



Temple Beth Israel

Community | Tradition | Inclusion

Temple Talk



Mark's Remarks- We are Never Reopening

By: Mark Frydenberg

Diana Korzenik sent me a mailing from the Chabad Center of Venice, Florida. The title of Rabbi Sholom Schmerling's article is *We are Never Reopening*. I replaced the name of his synagogue with ours in the first sentence of his article, as its message equally applies to us:

"Despite the fact that local authorities have permitted houses of worship to reopen, we [at Temple Beth Israel] will not be reopening. Ever. Here's why: Because we never closed."



that Temple Beth Israel is not the building that houses our activities, but rather the people and what we do. This time has forced us to reinvent ourselves and adapt our services, activities, and administration to carry on in the midst of the current situation. As a result, our community has grown closer together; our hearts stayed open to each other's needs, and our minds stayed open to praying, learning, and interacting in a virtual world, with all the challenges and possibilities that this brings.

During the past three months, we have shown

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More Mark's Remarks- Send the Spies

By: Mark Frydenberg

Parashat Sh'lach L'cha, which we read on the Shabbat beginning on Friday evening, June 19, tells how Moses sends twelve spies to check out the land of Canaan, forty days later they return carrying a huge cluster of grapes, figs, and a pomegranate, as they give their report about the fertile and beautiful land they visited.

On **Friday evening, June 19**, I invite you to be one of the spies representing Temple Beth Israel, as we go on a virtual Shabbat field trip to a different sort of promised land. Please join us as we visit Shabbat evening services at Romemu, an innovative Jewish community physically based in New York City. From their website <http://romemu.org>, "Romemu is a welcoming, experiential, irreverently pious, intergenerational Jewish community that elevates and transforms individuals and communities into more compassionate human beings. Committed to powerful prayer and transformative spiritual practices, Romemu

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romemu
JEWISH LIFE, ELEVATED

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More Mark's Remarks- A Virtual Shabbat Visit

By: Mark Frydenberg

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attempts to engage the heart, mind and body in everything we do, helping us to foster greater levels of compassion."

Please join virtually with members of Temple Beth Israel who will view the live stream of Romemu's service on **Friday, June 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm** (bring your own dinner to eat during the service!) You can follow along with the service by viewing the prayer book that they use, available from <https://www.romemu.org/siddurim/> . Romemu services stream online on Zoom and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/romemu/>. (You don't need a Facebook account to watch.) We'll have the links up on the TBI website.

We can learn a lot from watching how other communities hold their services online. Who participates? What techniques do their leaders use? Are there any parts from this experience that we might like to try to replicate at TBI? How does it feel to be a guest in another community?

After our Shabbat morning service on Saturday morning, June 20th, at about 12:15 pm, those who attended are invited to stay on Zoom for a debrief and discussion of our experiences attending virtual services with another congregation. Even if you don't watch the Romemu service online on Friday, you are welcome to join in the conversation on Saturday at TBI.

Our Summer Pot-luck Tradition, with New Traditions

For nearly 10 years, we've held a pot-luck Shabbat service at dinner--usually at a congregant's home. This year, we'll do it at everyone's home!

When: Friday, July 10, 2020, 6:30 pm

What: Kiddush, motzi, and group conversations

Where: Zoom information to be provided to those who register

How:

- Dina Baker will bake a mini hallah roll for each participating household; they will be doorstep-delivered to your home
- As always, you'll bring a dish--but instead of sharing, it's your dinner
- We will begin with kiddush, motzi and a little schmoozing, then virtually be divided into groups to eat together while making conversation around suggested topics
- We'll come back together for reflection and further schmoozing until we're all schmoozed-out

RSVP: **Pre-registration is required for this event**, to allow proper planning for the hallah delivery and group conversations. To register, email Andrea Baron at office@TBIwaltham.org to say you will attend. **DEADLINE: MONDAY, JUNE 29.**



Temple Beth Israel

Rabbi: David Finkelstein
Phone: 781-786-8679
Email: rabbidavid@tbiwaltham.org
Office Hours: Tuesdays
 1:00 –2:00 pm on ZOOM
 and by appointment

Officers

President: Mark Frydenberg
Vice President: Dina Baker
Secretary: Susan Baron
Treasurer / Finance: George Isaac
Membership: Ramila Maystrovsky

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Social Justice: Linda Ungerleider
At Large: Julie Gagnon
 Zachary Roe
 Bruce Trager

Special Interests

Inclusion: Howard Trachtman
Brotherhood: Paul Smith

Stay in Touch

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Mark's Remarks- We are Never Reopening

By: Mark Frydenberg

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Instead of Friday night services in person, now we gather on Zoom before Shabbat to sing a few songs and share *tov m'ods* from our week – finding the good even during a pandemic. On Shabbat mornings, most participants arrive when we start at 10:30 am. Our service may not be as complete as when we were in our building, but we have added opportunities for different ways to participate, as we pray with and learn from one another.

