

"It will be better to return to the land of troubles (Egypt)".
[Numbers 14]

"Would it be better for us to serve the Egyptians (troublesome ones) than to die in the wilderness"? [Exodus 14]



The pandemic seems to be lessening. As more of us are being vaccinated, less are getting sick. However, let's be honest! Some of the effects of the pandemic are never going away. The loss of friends, relatives, and millions has left a hole that will never totally heal. But it is up to us to decide where we go from here. Make no doubt about it we are at a crossroads!

Do we return to the way we were before the pandemic or do we learn from our experiences this last year. We are much more knowledgeable about Zoom and Whats App and Google Chats, but what have we learned about Zoom emotions or caring to say 'What's Up' or spending time to have chats with those who are significant in our lives? Will we go back to the old actions and reactions with those we care for? What will we do about justice, prejudice and what is American?

Several years ago, when I went from being a Special Education Assistant to a full teacher, the

(Continued on page 3)

Watch Shabbat Services on our YouTube Channel

<u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMGJ-6nbjGVT157iUgKFBgQ?pbjreload=10</u>
New services posted every week, watch previous services.

Shabbat Services Are Now On Zoom!

Every Friday Night at 7:00 PM
After the service, stay for a "virtual Oneg!"

Lunch with the Rabbi Every Wednesday at Noon

http://www.templebethemet.com/home/upcomingevents/zoom-weekly-events/

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING

March 2, 2021 - 7:00 PM via Zoom, meeting information will be on our website.

Adult Education Continues! AMERICAN LAW AND JEWISH LAW

THE SAME, ONLY DIFFERENT Final Session: March 9, 2021

Labor and Management Law "Thou Shalt not keep a Worker's wages past Midnight"

Sessions via Zoom, meeting information will be on our website.(See page 10)

Check our website later this month for information on our Passover video program!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS Sunday, March 14

Remember to "spring forward"!



TEMPLE BETH EMET (House of Truth) ORGANIZATION

Religious Leadership

Rabbi Mark H. Sobel Music and Choir Director, Robyn Kreisberg

Rabbi Emeritus William M. Kramer Z"L* *His memory will always be a blessing to us.

2019/20 Officers and Directors

Officers

Ira L. Goldstein, *President* Ken Watnick, *Vice President* Eileen Martin, *Treasurer* Marlene Dreyfuss, *Secretary*

<u>Directors</u>

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Herbert Murez

Theida Salazar

Sisterhood President

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Morris Gold Religious School Faculty

Rabbi Mark Sobel, Education Director
Shirley Kirschenbaum K-1
Laura Goldstein- Hebrew 2-3,4-5
Hayley Wood Social Studies
2-3,4-5
Robyn Kreisberg Social Studies 6-7, Music
Joshua Sobel Confirmation 8-10,
Hebrew 6-7
Rabbi Mark Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class
Robyn Kreisberg, Music

Religious School Parents Association

Cherie Rye, President

Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten

Hayley Wood, Director

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Office Manager/Secretary, Mariedith Ashford-Fortin

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Ruth Glick, (818) 780-9134
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Shirley Abramson
Marquee
Rabbi Mark Sobel
Reach Out

Rabbi Mark Sobel

Temple Beth Emet Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Saturday & Sunday - closed

The office is closed in observance of the following holidays:

New Year's Day, President's Day,
First day of Pesach, Memorial Day,
Independence Day, Rosh Hashanah,
Yom Kippur, Thanksgiving
Call the Temple office at (818) 843-4787 to
contact Temple Staff/Volunteers.
Your message will be forwarded to the
appropriate person.

CHAI TIMES

Chai Times is the free, monthly newsletter of Temple Beth Emet of Burbank, delivered by email to members and available at www.TempleBethEmet.com.

Mailed hardcopies are available for an annual TBE donation payable through the Office.

Editable article submissions, photos and feedback are encouraged and due by the 15th of the month and may be emailed to:

chaitimes@TempleBethEmet.com
or delivered to the Temple office.
Submissions will be published
based on space available,
relevant content, and at the
discretion of the Editor, Temple
Officers and Directors.

