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IN MEMORIAM



## High Holidays schedule, Page 2

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to another year!!! Shana Tova!!! Happy (New) Year 5779 ! We made it through another year, and I sincerely hope we are all sealed in the Book of Life for the year to come.

Please make sure to join us in the High Holy Day services of both Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. However, be aware that the month of September will be chock-full of activities at the synagogue and hopefully at your homes as well. Please go to the main page of our website to see a listing of all activities.

Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah are practically around the corner, so don't forget to catch up on your Parsha readings if you are behind.

Sukkot is coming, remember the Mitzvah to build your own Sukkah. I would very much like to add a gallery page on the website with a slideshow of pictures of member sukkahs that you would send me. It should be fun to see a collection of sukkahs (sukkot) on the page. The more, the better!

As the year comes to a close, please also remember to close the year on a good note by paying your yearly dues. If you need to begin a payment plan to cover the expense, please contact Alma and she will be happy to accommodate you.

Shanah Tova u'Metuka Lekulam!!!!

— Richard Fourzan

# Calendar

## SEPTEMBER

- 7-11 *Rabbi in town*  
 7 Shabbat service, 7:30  
 8 Shabbat service, 9 a.m. with breakfast and discussion following

SEE SCHEDULE ON PAGE 3  
 FOR HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES AND TIMES

- 9 Erev Rosh Hashanah services  
 10-11 Rosh Hashanah services  
 14 Shabbat Shuvah  
 18-19 *Rabbi in town*  
 18 Kol Nidre service  
 19 Yom Kippur morning/afternoon Services, and break fast  
 23 Sukkoh Decorating Day  
 24-30 Sukkot  
 28 Pot luck dinner in sukkah

## OCTOBER

- 1 Shmini Atseret, Erev Simhat Torah  
 2 Simhat Torah/Consecration Ceremony  
 14 Board Meeting

# 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 HOST FAMILIES

- September 7:** Russek Family, Giselle Ramos  
**September 9, erev Rosh Hashanah:** Richard Fourzan, Russek Family, Silguero Family, Berg Family, Newman Family, Landsman-Gaytan Family  
**October 19:** Richard Fourzan  
**November 9:** Sheila Greenfeld, Bert & Tori Keyes  
**December 7:** Silguero Family, Barrios Family  
**January 25, early service with pot-luck Shabbat dinner:** Laurel S coordinator  
**February 22:** Richard Fourzan

# High Holiday Schedule

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

- Erev Rosh Hashanah: Sunday, Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m.
- Rosh Hashanah (first day), Monday, Sept. 10, 10 a.m.; Children's Service 11 a.m.; Tashlich after services
- Rosh Hashanah (second day), Tuesday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m.
- Shabbat Shuvah service Friday, Sept. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; Shabbat Service, Saturday, Sept. 15, 9:00 a.m.
- Kol Nidre, Tuesday, Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Yom Kippur, Wednesday, Sept. 19, Morning Service 10 a.m.; Afternoon Service 3:30 p.m.; Yizkor Service about 5 p.m.; Break-fast about 7:30 p.m.

# Yahrzeits

*We ask that you consider a \$5 donation per name to the Temple's general fund to have your family names read at the memorial service on Yom Kippur.*

## NEWS AND NOTES

- MAZEL TOV to the Steinberg-Berg family on the wedding of Jonathan Berg to Elle Eccles on August 4 in London. Bill and Laurel and we all wish them mazal tov and a long and happy life together.
- CONDOLENCES to the family of Herschel Zinn, who passed away in August. May his memory be a blessing.
- CONDOLENCES to the family of Paul Shirazi, who passed away in August. May his memory be a blessing.
- CONDOLENCES to Isabel Mercado, whose mother, Dolores Sandoval Vargas, passed away at the age of 98 on July 1. She was born in Mercedes, Texas and was part of the Martinez family who owned several businesses. She and her husband, Luis Vargas, were some of the original pioneers of the City of Weslaco and lived there all their lives. May her memory be a blessing.
- CONDOLENCES to the family and friends of Joel Smith, who passed away in June in Pennsylvania. May his memory be a blessing.

