

Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 115 years

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Tammuz/Av/Elul (5780)

The Rising Star

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Blessing For The Mitzvah Of Putting On A Mask

Baruch ata, Adonai Eloheinu,	בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
Melech ha-olam,	מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav	אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
v'tzivanu al shmirat hanefesh.	וְצִוָּנוּ עַל שְׁמִירַת הַנֶּפֶשׁ

Blessed are You, Eternal our God,
Sovereign of the world,
who has sanctified us with commandments,
and commanded us to protect life.



NO, NEVER DID I EVER...

No, never did I ever think that ZOOM would become second nature to me. This week, I had three meetings to attend – all of them via this social media service. Two of them were held on the same day!

I know that I should be grateful for business being able to move ahead and for being able to see others rather than having to guess who is speaking when I am on a six-way conference call. However, from a social standpoint, looking at a screen full of the heads of people I like/love/admire, is not satisfying.

As of Friday evening, 26 June 2020, thanks to Trustee Andy Friedman, we have had eight virtual *Shabbat* services. In addition to members, we have had “visitors” joining in from New York City (Queens), Daytona, Florida and Los Angeles, California. All of our lay leaders have taken their turn to deliver services that had rituals, were meaningful and creative as well as traditional. *Todah rabah* to our leaders and to those who assisted them.

About five weeks ago, the Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors met (via ZOOM, of course) and expressed concerns about resuming services in our sanctuary. Even though there has been no religious activity there in fifteen weeks, the building has been kept clean and is ready for our return. We set a target date for Friday evening, 10 July 2020. But COVID-19 still rules. The number of virus cases in Charleston, Georgetown and Horry Counties have been rising steadily. Once again, our target date for returning has become unrealistic.

July is the month for The Board to prepare for the High Holy Days. *Erev Rosh Hashanah* is Friday evening, 18 September 2020. *Kol Nidre* begins Sunday evening, 27 September 2020. If ever there was a need for a ‘Plan A’ and a ‘Plan B,’ this is it. Please keep up with your e-mail. When we know, you will know.

Shalom, *Richard*

Wisdom From Afar....

Suzan Cohen

As we enter yet more weeks of social distancing in hopes of avoiding coronavirus, it would be nice to have a joyous holiday to break up the monotony. Alas, it's not to be – the only observance between now and the High Holy Days is *Tisha B'Av*.

Tisha B'Av (תשעה באב), which simply means “the ninth of Av,” is regarded as the saddest day in the Jewish calendar, as over the centuries many tragedies have befallen the Jewish people on or near this day. Some even believe that the date is destined for tragedy. This year, *Tisha B'Av* falls on Thursday, July 30th of the secular calendar. It's primarily remembered for the day that both the first and second temples were destroyed.



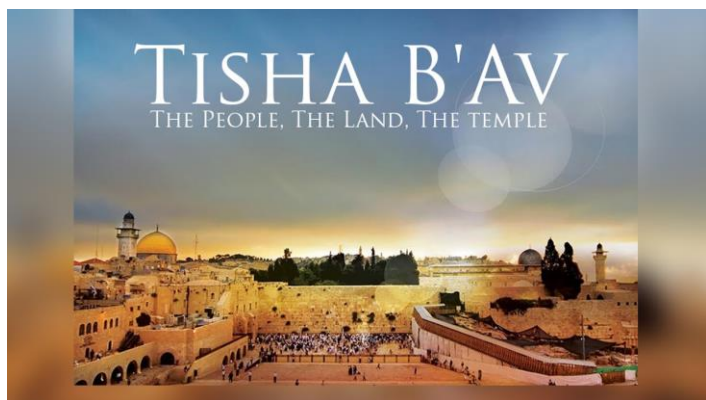
Ritual Scholar Suzan

The five calamities - According to the *Mishnah* (*Taanit* 4:6), five specific events occurred on the 9th of Av that warrant fasting:

1. The Twelve Spies sent by Moses to observe the land of Canaan returned from their mission. Only two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought a positive report, while the others spoke disparagingly about the land. The majority report caused the Children of Israel to cry, panic, and despair of ever entering the “Promised Land.” For this, God punished them by forbidding their generation from ever entering the land. The *Midrash* quotes God as saying about this event, “You cried before me pointlessly, I will fix for you [this day of] crying for the generations” – alluding to the future misfortunes that occurred on the same date.
2. The First Temple built by King Solomon was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587 BCE, and the population of the Kingdom of Judah was sent into the Babylonian exile. According to the Bible, the First Temple's destruction began the 7th of Av (2 Kings 25:8) and continued until the 10th (Jeremiah 52:12). According to the *Talmud*, the actual destruction of the Temple began on the 9th of Av, and it continued to burn throughout the 10th of Av.

