen**
Louis A. Frank	Fannie Rosen**
Rose Frankel	Betty Rosenbaum
Dov Giveon	Sarah Roth
Elizabeth Harr	Joseph Sewelson
Adele Kaman	Robert Siegel
Sydney Kaphan	Dorothy Silverman
Walter Kessler	Lora Starr
Abe Kurtz**	Matthew L. Steward**
Isadore "Irving" Ladinsky	Hyman Tepper
Edward Laveen	Mildred Wasoff
	Dora Wolkove **

### YAHARZEIT DONATIONS

#### Given By

Judy Albin  
Julia Ruden  
Mary Ann Romer  
Andrew Haines

#### In Memory Of

Louis A. Frank, George Albin  
Arnold Neumann, Selma R. Neumann  
Judith Abrams, Theodore Romer  
Alice Haines



**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.



**May Greeting Cards Sent**

**Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
To: Herb & Kathleen Weiss, Rachel & Eric Spero-Hoy

**Condolence Card Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
To: Dixon Taylor on the passing of her father Fred Taylor  
To: Rolph and George Rosenberg on the passing of their brother, Louis

**Thank You Card Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
To: Fernando Bautista for catering the Passover Seder  
To: Rabbi Stephen Sniderman for donation for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Get Well Greeting Cards Sent**

**By: Congregation, Board of Directors & Trustees, Cantor Riselle Bain**  
To: Dixon Taylor, Stanley Paralikis, Jay Luck, Luz Pagan



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](mailto:jruden18@gmail.com)  
Mail your check to the temple, payable to Temple Israel.

**Don Elwell**

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

**ALAN JAY**  
Automotive Network

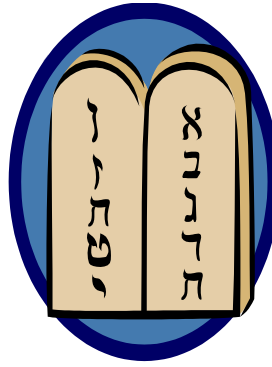
Board of County Commissioners  
COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 2  
600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870  
Email: [delwell@hcbcc.net](mailto:delwell@hcbcc.net) Phone: (863) 402-6835  
Cell: (863) 381 - 5622



**Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home  
& Crematory**



**Craig M. Nelson**  
Licensed Funeral Director



Services will be at the Shul

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 Fridays at 6:30 unless otherwise listed:**

**Judaism classes on the Saturday following Friday night services at 10:30am – Bagels, etc at 10am**

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

Saturday 6/21/25 – Judaism Class 10:30am, Bagels etc. at 10am

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

Saturday 7/26/25 – Judaism Class 10:30am, Bagels etc. at 10am

Friday 8/22/25 – Torah Portion Reeh

Friday 9/12/25 – S'lichot

Saturday 9/13/25 – Judaism Class 10:30am, Bagels etc. at 10am

**Rosh Hashanah Monday, 9/22/25 -Tuesday, 9/23/25**

**Yom Kippur Wednesday, 10/1/25 -Thursday 10/2/25**

Friday 10/10/25 – **Sukkot** (Actual Monday, 10/6/25) This Shabbat Service will also include Sh'mini Atzeret and Simchat Torah

Friday 10/24/25 – Torah Portion Noach

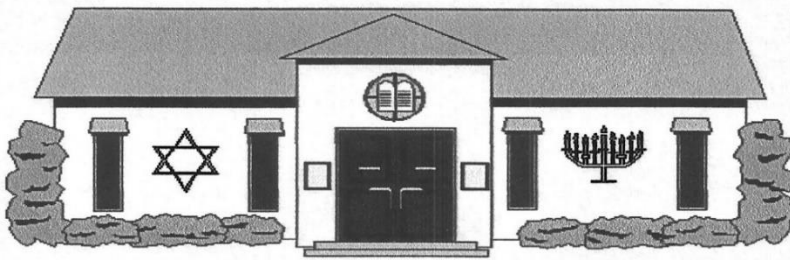
Friday 11/7/25 – Torah Portion Va-yeira

Friday 11/21/25 – Torah Portion Va-yetzei

Friday 12/5/25 – Torah Portion Va-yishla ch

Friday 12/19/25 – **Shabbat Chanukah** (6<sup>th</sup> night)





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OF  
HIGHLANDS COUNTY**  
1305 Temple Israel Drive  
SEBRING, FL 33870  
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## **INVOICE**

### **ANNUAL DUES**

June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ENHANCEMENT DUES** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**WOMAN'S CLUB DUES (\$15.00)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS (\$18.00)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SECURITY DONATIONS** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

**FAMILY: \$525.00**

**SINGLE: \$325.00**

**Please make check payable to:**

**Temple Israel of Highlands County, FL TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dues payable upon receipt of This Invoice.**

**\*If you are able to increase your dues,  
It would be greatly appreciated!!!**

**NOTE: Special arrangements must be made with the President and/or  
Treasurer prior to the end of the first quarter or by September 1<sup>st</sup> of the  
calendar year.**