Follow Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

"Like" our Facebook Page at

https://www.facebook.com/ TempleBethEmet?fref=ts



If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can better serve our members, please call the office or email us at:

of fice @ Temple bethemet.com





(Continued from page 1)

LAUSD owed me back salary for my college units. I was looking at a Stereo record playerradio. I had one that had finally stopped playing. I sought to replace it with the same level of electronics. My friend, Captain Aaron said, "Why go back to what you had? Always improve and go to a higher level!

I listened and bought a much better unit. I had that unit until CDs replaced records. Aaron, Z"L, was soooo correct. Never, go back to the way you were. Always seek to improve.

America this last year has sought to maintain itself though fighting two pandemics, one pathological and one psychological. We are at a crossroads and like Abraham our ancestor we need to plant our tents at that crossroad so we can see in all directions and then see ALL the possibilities for our future travels.

We all have the choice to return to the former ways of thinking or to go on a journey of discovery,

The Torah portions this month deal with the early days in the desert after we were free from the land of troubles (*Mitzraim*, the Hebrew word for Egypt, means 'troubles' in English.

Now we have the power to be free. Free of old ways of thinking, from of biases, free of diseases that keep us from doing what we could and should do.

Let us buy up into a fancier sound system for our lives. Let our music come from deeper base and treble tones. The treble tones are the high pitched sound of Protest against injustice, discrimination, and slavery of any human being. The Bass ones are the sounds of love, caring and acceptance of the uniqueness that is in all of us.

The time has come to remember that we should not Love each other in spite of the differences in all our souls, but because of them. The journey through the desert toward freedom will have more oases, if we drink from the elixir of individuality. Our individuality and others' individuality, Both.

The French slogan," Vive Le Difference" has several levels of meaning. Let us cheer the differences between us and, more importantly, the differences we can make to our lives and to our nations in the coming months and years!

B'ahava,

Rabbi Mark



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - March 2021

Make New Friends, But Keep the Old One is Silver and the Other Gold.

(Girl Scout circle song based on a poem by Joseph Parry

In last month's column I wrote about the departure of our office manager Victoria Gaffney, who's family is starting a new adventure in Washington State. Following her announcement, Victoria set about finding a proper replacement to take over her office. After all, she wasn't going to leave it to just anyone.

After attempting to recruit from her own circle of acquaintances, she listed the position on the Indeed website. The economy being what it is, we received several responses to the listing. Victoria reviewed the submitted resumes and made telephone contact with promising applicants, eventually narrowing down the field to seven candidates for the board's search committee to interview.



One applicant stood out with her experience, enthusiasm, and personality, and so I am happy to introduce to you our new office manager, Mariedith Ashford-Fortin. Mariedith has worked as office manager in boutique interior design firms and at UCLA in their Institute for Research on Labor and Employment. She was also a teaching assistant teaching undergraduates at Purdue University. She holds both a bachelor's and a master's degrees in African American Studies from UCLA.

Mariedith spent a week training with Victoria, who went over many of the unique tasks in administering a synagogue, but as I said last month, we do ask your patience as she settles. Remember, Victoria had 11 years to learn the ropes!

While it is unfortunate that current pandemic conditions mean it may be a while before many of you have to opportunity to meet Mariedith in person, I am sure we all welcome her into the Temple Beth Emet Family.

Victoria remains part of our family too and she has promised to keep stay in touch and keep an eye on us!

Wishing you all *chag sameach Pesach*, a very happy Passover, and please watch for information on our Temple Passover programming later this month.

