

# Sim Shalom

Av-Elul 5774  
August-September 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, HARLINGEN TEXAS

1702 E. Jackson  
P.O. Box 3398  
Harlingen, TX 78551  
(956) 423-2928  
www.harlingentemple.com

Rabbi Frank Joseph  
1832 Cooper Dr.  
Irving TX 75061  
214-293-6515  
frank@  
rabbifrankjoseph.org

## TRUSTEES

Abby Warshowsky,  
President  
956-412-3520  
956-536-0705 cell  
gonsky@sbcglobal.net

Richard Newman,  
Vice President  
718-419-6202  
rocknewman@gmail.com

Bert Wolf,  
Treasurer  
956-535-6629  
bertwolf3@gmail.com

Anne Weiss,  
Secretary  
956-433-6318 (cell)  
aweiss44@yahoo.com

Susan Ander,  
454-4647  
sbethmark@aol.com

Alma Russek  
956-970-7722  
AlmaFRussek3@aol.com

Joel Smith  
956-534-8883  
jpsm31@sbcglobal.net

Rollins Koppel,  
Trustee Emeritus  
956-428-1789  
rkoppel@rkoppel.com

## Island Havdalah

Next Saturday, August 23, Temple Beth Israel will hold its annual Shabbat event on South Padre Island. There will be a talk and Island Havdalah service on Saturday evening at 7:30 pm at the Ramada Limited at 4109 Padre Blvd (the Weiss's motel). Rabbi Joseph will give a talk on The Dead Sea Scrolls followed by Havdalah service and supper. The Weisses and Russeks are providing a chicken meal. And we are asking people to contribute drinks, salads, desserts, and fruit - no dairy items please.

On Sunday morning, Rabbi Joseph will continue

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



## HIGH HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE

Page 4



## ISAIAH NEWMAN

### Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, September 13

**M**y name is Isaiah Newman and I go to school at IDEA College Prep- San Benito. I've been studying for my Bar Mitzvah for 2 years. It's been a challenging journey for me to study for 2 short years. It's also hard to read in Hebrew, when I just started to learn Hebrew 2 years ago. However, I went through those years and here I am today about to read my portion from the Torah. I would not have done it without my Rabbi, Frank Joseph, my Hebrew Teacher, Fernando Russek, and my parents. I also received some help from Ms. Avital from Camp Young Judaea. My Torah portion is Ki' Tavo, which is about tithing and giving to the needy. During my years, I've tried to carry out this concept into my life to help others. For example, I have helped my Jewish community cleaning the Temple, volunteering at library programs for children, and delivering free Turkeys with J-Teens for Thanksgiving. I feel proud that I have helped other people out and have learned through this service the meaning of Tik-kun Olam. I will be having a service and celebrating my Bar Mitzvah on Friday, September 12 and Saturday, September 13. I hope to see you at my Bar Mitzvah! — *Isaiah*

# Calendar

## AUGUST

22-24 *Rabbi in town*

22 **7:30 p.m.** Shabbat service  
*Confirmation of Melanie Goldstein*

23 **9 a.m.** Shabbat service, with Torah discussion and breakfast to follow  
**7:30 p.m.** Island Havdalah, with a talk by Rabbi Joseph on the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Aleppo Codex. Plan for a pot luck supper.

## SEPTEMBER

12-14 *Rabbi in town*

12 **7:30 p.m.** Shabbat service  
*Bar Mitzvah of Isaiah Newman*

13 **9:30 a.m.** Shabbat service  
*Bar Mitzvah of Isaiah Newman*

14 Religion School Registration/  
first day of classes

## HIGH HOLY DAYS

### SEPTEMBER

24-26 *Rabbi in town*

24 Erev Rosh Hashanah services

25-26 Rosh Hashanah services

26 Shabbat Shuva service

### OCTOBER

3-4 *Rabbi in town*

3 Kol Nidre service

4 Yom Kippur morning  
/Afternoon Services,  
and break fast

## SUKKOT/SIMHAT TORAH

### OCTOBER

5 Sukkoh Building Day

9-15 Sukkot

16 Shmini Atseret

17 Simhat Torah  
*Consecration Ceremony*

## NOVEMBER

14-16 *Rabbi in town*

15 Movie Night

## DECEMBER

19-21 *Rabbi in town*

16 Erev Chanukah, first candle

17-24 Chanukah

19 Shabbat Chanukah Service-

## NEWS

■ **NOTE:** Due to scheduling conflicts, the Confirmation Class trip to the Holocaust Museum in Houston has been postponed until the Spring.