# Celebrations

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/7 Gerald & Shirley Sondock  
 11/20 David & Elizabeth Goldstein  
 12/16 Fernando & Alma Russek

## BIRTHDAYS

- 8/1 Rachel Russek  
 8/8 Harold Fisch  
 8/8 Nathan Fisch  
 8/10 Marina Wise-Herring  
 8/12 Rory Minck  
 8/12 Abby Warshowsky  
 8/20 Stan Fisch  
 8/25 Isaac Newman  
 8/30 Braulio Natanael Gaytan  
 8/30 Elizabeth Goldstein  
 8/31 Tonatiuh Gonzalez  
 9/4 Christine Newman  
 9/7 Isaiah Newman  
 9/14 Mary Warshowsky  
 9/20 Ronald Banks  
 10/1 Dyan Banks  
 10/1 Samuel Barrios  
 10/2 Sheila Greenfeld  
 10/7 Kendra Newman  
 10/9 Richard Newman  
 10/12 Brittany Stewart James  
 10/16 Yafah Tziporah Russek  
 10/23 Olga Quintero  
 10/23 Richard Fourzan  
 10/25 Roman Newman  
 1/6 Susie Weisberg  
 11/11 Luis Gonzalez  
 11/12 Jacquelyn Stewart  
 11/13 Benjamin M. Yudesis  
 11/14 Monica Stewart Weisberg  
 11/18 Elizabeth Holzman  
 11/20 Deborah Shoshana Russek  
 11/27 Renata Sobelman  
 11/29 Ari Holzman  
 12/4 Ivan Shirazi  
 12/7 Liliana Cohen  
 12/10 Lori Suissa  
 12/17 David Goldstein  
 12/20 Jose Cohen  
 12/21 Jacquelyn Goldstein

## AT THE MOVIES: *BlacKkKlansman*



Adam Driver as Flip Zimmerman and John David Washington as Ron Stallworth in Spike Lee's *BlacKkKlansman*.

### By Bill Berg

On Thursday night Laurel and I saw *BlacKkKlansman*. There is a Jewish subplot involving a Jewish cop who never identified as Jewish, never had a Bar Mitzvah, and finds himself being accused of being a Jew by a rabidly anti-Semitic klansman.

I am recommending it strongly to my class. The subplot arises about one-third through movie. (The reaction to the subplot will hopefully be "hey, I'm Jewish too," rather than "he has a problem"). The identity issue is actually relevant to anyone who questions their Judaism.

The story of the movie takes place, I am guessing, in the late 1960's, probably 1969. The guess is because the character of Stokely Carmichael appears and gives a speech at the local Colorado Springs College. I had to check biographies of Carmichael online to learn that the screenplay writers played fast and loose with some facts. In Carmichael's speech, he quotes Hillel without attribution in a rabble-rousing finale to his speech. The confirmation class will study that quotation in some depth this fall.

The movie slows down in the middle, but don't leave because it picks up when the lady gets something for her handbag and is gripping to the end. There is an epilogue that hammers home the themes of the main story and the Jewish subplot.

The movie is rated R. There is no sex, no nudity, no gory violence. Shots are fired from guns hitting nobody. Guns are drawn. No blood. I think I heard the f- word and the s- word a few times. The R must be due to the racist and anti-Semitic slurs, but that may be expected from the title. There is a scene where Harry Belafonte, who plays an old Negro who witnessed a lynching, describes it to the Black Students group at the local college. But the scene cuts in and out with another scene of a KKK initiation so it is hard to focus on the description. There are also racist clips from D.W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation."



## FROM ISABEL MERCADO

If there are two people who truly complement each other, they are Rabbi Frank Joseph and Laurie Joseph. Rabbi Joseph is always available to answer any questions or concerns whether it is a question about the Torah or rituals. Laurie is his right hand who is also available to offer excellent advice. They have a strong commitment to Judaism, welcome everyone without hesitation, and make them feel at home in our synagogue. I was wondering what I could possibly do for two people who do so much for the Jewish community. I wanted to give them a gift to show them how much their guidance and friendship means to me. I was sitting in the pew while I was waiting for services and it suddenly occurred to me that the synagogue is the place where I came to know Rabbi Joseph and Laurie. A plaque for a pew would be a perpetual gift; it will be at the place where we gather with friends, laugh, socialize, and have a good time. The place where we have lively discussions about the Torah. The beautiful plaque will be a "thank you" to Rabbi Joseph and Laurie for your commitment to the Jewish community.



*We would like to thank Isabel for the lovely gift of a plaque in our honor! We are humbled to have this permanent mark on the temple we love so much.*

*— Regards, Rabbi Frank and Laurie Joseph*

## Thank You

### BUILDING FUND

Isabel Mercado In memory of Issac Kajomovitz's  
yahrzeit

### EDUCATIONAL FUND

Isabel Mercado In memory of Hena Woloski's yahrzeit

### RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Fernando & Alma  
Russek In memory of Paul Shirazi

### GENERAL FUND

Dr. Stanley Fisch  
Robert & Rebekah Dicus  
Richard Fourzan For synagogue honors  
Bill Berg and In honor of graduates Braulio Gaytan,  
Laurel Steinberg Tona Gonzalez, Rachel Russek and  
Adriana Gonzalez  
Isabel Mercado In honor of Newman Bar Mitzvah  
In honor of Braulio Gaytan  
In honor of Rebekah Russek's Birthday  
In honor of Laurel Steinberg's Birthday  
In memory of my mother Dolores  
Sandoval Vargas  
In memory of Paul Joseph's yahrzeit  
In honor of Rachel Russek's Birthday  
In honor of Abby Warshosky's  
Birthday  
In honor of Nataniel Gaytan's Birthday  
Flowers for the High Holy Days