-- IRA L. GOLDSTEIN, President



EDUCATION MATTERS - RSPA President, CHERIE RYE

March 2020 Versus 2021: the Anniversary of a Pandemic

A year ago, last March, Temple Beth Emet made the decision to call off our Purim Carnival due to concerns that the event could spread the coronavirus among our members. Less than a day after our Temple made this difficult decision, the mayor of Los Angeles essentially shut down the city. Schools closed their buildings and scrambled to provide classes on-line. Businesses also scrambled to adjust, having some employees work from home. Our Temple, following the lead of LA County and BUSD, moved its classes to Zoom. Grocery stores started offering curbside pick-up, or shopping hours specifically aimed at seniors. Buildings were required to limit capacity to slow the viral spread. In short, Temple Beth Emet was just a little bit ahead of the curve.

This month, the month of March, we're a year in, but we don't expect to be in this situation next year. Already, many of our seniors and front-line workers have already received the vaccine. Most of the population of Los Angeles County, however, is still waiting.

The vaccinations of our seniors and many of the most vulnerable within our families does, for some, change their individual families' cost-benefit analysis for many events. For persons living alone, the psychological cost of isolation has been significant, causing them to forego personal safety in order to see friends and family. For others of us living with seniors or persons with compromised immune systems, that analysis changes: it's one thing to chose to risk your own health for your own psychological well-being. It is an entirely different issue when your decisions influence the life or well-being of another family member.

Luckily, as more people are able to be vaccinated, that individual-and family-based cost-benefit analysis will also change. Families will be willing to take more risks as the benefits to doing so rise, and the potential cost for doing so drops. Don't get me wrong: the financial cost of missing work for a month is not insignificant, nor is a fear of lingering and unknown health complications related to the virus. For many of us, those potential costs will continue

(Continued on page 8)



TEMPLE BETH EMET - BOOK CLUB



Temple Beth Emet Book Club Conducted by Fran Bourne-Johnson

Book Club remains on haitus.







The Temple Beth Emet Sisterhood focus on serving the Temple and the community. Membership in Sisterhood means making a commitment to living Jewish. By being a member, you become an active link in the history of our people. You serve as a role model for Jewish values. Each member blossoms in their own individual way as they experience the camaraderie of Sisterhood and share in service to the Jewish community.

FROM THE SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT - Marlene Dreyfuss

Although we can't meet or plan events during these times, all our members are always in our hearts and prayers. Please wear your mask, socially distance and STAY HOME as much as possible

This Is Your Personal Invitation to Join Temple Beth Emet's Sisterhood

Sisterhood is a group of friends who work together for our Temple, our children, and our community, in a very tangible way. Our President,

We meet the first Sunday of every month at 10:00 AM in Blum Hall. Please join us. Dues are only \$15 per year (commencing September of every year). Please fill out this form, cut it out and send it with your payment to: TBE Sisterhood, c/o TEMPLE BETH EMET, 600 N. Buena Vista Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505; or just leave it with the Temple Office.

NAME	<u> </u>
ADDRESS	
PREFERRED PHONE	
E-MAIL	

CREATE A LASTING LEGACY

Planned Giving is a wonderful and loving way to ensure the legacy of Temple Beth Emet of Burbank and future generations. Planned Giving can be as simple as a bequest or a more complex financial arrangement which can provide many options and possible tax deductions for the donor.

Speak with your legal and financial advisors as to the best way to structure your wills and estate planning to include the Temple in your current and future plans.

Information on Planned Giving can also be found on our website at:

http://www.templebethemet.com/social-action/donations/



TEMPLE BETH EMET

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES 2020-2021

Presented by RABBI MARK H. SOBEL

AMERICAN LAW AND JEWISH LAW

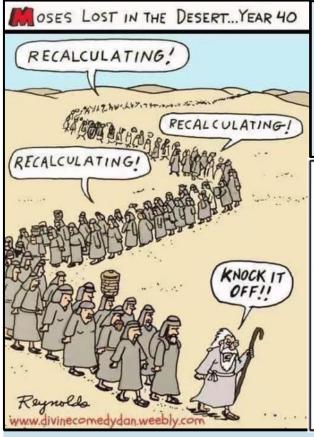
THE SAME, ONLY DIFFERENT

March 9, 2021 new Assistant Attorney General, with her on the brief

Labor and Management Law "Thou Shalt not keep a Worker's wages past Midnight"