[Continued on p.4 – WISDOM]

9 Av 5780 – 29 July 2020



See article above
Also see pp. 3, 5
Tisha B'Av in History

Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

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TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to www.chaitrack.com. If you need a user name and password, contact Andy Friedman, andy.friedman@hotmail.com.

Let us fervently pray for the comfort and recovery of our dear temple members and friends and for the continued strength of their caregivers



Susan & Brian Berry Michael Davidson Myles Derison

Dr. Eric Heiden Richard Horowitz

Donna & Tom Llewellyn Dick Rosen Roberta Schwartz



Tree of Life



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

Leaf 1 _____

Leaf 2 _____

Leaf 3 _____

A check for \$_____ (\$36 per leaf) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.

Thanks for your support.

Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of

SHANE FINKEL

grandson of Carrol Sallas

BIRTHDAYS



ANNIVERSARIES



JULY

19 Randy Cavaliere
20 AJ Giegerich

AUGUST

5 Bob Willey
8 Gary Koppel
9 Eileen Kramer
15 Suzan Cohen
21 Marty Kleinrock

JULY

2 Debbie & Art
Kaufman
7 Eileen Kramer &
Stan Earnhart
28 Noreen Davis &
Alan Gramet

AUGUST

8 Joy & Seymour
Birnbaum
22 Michele & Jim
Bennett
28 Shirley & AJ
Giegerich

Tisha B'Av in History

The Scriptures record that the first Temple was constructed in 957 BCE by King Solomon. The Temple became the focal point of the Jewish sacrificial system and worship, replacing the Tabernacle which had been used since the days of Moses in the Sinai Desert. The first total destruction of the Temple occurred prior to the Babylonian Captivity in 586 BCE.

Jeremiah and other prophets had warned the people of the impending doom from Babylon, not only for the Temple, but their entire homeland. Judah, the southern tribes of Israel, had lived under the false sense of security for years. They believed that either God would protect them because of the presence of the Temple, or that Egypt would protect them to keep Babylon from their own borders.

[Continued on p. 5 – HISTORY]

WISDOM

[Continued from p. 2]



3. The Second Temple built by Ezra and Nehemiah was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE. The people of Judea were scattered, thus commencing the Jewish exile from the Holy Land that continues to this day.
4. The Romans subsequently crushed Bar Kokhba's revolt and destroyed the city of Betar, killing approximately 580,000 Jewish civilians in 135 CE.
5. Following the Bar Kokhba revolt, Roman commander Turnus Rufus plowed the site of the Temple in Jerusalem and the surrounding area, in 135 CE.

The observance of the day includes five prohibitions, most notable of which is a 25-hour fast. The Book of Lamentations, which mourns the destruction of Jerusalem is read in the synagogue, followed by the recitation of *kinnot*, liturgical dirges that lament the loss of the Temples and Jerusalem.

Beware the Ninth of Av!

As if the five calamities were not cause enough for mourning, other tragedies have befallen the Jewish people on or near the 9th of Av in post-Biblical times and into the modern era:

- The First Crusade officially commenced on August 15, 1096 (Av 24, AM 4856), killing 10,000 Jews in its first month and destroying Jewish communities in France and the Rhineland.
- The Jews were expelled from England on July 18, 1290 (Av 9, AM 5050).
- The Jews were expelled from France on July 22, 1306 (Av 10, AM 5066).
- The Jews were expelled from Spain on July 31, 1492 (Av 7, AM 5252)
- Germany entered World War I on August 1-2, 1914 (Av 9-10, AM 5674), which caused massive upheaval in European Jewry and whose aftermath led to the Holocaust.
- On August 2, 1941 (Av 9 AM 5701), SS commander Heinrich Himmler formally received approval from the Nazi Party for "The Final Solution." As a result, the Holocaust began, during which almost one third of the world's Jewish population perished.
- On July 23, 1942 (Av 9 AM 5702), began the mass deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto, en route to Treblinka.
- The bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) building, the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires killed 85 and injured 300 on July 18, 1994 (10 Av, AM 5754).
- The Israeli disengagement from Gaza began in the Gaza Strip, expelling 8000 Jews who lived in Gush Katif; August 15, 2005 (10 Av, 5765).

