

Temple Israel of Highlands County
1305 Temple Israel Drive
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-382-7744

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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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

As August approaches, I realize that each day is part of the journey as we prepare to celebrate and observe our Yamin Noraim – our High Holy Days.

On the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Av, Judaism observes Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning for the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. And then, during the latter part of the month, coinciding with the Hebrew month of Elul, Jews continue with a time of introspection and preparation for the High Holy Days.

The fast and observance of Tisha B'Av typically falls in late July or August, specifically the 9th of Av on the Hebrew calendar, which will correspond to the evening of Saturday, August 2nd to the evening of Sunday, August 3rd in our Gregorian calendar. It commemorates the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem, as well as other tragedies in Jewish history. It's a day of mourning, marked by fasting and prayer. The multitude of tragedies includes the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and the Second Temple by the Romans in 70 CE, which led to exile and suffering for the Jewish people. The defeat of the Bar Kokhba revolt against Roman rule in 135 CE is also remembered. That revolt, which was initially seen as a potential turning point for Jewish independence, ended in tragedy with the loss of many lives and the destruction of the city of Betar. Also remembered are the expulsions of Jews from England in 1290 and Spain in 1492, and the Holocaust. Some sources say that the Final Solution was approved on the 9th of Av in 1941, marking a horrific chapter in Jewish history. The Holocaust, which led to the murder of a third of the world's Jewish population, is a stark reminder of the suffering endured by the Jewish people.

Then on the 15th of Av, which will correspond to the evening of Friday, August 8th to the evening of Saturday, August 9th, we have Tu B'Av. This minor holiday is known as the "Day of Love" and is considered a more festive day, sometimes compared to Valentine's Day. Rabbi Nachman of Breslov calls it the commemoration of a new generation as our ancestors journeyed through the desert (Bamidbar) to The Promised Land. It was "the day on which the deaths in the desert ceased." According to the Mishna, Tu B'Av was a joyous holiday in the days of the Temple in Jerusalem which marked the beginning of the grape harvest.

Originally Tu B'Av was also a matchmaking day for unmarried women in the time of the Second Temple (before 70 C.E.). Today in 2025 or 5785, some Tu B'Av specific ideas to do might include:

- A moonlit stroll
- Visiting a wine bar (to celebrate the grape harvest, of course!)
- Going out dancing
- Having your own little dance party at home

In earlier times, it was the custom from Tu B'Av to use the greeting "May your inscription and seal be for good," which is the same blessing that we use on Rosh Hashanah.

I will leave you this month with that very blessing as we continue on our path to Rosh Hashanah and our spiritual New Year.

Cantor Riselle Bain

Message From the President

Julia Ruden
AUGUST 2025 /5785

Dear Friends and Family;

Our High Holy Holidays are around the corner, and my, how time flies! Make it count:

- *Try something new before the year's end!
- *Enjoy every day and find the good IN every day!

Cantor Riselle will be reaching out as she does every year for Holy Day Honors. Please participate when asked as we all need time to practice, and as I mentioned earlier, TIME FLIES!

Thank you to all who have paid your yearly dues. It greatly helps to keep our Temple doors open and our Jewish heritage alive here in Highlands County. The extra donations are truly appreciated and go towards security.

August is the last once-a-month service schedule and we will return to twice-a-month services in September.

A reminder that we have security for every service. Please stop and give the password to our trusted armed security team. If you do not know the password, ask a Board member. Also, if you invite someone to services share it with him or her, please. It is very important to stop at the security vehicle on Temple Israel Drive and give the password.

I miss everyone in the summertime and continued prayers for all who are traveling!

The next service is August 22nd and I can't wait to see you again!

Continued prayers for Israel and all of the hostages and the world!
Continued Prayers Mi Shebeirach for all those who are recovering and healing.

May we continue to go from strength to strength and strengthen one another.
Be thankful for everything, everyone, everyday – I am!!

Love to all, Julie



Announcements

August 2025 / 5785



Anniversaries

Joyce & Tom Wiebbecke	8/04
Bruce & Phyllis Behrens	8/17
David & Evelyn Stahl	8/19
Stanley & Pamela Paralikis	8/24
Kathy & Ben Kaleky	8/28

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



August 2025/ 5785

Announcements Cont.



August Oneg sponsored by:

August 22, 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

LUNCH BUNCH

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

Contact Renee Tepper 863-414-8811 or reneetepper@gmail.com

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.



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

207 N. Ridgewood Dr.
Sebring, FL 33870

863-402-9190

BOARD CERTIFIED



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Lake Placid, FL 33852
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Announcements

August 2025/ 5785

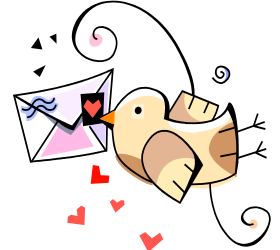
CARDS SENT

(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.

Write "Temple card" in the email subject box.

Send your minimum \$5.00 donation to Temple.



July Greeting Cards Sent

Mazel Tov Card Sent on Bennie and Gabi Crowder Marriage

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

To: Bennie & Gabi Crowder, Joe & Lisa Crowder

Anniversary Greeting Cards Sent

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

To: Leslie & Franklin Sands, Bruce & Rabbi Lorraine Rudenberg, Stephanie & Marc Hauser, Jay & Susie Luck, Joe & Lisa Crowder

Get Well Greeting Cards Sent

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

To: Michael Ewing for his son Braden Ewing, Luz Pagan, Stan Paralakis and Pamela Paralakis

Condolence Card Sent

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

To: Cathy Blumenthal on the passing of her aunt Alyce White

In Loving Memory

August Yahrzeits

**** Memorial Plaque in our Shul**



Jennie Elias	Diana Frank**	Arya Mayer Frankel**
Ira Meyer Frankel**	Nathan Garshick	Maud Harriet**
Hattie Jankower**	Murray Jay	Annette Kahn**
Jacob Kaminer	Ruth Silinsky Kirshner**	Gustav Levy**
Selma Levy**	Neil T. Lewis**	Frances Liebeck
Joseph Lippman	Harry Pearlman	Sally Rotman
Joseph Schwartz	Annie Sherman**	Jane Sherwood
Esther Sibulkin**	Abraham Silverman	

Yahrzeit Donations

Given by

Mary Ann Romer
Lois Lewis
Bruce Kirshner

In Memory Of

Joseph Lippman
Neil T. Lewis
Ruth Silinsky Kirshner



To plant a tree, email your information of who you're honoring/remembering to jruden18@gmail.com.
Mail check (\$18.00/tree) to the temple. Write "Tree" in the memo line

Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home & Crematory



Craig M. Nelson
Licensed Funeral Director

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



2025 / 5785

Cantor Bain's Schedule:



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 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** (6th night)