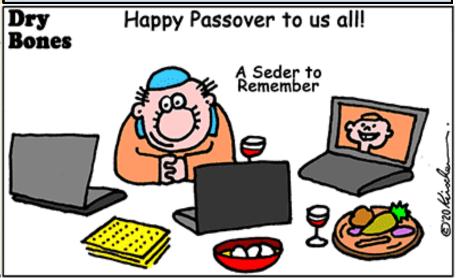
All sessions begin at 7:00 PM—Open to the public.

There is no charge for this series, donations accepted.



Wishing all of our Temple Beth Emet Community a Happy Passover.

Next Year in Person!



RSPA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)



(Continued from page 5)

to be viewed as too high for taking risks until we, ourselves, are vaccinated. That said, it really does feel better when the preventable death of a loved one gets removed from your family's cost-benefit analysis for, say, a visit to the dentist's office.

As for my family, we live with two seniors. Our kids, both teenagers, do miss their friends. We have limited our contacts with friends and family outside our household, and closely followed the stay-at-home orders. My husband checks the N.Y. Times' statistics on the national death rate, and pays attention to the local numbers as well, every day. He writes them on a calendar hanging in the downstairs restroom. We have signs taped to the front door, reminding us to take masks when we leave the house. However, now that the grandparents have received vaccines, we are all less worried. No, we're not planning to host a party in our house or plan a trip involving air travel any time soon, but we are less worried. If one of them needs to see a dentist or eye doctor, or even just get a hair cut, there won't be an obligatory family discussion around their safety. Two family members have regained some of the independence they lost back in March of 2020, and that's significant.

For the rest of us waiting to be vaccinated, we need to hang in there. The list will get shorter and our names will eventually rise to the top. The cost-benefit analysis of a visit to the barber, or going into Trader Joe's, or meeting friends for a coffee outdoors, will continue to change in our favor. As usual, Temple Beth Emet is ahead of the curve, planning outdoor events for members as local parks have opened for sports activities.

I look forward to the time when we can break bread within our Temple without the fears that have plagued us this past year. That time is much closer today than it was back in March of 2020.

-- Cherie

Remember the sick, recovering and bereaved with cards, calls and visits.

Please say prayers of Refuah Sh'leimah for:

Fran Bourne Johnson

Bailey Harrison

Orven Schanzer has been ill for some time now, may G-d grant him comfort and complete recovery.

Stuart Friedman has been ill. Let's join together in prayer for his improved and continued good health.

We pray for Maya Lee & wish her good health

Please call the Temple Office at (818) 843-4787 if a Temple Member is sick, recovering or hospitalized.



Havurah Happenings Havurah Simcha L'Chaim

Havurah Simcha L'Chaim members are mainly retired people. If you would like to join, please let me know. If you would like to be in a new Havurah, please let me know and we can try to get a new group started.

Please call me to discuss it.

Ruth Glick 818 780 9134



March Birthdays

March 6 Jack McK innon March 7 Logan Bigley Samantha Solomons March 7 March 10 Nikole White March 11 Jessica Berger March 14 Jacob Sultan March 16 Cheyenne Goldfarb Eric Feit, M.D. March 26

Charles Langer March 28

March Anniversaries

We know of no anniversaries this month!



Lucas Franklin

Join Temple Beth Emet Pen Pal Program and make a new intergenerational friendship!

Temple Beth Emet has older members who are going through this tough time alone, and who may not have access to a community online. We also know there are many families with Religious school kids who would love to brighten someone's day and foster some new friendships.

If you and/or your child would like to join this program, or if you are a Senior interested in a pen pal, please contact Laura Goldstein at lauragoldstein25@gmail.com or call 818-468-1572.

Your contact information will remain confidential.