We never closed our office, cancelled our board meetings or our committee meetings. Our annual congregational meeting on Sunday June 7, will still happen, although not in person. You can join on your computer or smart phone or dial in on your telephone.

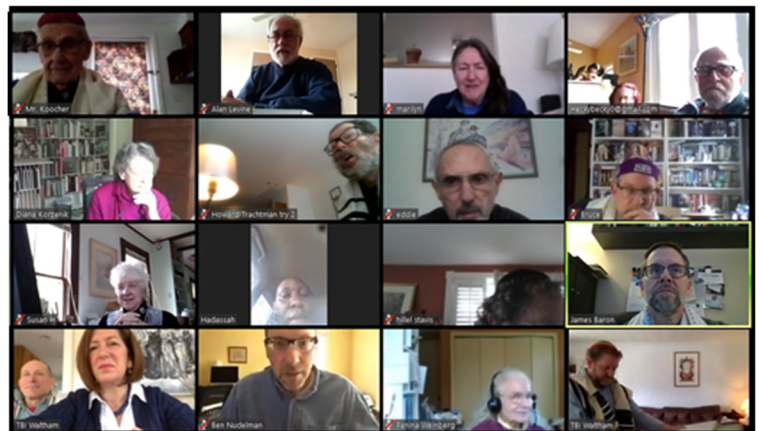
We increased opportunities for people to connect and share with each other, through events such as a community talent show during Passover, and a series of community conversations on taking care of yourself and others during a pandemic led by Jessica Benjamin.

Our chesed and social action committees attempted to call every member of TBI at least once or twice to find out how you are doing, if you need anything, offering rides and shopping services, and sometimes delivering herbs from the TBI gardens to those who are not able to get out. Rabbi David's office hours were open for members to connect by Zoom or by phone.

Throughout Jewish history, our people have asked the question "How can Judaism survive without a Temple for prayer and

bringing the community together." Each of us connects with Temple Beth Israel through different activities – such as prayer and study, social justice and chesed/caring – and while we would like to be together in person, we have shown that we can continue without our building for a while.

The board of directors is monitoring recommendations from the CDC, local and state officials, and guidance from local Jewish organizations such as Synagogue Council of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis as we put together a plan for how we will conduct services and events when it is safe to meet in our building. With your support and patience, we will continue to stay open – to new experiences in prayer and learning, new opportunities to stay connected, and new ways to support each other.



Rabbi David's Open Zoom Hour

Tuesday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 pm

[Click Here to Join online](#)

Join by phone:

Dial +1 301 715 8592

Or visit zoom.us in your web browser.

Enter the Meeting ID: 811-0356-9244

Password: 157389



Zoom with Us!

June 2020

We are now meeting by computer and by phone, instead of in person.

To join by phone--no computer needed: Dial (301)-715-8592. You will hear a prompt to enter a meeting ID. Enter the meeting ID, followed by #. In the listing of events below, we show the meeting ID for each event.

To join by computer or mobile device, visit zoom.us in a web browser, click *Join a Meeting*, and enter the meeting ID and password for the event (or click the direct link to the event posted on our website or in our weekly email update). **The current list of events appears below.**

	June Shabbat Services Online	Meeting ID
Fridays, June 5, 12, 19, 26	5:30 pm Shabbat Shalom A little singing, a little Torah, a little checking in before Shabbat.	860-9408-8277
Saturdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27	10:30 am Shabbat Morning Together An abbreviated morning service, D'var Torah and discussion, and Mourner's Kaddish. Kiddush, Motzi, and stay on for conversation over lunch. Texts will be provided on screen, or stop by TBI to pick up a Siddur Sim Shalom from a bin on the front porch during the week.	898-2996-2372
Conversation		
Wednesdays, June 10, 24	7:00 pm Activities During the Pandemic Facilitated by Jessica Benjamin 06/10 Topic: Comfort Binge Watching What have you been binge watching on TV or online that you've enjoyed and has made you feel good? Please come prepared to describe one or several shows, movie, etc. that you liked. Major extra credit for coming dressed as a character from the show, impersonations, etc. 06/24: Topic to be Announced Please stay reasonably on topic and avoid politics.	878-2243-5418 pw: 776489
Annual Membership Online Meeting		
Sunday, June 7	10:00 am - The agenda will include reports from the officers, rabbi, and office manager; committee and other updates; election of officers, and member recognition and volunteer appreciation. We will review results of the synagogue's membership survey regarding our operations since the COVID 19 outbreak, and issues related to gathering again in person.	879-1495-8399
Rabbi's Discussion Groups		
Tuesdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	1:00pm - 2:00pm Rabbi David's Open Zoom Hour	811-0356-9244 pw: 157389
Wednesdays, June 3, 17	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm General Discussion / Check In	842-0004-0317 pw: 177067