■ **CONFIRMATION OF MELANIE GOLDSTEIN:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22. Please join the Goldstein family in celebrating the confirmation of their daughter Melanie! Mazel tov to the Goldstein family!

■ **MAZEL TOV TO TAMMY SPINK:** A ceremony welcoming Tammy Spink to the Jewish faith will be held during Shabbat services, Friday, Aug. 22.

■ **\$100 HEB AND WALMART FUNDRAISER GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE:** Help the Temple at no cost to you! Contact Alma Russek (972) 970-7722

■ **MISSING TABLECLOTH:** There is still one white tablecloth missing from the Temple. Please check your linen closets.

■ **RATES FOR MEMORIAL PLAQUES:** Our rate for a memorial plaque on our memorial wall is \$350. Or you can buy two for \$600. Please contact Bert Wolf, or any board member to purchase a memorial plaque.

■ **HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION** with an engraved plaque on a Pew. The cost is \$1250. See Bert Wolf or any board member to make arrangements.



It is with great joy that we invite you

To join us as our son,

*Isaiah Emmanuel  
Newman*

Will be called to the Torah for the occasion of his

### Bar Mitzvah

Shabbat Parshat Ki Tavo

Saturday, September 13, 2014

### Temple Beth Israel

1702 East Jackson Street

Harlingen, Texas

Morning Services at 9:30am

We will feel honored by your presence,

In the religious ceremony. Kiddush Luncheon to follow.



— Rich and Christine Newman



## ISLAND HAVDALAH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

his talk of Saturday evening. If you want to stay at the Ramada on Saturday night, please make a reservation at 761-4097. The Weisses have arranged special rates for our group - \$59 for one king bed, or \$69 for two queen beds. There is a complimentary breakfast in the morning at the motel. Anne Weiss advises that there are not many rooms left, so please call today.

Come and enjoy,  
*Laurel Steinberg*

PS: There will be a large concert scheduled Saturday evening on the Island that will bring lots of traffic. It's possible the bridge will be backed at some point. Please allow plenty of time for your drive.

## Oneg Shabbat

Each member household is asked to host one Shabbat oneg during the year. Remember hosting now involves setting up, cleaning up, and providing challah, Kosher wine, grape juice, paper/plastic goods, coffee and drinks. You can bring other treats you like, but the congregation will share the responsibility of bringing snacks and desserts. If you cannot be a host on the date assigned, please call Laurel Steinberg at 550-9530.

### ONEG HOSTS

August 22: Goldstein, Moskal

Sept 12: Newman, Warshowsky, Warshowsky

Sept 24: Erev Rosh Hashanah: Board of Directors

## Celebrations

### BIRTHDAYS

8/1 Rachel Russek  
8/2 Kathy Koppel Noriega  
8/5 Paul Shirazi  
8/8 Harold Fisch  
8/8 Nathan Fisch  
8/10 Rollie Koppel  
8/10 Marina Wise-Herring  
8/12 Rory Minck  
8/12 Abby Warshowsky  
8/20 Stan Fisch  
8/25 Joseph Newman  
8/30 Braulio Natanael Gaytan  
8/30 Elizabeth Goldstein  
8/31 Tonatiah Gonzalez  
9/4 Christine Newman  
9/7 Isaiah Newman  
9/14 Mary Warshowsky  
9/20 Ronald Banks  
10/1 Dyan Banks  
10/1 Lewis Levine  
10/2 Sheila Greenfeld  
10/7 Kendra Newman  
10/9 Richard Newman  
10/12 Brittany Stewart  
10/16 Yafah Tziporah Russek