March 26



YAHRZEITS - HONORING THE MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

March Yahrzeits								
NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE	NAME	REMEMBERED BY:	DATE			
Chabb	at Camina Manuel E 2024							
Gene Adelstein	Shabbat Services March 5, 2021		Shabbat Services March 19, 2021		March 14			
	Ilysha Buss	March 1	Jim Moore	Gail Arce				
Rabbi David Hoffman	Robyn Kreisberg	March 1	Jim Moore	Barbara Moore	March 14			
Florence Frischman	William Frischman	March 2	Anna Klevinson	The Congregation	March 14			
Herman Everakes	Jerry Everakes	March 3	Avrum Hirsh Hutter	Robyn Kreisberg	March 15			
Barney Kaufman	Barry Kaufman	March 3	Gertrude Weinfeld	Brad Weinfeld	March 15			
Sam Levin	Estelle Becker	March 4	Frank Genereux	Beverly Genereux	March 15			
Ruth Levin	James Levin	March 5	Harold Potter	Warren Potter	March 17			
Rose Barton	Jamie Barton	March 5	Samuel Greenberg	Elaine Fishman	March 17			
Marcia Siegel Tanzma	Lisa De Luca	March 6	Jose Villareal	Vicenta Verdi	March 17			
Bertha S. Flamholtz	Barbara Snitzer	March 6	Howard Segal	Naomi Aronoff	March 18			
Frederick Molenky	Rabbi Mark Sobel	March 6	Esther Block Epstein	Bruce Epstein	March 19			
			Joseph H. Klivans	Barbara Klivans	March 19			
Shabba	t Services March 12, 2021		Jay Berger	Dave Berger	March 20			
David J. Maydeck	Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Maydeck	March 8	Cinda Wallacn	Deb S. Cohen	March 20			
Alfred Friedman	Neal Friedman	March 8						
Albert Aaron Anderle	Bonnie Bunyik	March 8	Shabbat Services March 26, 2021					
Irving Schredder	Bonnie Friedman	March 8	Morris Swedlove	Herbert Murez	March 24			
Sarah Featherman	Frances Bourne Johnson	March 9	Saul Kaufman	Barry Kaufman	March 25			
Nancy Colton	Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Colton	March 9	Ruth Bibicoff	Martin Bibicoff	March 25			
Shirlee Ehrlich	Barbara Snitzer	March 9	Esther Friedman	Judy Robins	March 26			
Viola Krone	Gerald & Harriett Winnick	March 9	Anne Goldstein	Ira, Diane, & Jon Goldstein	March 27			
Hyman Fishman	Trudi Schoolhouse	March 10						
Sarah Libidinsky	The Schaffer Family	March 11	Shabbat Services April 2, 2021					
Simie Kaufman	Frances Bourne Johnson	March 12	Louis Weicensang	Linda Mazur	March 28			
Kasey Maxwell Brown	Dennis C. Brown	March 12	Harry B. Silberman	The Eisinger Family	March 28			
Donald Jacob	Phyllis Shear	March 12	Roy Dietz	Terry Goldwater	March 29			
Morris Gold	The Congregation	March 12	Leonard Goldfarb	Margaret Goldfarb	March 29			
David Cohen	Deb Cohen	March 12	Jeno Friedman	Judy Robins	March 29			
Melvin Gordon	Stacy Rivera	March 13	Craig Weisman	Diane Weisman	March 29			
Esther Silberman	The Eisinger Family	March 13						



YAHRZEIT DONATIONS - HONORING THE MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