June / July Yahrzeits

Barnett Messer	Sivan 09	1-Jun	Elizabeth Barack	Tamuz 04	26-Jun	Harry Baker	Tamuz 08	30-Jun
Zisl ben Nisn Shoteur	Sivan 09	1-Jun	James Cohn	Tamuz 04	26-Jun	Michael G. Macklin	Tamuz 08	30-Jun
Irving Braitman	Sivan 09	1-Jun	Louis Rouffe	Tamuz 04	26-Jun	Sumner Ginsburg	Tamuz 08	30-Jun
Samuel Bloom	Sivan 10	2-Jun	Ephraim Burofsky	Tamuz 05	27-Jun	Rubin Mallick	Tamuz 09	1-Jul
Grete Araten	Sivan 10	2-Jun	Benjamin Kaitz	Tamuz 05	27-Jun	Jack Bloom	Tamuz 09	1-Jul
Jacob Pernakoff	Sivan 11	3-Jun	Bernard Wolf	Tamuz 06	28-Jun	Harry Marion	Tamuz 09	1-Jul
Minnie Zeramby	Sivan 12	4-Jun	Milton Rothman	Tamuz 06	28-Jun	Manuel Greenblott	Tamuz 09	1-Jul
Abraham Josephson	Sivan 12	4-Jun	Russell S. Macklin	Tamuz 07	29-Jun	Alex Greenbaum	Tamuz 10	2-Jul
Nanette Gordon	Sivan 12	4-Jun	Louis Kaswell	Tamuz 07	29-Jun	Manuel Shlager	Tamuz 10	2-Jul
Max Backer	Sivan 13	5-Jun	Joseph Norman	Tamuz 07	29-Jun	Manehan Snyder	Tamuz 11	3-Jul
Barnard Wolf	Sivan 13	5-Jun						
Irving Forbes	Sivan 14	6-Jun						
Abraham Harris	Sivan 14	6-Jun						
Louis Zuckerman	Sivan 14	6-Jun						
Ida Ullman	Sivan 15	7-Jun						
Rebecca Cohen	Sivan 15	7-Jun						
Irene Zieff	Sivan 15	7-Jun						
Steven Siegel	Sivan 16	8-Jun						
Lillian Goldstein	Sivan 16	8-Jun						
Lillian Levine	Sivan 17	9-Jun						
Miriam Beecher	Sivan 18	10-Jun						
Frieda Simmons	Sivan 19	11-Jun						
Anna Goldstein	Sivan 20	12-Jun						
Louis Sulkin	Sivan 20	12-Jun						
Abigail Cotton	Sivan 20	12-Jun						
Harry Klein	Sivan 20	12-Jun						
Ethel Cohen	Sivan 21	13-Jun						
Samuel S. Stoeger	Sivan 21	13-Jun						
George Mikelbank	Sivan 23	15-Jun						
Sarah Greenblott	Sivan 23	15-Jun						
Jennie Shapiro	Sivan 24	16-Jun						
Jacob Ginsburg	Sivan 24	16-Jun						
Samuel L. Webb	Sivan 25	17-Jun						
Anna Wolk	Sivan 27	19-Jun						
Harold Resnick	Sivan 27	19-Jun						
Nathan Freedman	Sivan 28	20-Jun						
Dora Rouffe	Sivan 28	20-Jun						
Samuel Chorney	Sivan 28	20-Jun						
Samuel Kaitz	Sivan 30	22-Jun						
Herbert Phillip Dane	Sivan 30	22-Jun						
Gertrude Riseberg	Sivan 30	22-Jun						
Hyman Benjaminson	Sivan 30	22-Jun						
Irma Salus	Tamuz 01	23-Jun						
Barbara Griff Kappitt	Tamuz 02	24-Jun						
Elizabeth Berman	Tamuz 03	25-Jun						
Max Wolk	Tamuz 03	25-Jun						

We wish a long life to our members who are observing a Yahrzeit in the coming weeks.

If you would like assistance to arrange a *virtual minyan* so that you may say kaddish for your loved ones, please contact the Temple office at least one week in advance.

