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February 2022

Shevat-Adar 5782

President's Message

It has been a difficult time for all of us. This week we **read from the Torah, "mishpatim" or laws.** The commentaries are often focused on a very strange law. In the parsha God tells the Israelites not to eat from a dead carcass. It seems not to make any sense. Why would the law suggest such a thing?

The reasoning seems a bit far-fetched until you think about it. Since a predator can not express gratitude for his sustenance, he also can not show deference to his source of life. As Jews we are taught to appreciate mother earth and repair that which we can. Only our humanity allows us to express gratitude for our fellow inhabitants of the earth. In all aspects of Judaism, our humanity, and the humanity of others is paramount. From commandments to mitzvot we have guides for our ethical decisions. Our very existence depends on our interaction with our environment and all those around us.

Morals are inextricably bound up with religious thought. In the Christian religion the path to a moral life requires the absence of sin. In Buddhism the righteous path has to do with the absence of craving and greed. In Judaism we emphasize our humanity and the need to repair our world. We say in our prayers that we should want others to have that which we also would want. And so for thousands of years religion **has been an instrumental guide to humanity's moral behavior.**

Philosophy too has been wrestling with the big questions of religion. Does God exist? What is our purpose? Where did the universe come from? The smaller questions have also been a problem. If our existence depends on our interaction with our environment and those around us, we must consider the rights of others as well as our own. Socrates held it more important than his life to abide by the laws of ancient Greece. Immanuel Kant explored the questions of morality in the context of religion while respecting our own humanity as well as the humanity of others.

Let's be true to our religious principle when we decide on a course of action whether it is health related, environmentally related or relationship related. Let's consider others as well as ourselves. Let's make sure that our actions abide by the principles of Jewish morality. The leadership at the temple has been working hard to make it safe for others in our congregation to gather to pray. As we try to consider the health and safety of all, please join us in working for a healthy and safe environment in which to worship.

Steve Eilen M.D.
President

Shabbat Worship

Friday, February 4, 6:00 pm - Shabbat Worship & Dinner
Friday, February 11, 7:00 pm - Opera Shabbat
Worship & Concert (rescheduled)
Friday, February 18, 7:00 pm - Shabbat Worship
Friday, February 25, 7:00 pm - Shabbat Worship

Learning Opportunities

Torah on Tap, Tuesday, February 1, 5:00pm
Perfect Plain Brewery, 50 E. Garden St. Pensacola

Torah Study: Journey Through Genesis
Saturdays, February 5 and February 19
Temple Beth El and via Zoom

Two Jews Three Opinions

All Tuesdays, February and February 25, 11:30am
via Zoom

Introduction to Judaism

Continuing Sundays, February 6, 13, 27
Temple Beth El

Opera Shabbat -

Worship & Concert (Take 2)

Friday, February 11, 7:00pm

Join us for a unique and beautiful Shabbat experience as **Temple Beth El welcomes Pensacola Opera's Artists in Residence.** The evening begins with a music-filled service led by Rabbi Joel and Greg Watson, featuring participation **by friends from Pensacola Opera.** Following the services' conclusion, the Artists in Residence will fill the sanctuary with their beautiful and resounding voices as they perform a collection of arias and show tunes. At the close of the performance, the artists will join us for an oneg Shabbat in the Max L. Bear Auditorium.

Join Zoom Meetings at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8504383321> or enter Meeting ID 8504383321



Torah on Tap

Tuesday, February 1, 5:00pm
Perfect Plain Brewery, 50 E. Garden St.

Join us in the Perfect Plain courtyard for Torah on Tap. Rabbi Joel will provide texts from our tradition as we discuss this month's topic, "Welcoming Community vs Secure Community?" Schmoozing starts at 5:00, Learning at 5:30. For more information contact Rabbi Joel.

Sisterhood

Sisters:

January 16th, 2022: On this date, we celebrated Tu Bishvat, National Religious Freedom Day and World Religion Day.

We also had a hostage situation at a Dallas/Ft. Worth area synagogue and thankfully all hostages survived. There was an overwhelming response from local & state law enforcement. The FBI deployed these teams: FBI SWAT, two highly trained units from their elite Hostage Rescue Teams (and canines), crisis management, counter-IED unit, and their crisis negotiation unit that had someone on the phone for hours with the gunman. There was also the Crisis Incidence Response Group flown in from Quantico that worked with state and local law enforcement.

After the situation ended, the FBI is still processing evidence with their Operational Technology Division reviewing communication and media devices that were used by the hostage taker. The Joint Terrorism Task Forces across the nation are delving into the why's of that date, that time, that place.*

Rabbi Cytron-Walker credited security trainings (FBI, ADL, local police, Secure Community Network) for him and the other hostages surviving the situation.