### GENERAL FUND continued

Richard Fourzan For synagogue honors  
Julian Reyes For the High Holidays  
Shay & John Butterfras For the High Holidays  
Bert & Jamie Wolf In memory of Herschel Zinn

### IN MEMORY OF PAUL SHIRAZI

Fernando and Alma Russek  
Dr. Stanley Fisch  
Richard Fourzan  
Robert & Anne Weiss  
Sheila Greenfeld  
Morris Edelstein  
Geoffrey & Rossana Bogorad  
Bill Berg & Laurel Steinberg

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Robert & Rebekah Dicus  
Gicela Ramos

### TORAH FUND

(For reading of family names during the High Holiday  
Yizkor service)  
Abby Warshosky  
Dyan Banks  
Sheryl Levine Guterman  
Fernando & Alma Russek

# Temple Beth Israel 2018-2019 Calendar

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

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

OCTOBER							JANUARY 2017							APRIL							JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14*	15	16	17	18	19	20	13*	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				27	28	29	30	31	28*	29	30	28	29	30	31									

<b>AUGUST</b> 26 National/school holidays	<b>NOVEMBER</b> 10 Movie Night 11 Board Meeting	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Chanukah, first candle 3-10 Chanukah 7 Shabbat Chanukah Service 9 Hanukkah party	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> 2 Religion School classes, events 9 Rabbi Joseph in attendance 10-11 7:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat service 14 18 19 Denotes board meeting	<b>NOVEMBER</b> 10 Board meeting 11 School Registration/first day of classes Erev Rosh Hashanah services Rosh Hashanah services Shabbat Shuvah service Kol Nidre service Yom Kippur morning/afternoon Services, and break fast Sukkot Decorating Day Sukkot Pot luck dinner in sukkah	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah services 3-10 Chanukah 7 Shabbat Chanukah Service 9 Hanukkah party	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting
<b>OCTOBER</b> 1 Shabbat services 7:30 p.m. Fri./9 a.m. Sat.	<b>NOVEMBER</b> 10 Shmini Atseret, Erev Simhat Torah Consecration Ceremony Board Meeting	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Chanukah, first candle 3-10 Chanukah 7 Shabbat Chanukah Service 9 Hanukkah party	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting
<b>SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULE</b> 10-10:45 services 10:45-12:15 classtime 12:15-1:00 lunch 1:00-1:45 Hebrew class	<b>APRIL</b> 7 Temple Clean Up and Work Day 14 Model Seder 19 Temple Community Seder, Erev Passover 20-27 Passover 28 Board Meeting to discuss 2019-2020 calendar	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah services 3-10 Rosh Hashanah services 7 Shabbat Shuvah service 9 Kol Nidre service 13 Yom Kippur morning/afternoon Services, and break fast Sukkot Decorating Day Sukkot Pot luck dinner in sukkah	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting
	<b>MAY</b> 1 Yom HaShoah 5 TBI 5th Annual Blood Drive 8 Yom HaZikaron 8 Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration at sundown 9 Yom Ha'Atzma'ut, Israel Independence Day 22 Lag B'Omer 24 Confirmation Shabbat 26 Pot Luck for Confirmation Day	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah services 3-10 Rosh Hashanah services 7 Shabbat Shuvah service 9 Kol Nidre service 13 Yom Kippur morning/afternoon Services, and break fast Sukkot Decorating Day Sukkot Pot luck dinner in sukkah	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting
	<b>JUNE</b> 1 Board meeting 2 Erev Shavuot, Services 8-10 Shavuot	<b>DECEMBER</b> 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah services 3-10 Rosh Hashanah services 7 Shabbat Shuvah service 9 Kol Nidre service 13 Yom Kippur morning/afternoon Services, and break fast Sukkot Decorating Day Sukkot Pot luck dinner in sukkah	<b>JANUARY</b> 13 Board Meeting 20 Tu B'Shvat outing 21 Tu B'Shvat 25 Pot luck dinner	<b>MARCH</b> 3 Board Meeting 20 Purim Party, Megillah reading 21 Purim 31 Annual Congregational Meeting