- ◆ June 1 - Carol Master, in memory of her Grandmother Zisl
- ◆ June 1 - Robert Braitman, in memory of his father, Irving Braitman
- ◆ June 2 - Marilyn Racette, in memory of her grandmother, Grete Araten
- ◆ June 4 - Bonnie Gordon, in memory of her mother, Nanette Gordon
- ◆ June 5 - Myron Wolf, in memory of his father, Barnard Wolf
- ◆ June 6 - Ellen Macklin, in memory of Louis Zuckerman
- ◆ June 7 - Miriam Chernoff, in memory of her grandmother, Ida Ullman
- ◆ June 7 - Steven Zieff, in memory of his mother, Irene Zieff
- ◆ June 8 - Barbara Camann, in memory of Steven Siegel
- ◆ June 9 - Alan Levine, in memory of his mother, Lillian Levine
- ◆ June 15 - Joan Taubman, in memory of her father, George Mikelbank
- ◆ June 20 - David Freedman, in memory of his father, Nathan Freedman
- ◆ June 20 - The Lesnicks, in memory of Samuel Chorney
- ◆ June 28 - Harry Wolf, in memory of his father, Bernard Wolf
- ◆ June 28 - Amy Rothman, in memory of her father, Milton Rothman
- ◆ June 29 - Lester and Ellen Macklin, in memory of their son, Russell Scott Macklin
- ◆ June 30 - Eleanor Baker, in memory of her father, Harry Baker
- ◆ June 30 - Lester and Ellen Macklin, in memory of their grandson, Michael George Macklin
- ◆ July 1 - Irving Malick, in memory of his father, Rubin Malick
- ◆ July 1 - Arthur Marion, in memory of his father, Harry Marion
- ◆ July 2 - Ben Nudelman, in memory of his Stepfather, Alex Greenbaum
- ◆ July 3 - Carol Halberstadt, in memory of her mother, Esther Giko bat Hannah v'Yitzhak

Social Justice Committee

The Social Justice Committee continues to support our partner agencies through your generous donations. The Community Day Center or CDC serves 45 bagged lunches to their clients each weekday. Please continue donating individual bags of snacks and bottles of water, handheld pieces of fruit, individually wrapped desserts (homemade or store bought), as well as, packages of napkins. Your donations can be dropped off at 16 Felton Street in Waltham by calling 781-392-6311 to arrange a convenient time. Financial donations are also greatly welcomed.

A **todah rabah** to Joan Friedman for supplying much needed and greatly appreciated handmade masks.

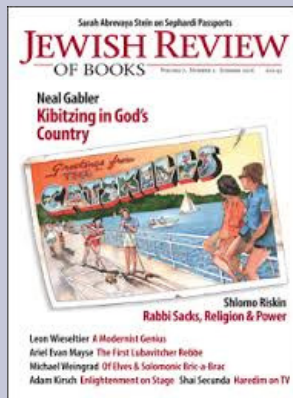
More Than Words or MMTW continues to collect books near their front door at 56 Felton Street. Also, shop for that book you are wanting to read by going to their website <https://mtwyouth.webstoreplace.com/>. MTW has a large web presence on eBay and Amazon and their work supports low income students in developing work related skills.

Linda Ungerleider

TBI Bookshelf by Marilyn Racette

As I write this, we are still dealing with the restrictions of COVID-19, and the temple library is not available for book borrowing. I hope that will change in the near future. Last month I mentioned several ways that anyone can borrow books from their local public libraries.

This month I'd like to tell you about two other digital resources that go beyond using your favorite search engine to look up 'Jewish Books'. The Jewish Book Council maintains a website (www.jewishbookcouncil.com) that you can search for reading lists, ideas for starting a book club, reviews and essays. The Jewish Review of Books (jewishreviewofbooks.com) is another resource that offers reviews and essays on recent books, and their website also gives access to past issues.



Opening Our Synagogues

by Susan G. Baron

Several TBI board members attended a webinar on opening our synagogues sponsored by the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts on Tuesday, May 26. Four public health officials, all active in the Jewish community and synagogue life, participated: Ethan Maskoop, MPH, RS, Adjunct Clinical Instructor of Environmental Health, BU School of Public Health; Bruce Weinstock, MD, MPH, Chief of Pediatrics, Norwood Hospital; and Wendy Heiger-Bernays, PhD, Clinical Professor of Environmental Health, BU School of Public Health. They focused on known and unknown health risks, state and other guidance and strategies to decrease risk.