Which brings us back to here and now. Your Temple Beth El Board of Directors is actively involved in security training, plans and upgrades to protect our congregants. I'm not discussing "how" that's happening but know that we're getting similar security training and guidance. If you've got questions or suggestions, call someone on the Board.

XOXO
MAKS

*https://bit.ly/3G0k9y4

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays	18th	Sara Schlesinger Lowery
1st		Priscylla Alexander
		Sarah Watson
	20th	Charlotte Morris
	21st	Elizabeth Haims
		Glen Faulk
2nd		Christopher Bach
	22nd	Sydney McAbee
	23rd	Louis Rosenbloum
2nd		John-Daniel Sullivan
3rd	24th	Forrest Faulkner
		Frank Segal
4th	26th	Myra Kahn
5th	27th	Rebecca Soloway
6th		Leonid Yanovskiy
7th	28th	
8th		Anniversaries
	8th	Rose and Bill Kuhhirte
9th		22nd
	10th	Celeste and Alan Kryz
	11th	28th
	12th	Kym and Martin Lewis
12th		
13th		
15th		
16th		
17th		

Oneg hosts need for February 11 and March 11. Please contact Cindy Pinhas or Debbi Schlesinger to host. cpinhas@aol.com debbi.schlesinger@gmail.com

DONATIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

In memory of Alan Bookman from Ellen Walsh, Elisa Sullivan and Leslie Elkhous

In memory of Leo and Janis Loeb from Ellen and John Walsh

In memory of Alan Bookman from Barry and Sheryl Crown

A donation was made by Don and Marny Needle

A donation was made by Nathan and Myra Kahn

A donation was made by Chip and Faye Merritt

A donation was made by Terri Vonbargen

In memory of Lucille Foley from Linda Brown Liberis

Temple Beth El General Fund:

In honor of Matt Dannheisser from Mike Stebbins and Pam Moine

A donation was made by The Elise Bear and William D. Pollak

Family Charitable Foundation, Inc.

A donation was made by Eugene Rosenbaum

Fannie W. Frenkel Perpetual Care Fund:

In memory of Jane and Fred Seligman from Bill Valentino and Kay Seligman Valentino

Peter Van Wezel Youth Fund:

In memory of Vanessa Van Wezel from Mr. and Mrs. Steve Van Wezel

The Lewis and Belle Bear Family Temple Beth El Facilities Endowment Fund:

In honor of Buddy Pollak's birthday from Lewis and Belle Bear

In honor of Marny Needle's birthday from Lewis and Belle Bear

In memory of Allen Litvak from Lewis and Belle Bear

POKER RETURNS TO TBE!!!

Date: Saturday, February 19

Time: Doors Open 4:15

Play Begins at 5:00pm

Location: Temple Beth El

Enjoy a night of fun and friendship while supporting the Temple's largest fundraiser by participating in the Annual Temple Beth El Poker Tournament. Buy-in for the "No Limit Holdem Tournament" is \$100 in advance or \$110 at the door.

Delicious Food and Great Prizes!!

For more information contact Terry Gross at 434-3333, 449-1762, or via email, tagross@tagross.com



Book Club to Discuss Classic

The next Book Club will feature Alex Graven leading us in a discussion on "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" by Mordecai Richler on February 16 at 6 PM. Considered one of, if not Canada's finest novel, this book by Jewish Anglo-Montrealer Richler centers on the life of young Duddy Kravitz, making his way through early 20th century Montreal and navigating a world where he's "other". "Other" in terms of parts of his own Jewish community (he's blue-collar, poor, and with a gangster-affiliated father), and "other" in terms of the Anglophone community of Montreal (which for the most part is equivalent to Episcopalian and English). The whole book is full of themes about identity, Jewish and otherwise - with larger repercussions about Canadian identity.

Yahrzeits

To be read on February 4th:
 29th Elizabeth Quest
 Renee Bershad
 Sherlee Aronson
 30th Samuel Hyams
 Allen Litvak
 Helen Heinberg
 Edie Zimmerman
 Rhonda Wach
 JaAnn Sewell
 Allen Litvak
 31st Sadie G. Bloch
 Maurice Finman
 Frank Tucker
 Joyce Finney
 Alvin Joseph Fogelman
 Richard G. Cohn
 Yvette Weintraub
 1st Philip Bodziner
 Celia Brunstein
 2nd Bernice Herr
 Evelyn Needle
 Shirley Pearlman
 3rd Anna Cirola
 Julian Lewis
 Sam Hyams
 Dale E. Pontius
 4th Louise May Kolstein