10/23 Olga Quintero  
10/25 Roman Newman  
10/28 Quentin Keyes  
11/06 Moniel Feuerman Powell  
1/6 Susie Weisberg  
11/8 Laurie Anne Jacobson  
11/11 Luis Gonzalez  
11/12 Jacquelyn Stewart  
11/13 Benjamin M. Yudesis  
11/14 Monica Stewart Weisberg

### ANNIVERSARIES

8/14 Gilbert & Susy Weisberg  
8/19 Luis Gonzalez  
& Abby Warshowsky  
8/22 Bert & Jamie Wolf  
8/25 Rabbi Frank & Laurie Joseph  
10/1 Dan & Renata Simha  
Sobelman  
11/7 Gerald & Shirley Sondock  
11/17 Jan Cassidy & Joel Smith  
11/20 David & Elizabeth Goldstein  
12/16 Fernando & Alma Russek

*Did we miss you?*

*Please send birthdays & anniversaries to laurie.b.joseph@gmail.com.*

## Thank You

### DONATIONS

#### SHABBAT BREAKFAST FUND

**Alma and Fernando Russek Jr., In Loving Memory of Marvin Sondock**

**Alma and Fernando Russek Jr., In Memory of Ruben Edelstein**

**Alma and Fernando Russek Jr., In Honor Rabbi Frank Joseph's Birthday**

**Alma and Fernando Russek Jr., In Honor Rollie Koppel's 85th Birthday**

#### GENERAL FUND

**Lois A Day, In Memory of Marvin Sondock**

**Stan & Nivia Fisch, In Memory of Marvin Sondock**

**Gerald & Shirley Sondock, In Memory of Marvin Sondock**

**Quentin Keyes**

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND

**Stan & Nivia Fisch, In Memory of Ruben Edelstein**

**Tamarah S. Spink**

# HIGH HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE

If you would like an honor in the Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur service, contact Fernando at 970-4005. Times and dates of the holiday services are:

- Erev Rosh Hashanah: Wednesday, Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.
- Rosh Hashanah (first day), Thursday, Sept. 25, 10 a.m.; Children's Service 11 a.m., Tashlich after services
- Rosh Hashanah (second day), Friday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m.
- Shabbat Shuva service Friday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m.
- Kol Nidre, Friday, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.
- Yom Kippur, Saturday, Oct. 4, Morning Service 10 a.m., Afternoon Service 3 p.m., Yizkor Service 4:30 or 5 p.m., Break Fast 6:30 or 7 p.m.

## YIZKOR DONATIONS

As in the past, we will read names of our departed family members and loved ones during the yizkor service on Yom Kippur. Please send the names of your family members to the Temple's P.O.Box 3398, Harlingen, Tx 78551, along with a donation of \$5 or more for each name (checks made out to Temple Beth Israel). We would also appreciate if you could list the relationship and the month or date of passing for each person for our temple records. Please send by September 9.

## Jews in the News

### LAUREN BACALL, I LOVE YOU

*And after years not caring about such things, I loved learning you were Jewish*

By Allan Appel (JTA)

When I was growing up in the 1950s, I knew all the movie stars who were Jewish but just somehow weren't showing it in their names. Maybe that was because my family lived in L.A., home of the movies and a Jewish community absolutely catapulting itself into stellar new realms of achievement.

But it wasn't the Jewish scientists or violinists or businessmen I was most aware of. It was the movie stars, and those who had changed their names, who most fascinated my mother, Pearl.

I don't mean Eddie Cantor and Jack Benny and folks like that where it's obvious. I'm talking about Tony Curtis (Bernie Schwartz) and Kirk Douglas—get ready for this one: Kirk Douglas was born Issur Danielovitch—and so forth.

This crucial cultural knowledge was imparted to me by my mom. We would look at the movie ads together, and if Kirk Douglas was starring in, say, *The Indian Fighter*, a film I craved to see, she would somehow find an opening to let me know Kirk or the other Jewish stars' long Yiddish or Polish or decidedly foreign-sounding

birth names.