Dr. Weinstock said that the virus is most often passed by people one day before they show symptoms or if they are asymptomatic. The disease may be spread by people not showing symptoms. Even taking temperature has limitations.

He reviewed at risk population characteristics: People over 60 to 65, those with underlying conditions. He made the point that at this time, there is *No vaccine, No treatment, No known immunity, Antibody testing not yet reliable*. Many of our members fall into this age group.

Risks of exposure include (for people) getting sick with virus, death, and (for the temple) legal liability. He advised synagogues to open after other organizations open. This will allow synagogues to see other organizations' experiences.

Wendy Heiger-Bernays, a public health expert, then reviewed how to decrease exposure. Exposure to virus is a function of the number of people gathering, distance between them, and the time together. An enclosed space will be riskier than being outside. If you have more people being closer to each other over a longer time period you have increasing risk. Adequate building ventilation is important. Singing is a high risk activity, along with sneezing, in spreading the virus. People in closed spaces (inside) even with distancing, will be at risk.

Ethan Mascoop, the other BU Health Services teacher, reviewed the MA guidelines given by Gov. Charlie Baker's administration. You can read these at <https://www.synagoguecouncil.org/>. Also, Ethan said we need to plan for a range of possibilities.

When will we know if we can have normal High Holiday Services?

Dr. Slutzman, said: "According to Dr. Fauci – Likelihood that we can be with large numbers together in one space by Rosh Hashanah this year entirely depends on the ability of the government to have reliable testing with good contact

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Thank You

Donations

- Thelma Kennen, in memory of Fannie Kennen
- Tamara Jasper, for allowing her daughter, Suella Seelig to daven at TBI
- Paul Smith

Condolences

- To Celia Shneider on the loss of her son from Ed Brown
- To the Shirazi Family on the loss of Baba Shirazi from Ed Brown
- To Bruce Trager on the loss of his mother Mary Trager from:
 - Ed Brown
 - Esther Keaney
 - Linda Stanton

Opening our Synagogues

Continued from page 6)

tracing and isolation plans and community virus to be relatively low. It is highly unlikely we will know by mid-July if the government can or cannot accomplish this by Rosh Hashanah in mid-September. We will probably know by mid-August. "

- One of the "bottom lines" that they were getting to is that right now, we do not have enough information to gather in synagogues. We are all concerned about the High Holy Days. Synagogue Council might have better information with which to make a decision in August, but not now. Adequate testing is not available, so we don't know who may be able to pass this virus, and reliable contact tracing is not yet in place.

Synagogue Council's Recommendations:

- Create an advisory committee
- Transparent, frequent communication with congregation
- Perform Record Keeping (who attends, maintenance of interventions)

Temple Beth Israel must consider the Governor's guidelines (available at <https://www.mass.gov/lists/safety-standards-for-places-of-worship>) along with building considerations (operation of our HVAC system, capacity), membership risk, and liability issues before gathering in person at the synagogue again.

Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park

The cost for an individual grave in Temple Beth Israel Memorial Park for members is \$2,200. The cost for non-members is \$2,800, which includes one year of membership (\$600). Graves in the Kulanu interfaith section are sold in lots of two, at a total cost of \$4,400 for members. The cost for non-members is \$7,600 for a lot of two, which includes one year of family membership (\$1,200). Please contact **Jay Trilling** of Menorah Cemetery Management Corporation, at (857) 636-9440 for further information. —Jim Baron, Cemetery Committee Chair

Temple Beth Israel Donation Form

For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations and send to: Temple Beth Israel, 25 Harvard Street, Waltham, MA 02453. You may also donate online at <http://tbiwaltham.org/donate>. The minimum donation amount is \$10. Please add additional information on another sheet.

Attached is my donation check in the amount of \$ _____ Please allocate it to the following funds.

General Fund Event Participation Fund Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
 Goldstein Prayerbook Fund Morris Hollender Torah Fund Children's Services
 Education Fund

This donation is being made in honor of in memory of _____.

This donation is made by:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip _____

Please send acknowledgment to:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip _____



Temple Beth Israel

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Mark Your Calendar! June Highlights

Shabbat	Friday Nights at 5:30 pm (June 5, 12, 19, 26) Saturday Mornings at 10:30 am (June 6, 13, 20, 26)
7	Temple Annual Meeting - 10:00am Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87914958399 Meeting ID: 879 1495 8399
10, 24	Activities During the Pandemic Discussions at 7:00 pm Facilitated by TBI member, Jessica Benjamin

Online Services and Study Opportunities

See page 4 for the many online services and study opportunities scheduled during the month of April.
Visit <http://tbiwaltham.org/virtual-tbi> for the most up-to-date information.