YAHRZEIT DONATIONS

George Davis, remembered by Philip Davis

Anne Goldstein, remembered by Ira, Diane, and Jon Goldstein

March 2			2021 ADAR/NISSAN 5781				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1	2 7:00 PM Temple Board Meeting on Zoom (Meeting information posted on our website prior to the meeting)	3 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	4	5 7:00 PM Shabbat Services on Zoom and YouTube	6	
7 9:30 AM - Noon Religious School	8	9 7:00 PM Adult Education on Zoom American Law and Jewish Law - Session 5	10 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	11	12 7:00 PM Shabbat Services on Zoom and YouTube	13	
9:30 AM - Noon Religious School	15 Chai Times	16	17 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	18	19 7:00 PM Shabbat Services on Zoom and YouTube	20	
Daylight Savings Time Begins	Submissions Due					First Day of Spring	
21 9:30 AM - Noon Religious School Zoom School Seder	22	23	24 12:00 - Lunch with the Rabbi on Zoom	25	26 7:00 PM Shabbat Services on Zoom and YouTube	27	
28 No Religious	29	30	31			Erev Passover	
School Spring Recess							
Passover I	Passover II	Passover III	Passover IV		70.NW		

Due to the current Covid-19 emergency, all on-campus events are "on-hold."



FROM OUR PURIM CELEBRATION FEBRUARY 27, 2021

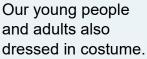
There is a authority that at Purim, the Megillah should be read in the vernacular, the language of the local people, "so that everyone may speak the language of their people." (Megilat Esther, Chapter 1:22) With that in mind, it has been the tradition at Temple Beth Emet to have member of our Temple community read sections in the various non-English languages they speak.

Our Purim celebration this year marks the first service held in our sanctuary since the pandemic began, the last service being last year's Purim celebration. Originally scheduled to be held in our parking lot, wind and temperature made that impractical at the last moment. We were careful to abide by all Los Angeles County guidelines regarding occupancy limits, mask wearing, and social distancing. For those of you unable to join us in person, we invite you to enjoy these pictures and hope you will join us when we officially resume in-person activities.

The video of the Celebration can be found at https://youtu.be/ NMizPtEuZE









Rabbi Mark honoring American patriot
Chaim Solomon





TBE House of Gathering and Education

Do You Have a Son and/or Daughter In College?



Temple Beth Emet has started a program to connect with our students attending a College. We would like to help them to continue their Jewish way of life and offer them additional support. This way, they will always have an open line of communication with our Rabbi, should they have questions or need direction; and we will remind them of their link to Israel and to keep connected to the Jewish Community. After college, we hope to have them join our Temple, as an adult.

Please send an e-mail to office@templebethemet.com and give the following information:

The name of the Student;

Class Level;

Address;

Name of the University, and;

If the Student is a member of any organization or club on campus.

The Temple will send a care-package for each holiday, as a gift to the Student with a calendar of events at the Temple for each month. The Student will be invited to all events sponsored by the Temple. We would like to encourage the Student to return to the Temple as often as they wish; as the Temple would like to offer itself as a second home and place of Jewish learning. We look forward hearing from you!



You can support Temple Beth Emet with a contribution to our ongoing gofundme TM campaign.

Your generosity will help us maintain and improve our facilities and help with our outreach and membership development programs.

Simply click here online!

Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are always in order for happy or sad occasions. These cards are a wonderful way to remember or honor someone.

Did you know that you can get on an automatic mailing to those in need of well wishes by contacting the office?

A card will automatically be sent from you in your name to those in need of healing and an amount of \$10 will be added to your bill each time a card is sent in your name.

Contact the Temple Office at: 818 843-4787



Shop at Ralphs? Register your reward card at <u>ralphs.com</u> and add TBE as your organization. We will receive a donation when you shop!



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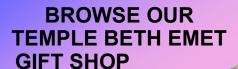
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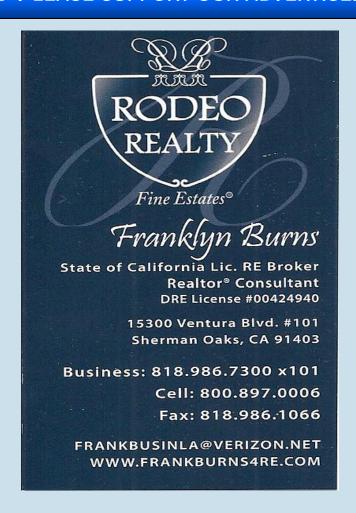








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