I'm not sure why.

Even at this far remove I can't be sure if it was to send me some kind of message of Jewish pride. Or of how great America and L.A. were—mom was an undocumented immigrant from Canada in the 1920s, having been brought over to Toronto as a baby from near Kiev. I suppose that would make her, in our new lingo, a kind of Yiddish-speaking Dreamer.

But she wasn't, I don't think, giving me a message about pursuing the American dream, nor, the obverse: She wasn't saying to me, a little 12-year-old, wherever you go in life, please don't change your name like these guys did.

I don't think Pearl ever let on that she thought there was anything at all wrong with a Jewish-born movie star changing his name, or letting the agent or the studio head do it. At no point did she seem to suggest that you compromise your Jewish identity when you accept such a trade-off.

We never discussed the issue, but I came away from my mother's fascination with Jewish celebrity monikers with a kind of style of thinking that I don't believe she

would have approved of.

Namely, ever since those lessons I have gone out of my way not to want to know who's Jewish in the movies or in science or in any field of human endeavor. That is, I have studiously resisted the urge to ask the "Is he (or she) Jewish?" question in encounters both in person and on the page.

So it's come to me as a tremendous surprise to learn Lauren Bacall, late of blessed memory, was among The Chosen.

Thanks to Mother Appel I hadn't a clue—that Bacall was nee' Betty Joe Perske, daughter of Natalie Weinstein, and most definitely a child of the great Jewish Bronx.

Well, I must say that all the 'is he or isn't he' I had been repressing for decades has come rushing back in a way that is as pleasant as it is surprising.

Call it a pent-up tribal pride that my 1960s-era identity-politics-hating sensibilities have not permitted to ooze out, but there you have it.

*Allan Appel is a novelist, poet, and playwright whose books include Club Revelation, High Holiday Sutra, and The Rabbi of Casino Boulevard.*



# Temple Beth Israel 2014-2015 Calendar

## AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

## MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## SEPTEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

## DECEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31					

## MARCH

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## JUNE

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

## OCTOBER

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

## JANUARY 2015

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30
31		

## APRIL

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

## JULY

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	

## AUGUST

22 National/school holidays  
23 Jewish holiday/festival

## SEPTEMBER

5-7 Religion School in session  
12-13 Rabbi Joseph in attendance  
14 Additional 7:30 p.m. service  
24-26 Shabbat services

## OCTOBER

3 School day schedule  
4 10-10:45 services  
5 10:45-12:15 classtime  
9-15 12:15-1:00 lunch  
16 1:00-1:45 Hebrew class  
17

## NOVEMBER

15 Movie Night

## DECEMBER

16 Erev Chanukah, first candle  
17-24 Chanukah  
19 Shabbat Chanukah Service

## JANUARY

16 Early services/Potluck Dinner  
24 First Annual Temple Beth Israel Game Night

## FEBRUARY

4 Tu B'Shvat  
8 Tu B'Shevat outing  
21 Movie Night

## MARCH

4 Purim Party, Megillah reading  
5 Purim  
22 Annual Congregational Meeting

## APRIL

3 Temple Clean Up and Work Day  
4-11 Temple Community Seder, Erev Passover  
16 Passover  
22 Yom HaShoah  
23 Yom HaZikaron  
23 Yom HaAtzma'ut, Israel Independence Day

## MAY

7 Lag B'Omer  
22 Confirmation Service  
23 Erev Shavuot, Services  
24-25 Shavuot  
24 Last day religion school

## JUNE

26 Tisha B'Av

## JULY

26

National/school holidays  
 Jewish holiday/festival  
 Religion School in session  
 Rabbi Joseph in attendance  
 Additional 7:30 p.m. service  
 Shabbat services  
 7:30 p.m. Fri./9 a.m. Sat.

**School day schedule**  
 10-10:45 services  
 10:45-12:15 classtime  
 12:15-1:00 lunch  
 1:00-1:45 Hebrew class