While the Holocaust spanned a number of years, most religious communities use *Tisha B'Av* to mourn its 6,000,000 Jewish victims, in addition to or instead of the secular Holocaust Memorial Days. On *Tisha B'Av*, communities that otherwise do not modify the traditional prayer liturgy have added the recitation of special *kinnot* related to the Holocaust.



HISTORY

[Continued from p. 3]

Nebuchadnezzar came with scores of troops from the north and invaded Judean territories. By the early part of the summer, the king's armies had surrounded the city of Jerusalem. After cutting off trade and supplies, the Israelites were weakened physically and spiritually. On the ninth day of the month of Tammuz the walls of the city were penetrated by the Babylonian soldiers.

Within a month, these powerful forces had destroyed all pockets of Israeli resistance. Traditions in the *Talmud* indicate that 940,000 Jews were killed in the days leading up to the siege of Jerusalem. It is possible that over a million more were killed inside the gates of the city, with the remaining survivors marched to slave camps in Babylon.

At sunset on the beginning of the ninth day of the month of Av, Nebuchadnezzar set fire to the Temple. By the end of the day, the Temple was completely destroyed. Writers of the *Talmud* told the story that as the Temple was burning, a group of young priests gathered with the keys to the Sanctuary in their hands. The young leaders cried out to God, confessing that they had not been faithful custodians of God's house. With that they threw the keys into the air with all their might. Tradition says that a hand emerged from the clouds and snatched the keys from the air. The young priests then allowed the fires to consume them.

According to Ezra, construction of the second Temple was started under the authority of Cyrus of Persia, after the fall of Babylon. The work began in 538 BCE and was completed 23 years later on the third day of Adar under the reign of Darius the Great. The Jewish governor at the time, Zerubbabel, dedicated the structure that was not nearly as lavish or extravagant as the first.

The Temple barely escaped destruction again in 332 BCE when the Jewish people refused to worship Alexander the Great as god. After his death, Judea and the Temple came under the rule of the Ptolemies. During this period, the Jews enjoyed many liberties and the place the Temple played in the lives of people was strengthened. When the Ptolemaic reign was ended by Antiochus III of the Seleucids in 198 BCE and strong attempts were made to Hellenize the Jews and their worship. About ten years later, Antiochus died with many of his plans left unaccomplished.

His son, Antiochus IV Epiphanes, came to the throne about a year and a half later with the desire to accomplish his father's goals. The Jews rebelled and Antiochus answered back with an incredible show of cruelty and force. He outlawed religious observances of the Sabbath and the practice of circumcision. He erected a statue of Zeus in the middle of the Temple courts and instructed Greek priests to sacrifice pigs on their altars. Thus begins the story of the Maccabees and *Chanukah*.

RENEW, JOIN OR DONATE AT OUR WEBSITE!

FINALLY, Temple Beth Elohim (TBE) entered the 21st century providing the opportunity for you to renew, join or make a donation at our temple website, www.templebethelohim.net . The website is secure, so you can pay using PayPal or your credit card.

If you prefer, there is still a link to download the forms, and yes, we are happy to accept a check for your donation, dues or membership.

When you click on DONATION, you can donate toward the General Fund, Security or Other. If you choose 'Other,' you can designate your contribution as *Tzedakah*, used to help our local communities or make it in memory of, in honor of, or for the recovery of a loved one. And, you can always make a donation to acknowledge a life cycle event, such as a birthday or anniversary.

The TBE website and FaceBook page provide information about weekly *Shabbat* Services, holidays, events, and important announcements. Please check us out online, and give us a "thumbs up" on our FaceBook page.