To be read on February 11, cont:
 11th Dora Herschkovitz
 Berdena Branberg
 Ira Miller
 Anna Brown
 Caroline Kahn

To be read on February 18th:
 12th Henry A. Morris
 Mildred Block Klein
 13th Lewis Bear, Sr.
 Robert John Orth
 William D. Pollak
 Irving Steinberg
 Jeffrey Marcus
 14th Leonty Yanovskiy
 15th Adolph Greenhut
 David Malca
 Sara Abitbol
 Matilda Levin
 16th Tillie Cohen
 Harry Vigodsky
 17th Charles Reischer
 John Frenkel, Sr.
 Lubina Wax
 Roger Smith
 18th Rose Gitenstein
 Henry Alpheus Morris
 Pat Marcus

To be read on February 25th, cont:
 22nd Joseph Feig
 Mary Ester Curland
 David Rosenblum
 Pearl Ann Levy Silverstein
 23rd Etta Cohen
 Florence Lehman
 Joseph Reed
 Milton Gordon (Adar 22)
 24th Rena Cohen
 Fannie Frenkel
 Eddie Zukrow
 Horace Stern
 Gloria Whitsit

To be read on March 4th:
 Feb 26th Nathan Berlin
 Ada Gerson
 Fannie Lesser
 Max Krumbain
 Vicki Feinstein
 Ethel Klein
 27th Anita Prout
 Virginia Ginny Oatman
 Audrey Broder
 28th Betty Samson
 Harry Levin

It is with a heavy heart that we share news of the passing of Temple member, Lucille Foley.

The congregation extends its deepest sympathies to her family and all those whose lives were touched by Lucille's friendship and kindness.

The service for Lucille was held at Oak Lawn Funeral Home on Monday, January 17.

May Lucille's memory long endure as a source of comfort and blessing.
 Zichrona L'vracha.

To be read on February 11th:
 7th Fred Levy
 Nettye Woolenberg
 Rachel Levin
 Claire Ades
 8th Annie E. Gerhardt
 Reuben Smith
 Liz Picard
 9th Philip Jaffe
 Gerson Mayer
 Sidney Steinberg
 Berta Livshits
 Erna Reischer
 10th Bennie Rumpfelt
 Maxine Lee

To be read on February 25th:
 19th Meir Lachman
 Arnold Grossman
 Jack Kugelman
 Gilbert Leavitt
 20th Hilda Bear Kahn
 Joseph M. Levy
 Dr. Mozart A. Lischkoff
 Eleanor Weiner
 Hylda N. Eitel
 Marian Baer
 Mildred Stone
 Eva Frances Miller
 Clarence James Warthen

**CASTING CALL –
 “PLAY IT AGAIN, SHMUEL”**

We're Back!!!
 Our Temple Show will be May 21, 2022. It will combine the best of our past song parodies along with a few new surprises. Rehearsals began the first week in January and will be held weekly. If the thespian in you wants an **outlet that's a whole lot of happy, contact Renee Eilen** at: rmoore40@yahoo.com.

Donation Form

Send this form with your check to:
 Temple Beth El
 800 N. Palafox Street
 Pensacola, Florida 32501

Circle one:
 In memory of / In honor of:

 (Name or event)

Donor: _____

Address: _____

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- ___ Sylvia Rosenblum Cole Music Fund
- ___ Social Justice Fund
- ___ Collections and Exhibitions
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- ___ Jonathan L. Kahn Library Fund
- ___ Fannie W. Frenkel Perpetual Cemetery Care Fund
- ___ **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**
- ___ Mitzvah/Caring Fund
- ___ Security Fund
- ___ The Lewis and Belle Bear Family Temple Beth El Facilities Endowment Fund
- ___ Capital & Maintenance Reserve Fund
- ___ Temple Beth El Endowment Fund

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Temple Beth El
 800 N. Palatfox Street
 Pensacola, FL 32501
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February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Torah on Tap 5pm Perfect Plain Brewery	2	3	4 Shabbat Service and Covered Dish 6pm	5 Torah Study TBE and via Zoom
6 SJL 9:30am Intro to Judaism 10:30am	7	8 Two Jews, Three Opinions 11:30am Via Zoom	9	10	11 Opera Shabbat Service 7pm	12
13 SJL 9:30am Intro to Judaism 10:30am	14	15	16 Sisterhood 11:30 Book Club 6pm	17	18 Shabbat Service 7pm	19 Torah Study TBE and via Zoom Poker Fundraiser Doors open 4:15
20 NO SJL	21	22 Two Jews, Three Opinions 11:30am Via Zoom	23	24	25 Shabbat Service 7pm	26
27 SJL 9:30am Intro to Judaism 10:30am	28					