DONATIONS



Michele & Jim Bennett to the General Fund
Randy & Tony Cavaliere to the General Fund in memory of John Cavaliere
Richard Dimentstein to the General Fund in memory of Mel Brown
Adele Franzblau & Marty Kleinrock to the General Fund in memory of Gail Jacoby Anderman,
Dr. Arnold H. Franzblau and Constance Karesh Franzblau
Shirley & AJ Giegerich to the General Fund in memory of Patricia Giegerich and Morris Ader
Tish Richter to the General Fund in memory of Rick Richter
Carrol Sallas to the General Fund
Anita & Stephen Simes to the General Fund

NEW LEAVES ON THE TREE OF LIFE



Shirley & AJ Giegerich in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary
Jill & Al DeMarchi in tribute to their family and for the blessing of four grandchildren

Suzan Cohen

A personal note of wisdom...

...or lack thereof. The unjustified killing of black people at the hands of police have triggered protest marches that have brought to light the urgent need for reforms in the criminal justice system. I salute the mix of people of many colors at these rallies as a recognition of the fact that the battle against systemic racism must be fought by us all.

The company where I work also opened up forums for employee dialogue, and the stories that have been shared have been a real eye-opener for me. I delight in multiculturalism, but I'm shocked by how little I know about the many ways that racial discrimination can happen, particularly in the workplace or housing, where it's supposed to be illegal.

Last year, for the July issue of this newsletter, I spoke of *tikkun olam* and discussed how repairing the world included the need to nurture people. I also spoke of the need to vote and choose wise leadership. That's still true, perhaps truer than it's ever been.*

But that can only be the beginning. Every person must do their part in addressing systemic bias, in every small way, each and every day. I recognize that I have a lot to learn about the scope of the problem, and I concede that the overall solution must come from people and institutions bigger than myself. But I pledge to not be part of the problem; to treat every person I encounter, regardless of their race, color, nationality, faith, or gender preference, with respect; to foster civility and decency. It is one small step, yes, but it's better than not starting the journey.

*The following is an excerpt from Suzan's article "Wisdom from Afar" that appeared in *The Rising Star*, Volume 16; Issue 6; July/August 2019.

Saving the planet is important, yes, but what about the people who live on the planet? So many lack adequate housing, food, clothing, and health care. Education, health care, and social systems are failing. It seems like the whole world is just broken. As in that old song lyric, "The whole world is festering with unhappy souls."

So, what to do, what to do? As Jews, with our tradition of *tikkun olam* (to repair the world), what can and should we do? First, we must care for ourselves to keep our selves capable of caring for others. We should continue to support our local charitable efforts, because strong communities help build a strong nation. We certainly, as much as we are able, contribute to worthy charities (as not all of them are legitimate).



Yahrzeits



JULY

Rachel Lowenstein	grandmother of Henry Lowenstein
Harry Gershman	grandfather of Michele Bennett
2 Rose Ulrich	grandmother of Myla Specht
3 Lewis B. Schwartz	son of Roberta & Steve Schwartz
5 Malva Ulrich	mother of Myla Specht and Ariane Lieberman
5 Sam Jacoby	grandfather of Marty Kleinrock
5 Samuel Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
8 Solomon Feinberg	father of Herb Feinberg
10 Seth Rich	cousin of Ruth Farb
11 Vita Cahn Danzig	member Temple Beth Elohim
12 Morris David Baker	grandfather of Debbi Jones
13 Leona Finkel	mother of Rob Goldman
13 Arlyne Berkman	mother of Gerald Berkman
15 Mary Levine	mother of Carrol Sallas
15 Mervyn Green	father of Marsha Green
16 Benjamin Baker	father of Debbi Jones
17 Lillian Danzig Abrams	member Temple Beth Elohim
18 Henry G. Danzig	member Temple Beth Elohim
23 Elizabeth Moses	past President
24 Lena C. Crane	member Temple Beth Elohim
24 Louis Farb	father of Ruth Farb
26 Barbara S. Schwartz	member Temple Beth Elohim
29 Lee Lowenstein	brother of Henry Lowenstein
31 Sallie Lewenthal	great grandmother of Susan Berry and Dick Rosen
31 Dora L. Rosen	grandmother of Dick Rosen

AUGUST

1 Sara Cornis	cousin of Ruth Farb
2 Max Birnbaum	father of Seymour Birnbaum
4 Lou Nierenberg	friend of Temple Beth Elohim
4 Allen Poaster	father of Tish Richter
5 Sonia Kolsky	great grandmother of Craig Lieberman
10 Donna Hershberg	member Temple Beth Elohim
12 Fred Gramet	father of Alan Gramet
12 Anne Kleinrock	grandmother of Marty Kleinrock
16 Louis Davidson	father of Michael Davidson
17 Albert Ader	brother of Shirley Giegerich
18 Frieda Goldenberg	grandmother of Steve Schwartz
18 Edna Dimentstein	mother of Richard Dimentstein
20 Rose Schneider	great aunt of Susan Berry grandmother of Debbie Smith
20 Sam Gerson	grandfather of Henry Lowenstein
21 Nancy Cavaliere	mother of Tony Cavaliere
21 Beatrice Fogel Kaufman	member Temple Beth Elohim
22 Ben Kleinrock	grandfather of Marty Kleinrock
23 Tillie Lieberman	grandmother of Craig Lieberman
24 Neal Baker	brother of Debbi Jones
25 Meyer Rosen	uncle of Dick Rosen
26 Elayne Schwartz	mother of Steve Schwartz
27 Alfred Weitzman	cousin of Steve Schwartz
30 Dorothy B. Trotman Mulford	mother of Donna Llewellyn



Any corrections or additions please contact Richard Dimentstein rdimentstein@gmail.com or at membership.tbe@gmail.com .
Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* of the upcoming week.

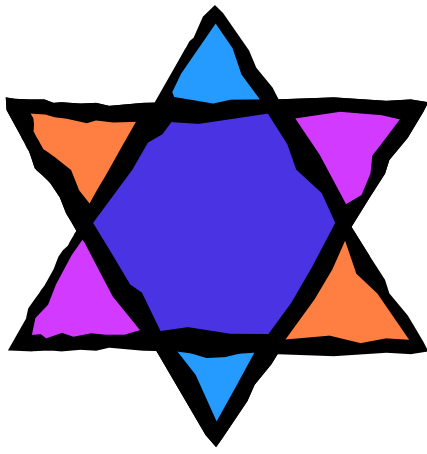
New Memorial Plaques

Plaques are displayed permanently on our *Yahrzeit* Board and are lit on the death anniversary of the honoree. Any member who would like to memorialize a loved one should speak with one of our Board members.

Beth Elohim Cemetery

Cemetery plots are for sale in our unique, historic resting place. The Cemetery Committee, chaired by SEYMOUR BIRNBAUM, has prepared the appropriate documentation for the purchase of gravesites.

Call the temple (843 325-0389) and request copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care. Plots are only available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to their families.



First Class
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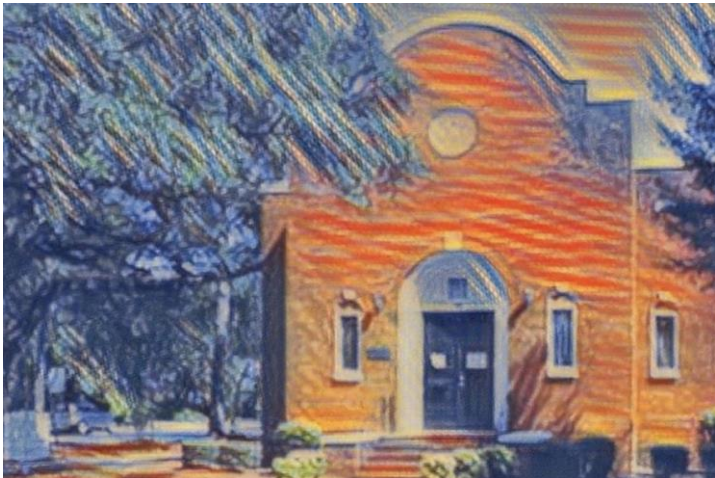
SHALOM

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years

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P. O. Box 571
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Temple Beth Elohim

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Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum
Communications: Andy Friedman
Finance Chair: Michele Gershman Bennett
Sunshine Committee Chair: Tish Richter
Building & Grounds Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Craig Lieberman)
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Web Page: Joy Birnbaum
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn
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Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden