



The Bulletin

Volume 68 Issue 6

September 2021

From the Rabbi Michael Silbert

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Last year when we at Temple Beth David were preparing for Rosh HaShanah, it was quite clear to us that we would not have the opportunity to fulfill our traditional role

as a religious community at the holiest time of the year. We knew that we would be unable to come together for services and that consequently, we would be failing you.

We scrambled to figure out how to respond to the circumstances. In addition to prerecording services for you to watch online if you chose, we also compiled a "*Guide to Celebrating the High Holy Days*" in which we included inspirational readings to help guide our community in their celebration of the Holy Days at home, by ourselves. At some level it was our hope and aspiration that in the absence of services, we might even find certain meaning and opportunity in the unique solitude and silence of last year to seek new dimensions to the Holy Days. To find in last year's circumstances more than just a silver lining, but a gift. A gift that we possibly would never otherwise encounter: the gift of being able to travel deeper into our own thoughts and contemplations about our lives and our connections with God and life itself. Sometimes a change of scenery and circumstance can be quite productive, to say the least of it.

This year, we look forward to returning to "normal", to the typical High Holy Day experience we've come to expect. We are excited to see each other – in many cases for the first time in *two years!* – and to hear our dear Cantor Ellen

Brandwein lead us in familiar tunes, live and in real-time! Furthermore, if you have a shofar at home and would like to join in a chorus of blasts, then bring it along! There really is nothing that compares with being there.

One other thing that I need to ask you to bring to services, is yourself. While last year we tried to make the most of the situation by approaching the High Holy Days from a new angle and this year it would appear that we shall return to the typical mode of experience, it's important to me that we nonetheless ask ourselves the questions: Can we ever really go back to the way things were before? If we consider carefully the impact that the past year and a half of living with a global pandemic has had on us, is it really possible to erase this impact? Are we truly the same people we were before - have we not been touched by seeing over 600,000 Americans die from this disease? Have we paused long enough to feel grateful for our survival, and if so, have we even *begun* to say Thank You?

If nothing else, the Jewish High Holy Days are a chance to say Thank You and to begin to make plans for how we are going to live our lives in the coming year: what we want to try for the first time, what we want to do differently, what we want to do better, what we want to do more authentically, more wholeheartedly.

I look forward to spending this time with you.

Shanah Tovah uMetukah,

The mission of Temple Beth David is to provide an environment where the concepts of community prayer, education, and service to the greater Jewish community are provided within the context of Conservative Judaism. We take pride in being a friendly, participatory, egalitarian community, welcoming all to be a part of our synagogue family.

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Yahrzeits

Date Observed

September 1

Samuel Bauman
Samuel Goldin
Helen Halpern
Florence Phillips

September 8

Saul Klein
Marlyn Plaut

September 17

Mildred Feinberg

September 25

Morton Meyers

September 3

Rhea Markus

September 11

Blanche Saltzman

September 19

Max Forchheimer
Winnie Olmer

September 26

Pearl Gallant
Yetta Moidel

September 4

Pauline Levy

September 13

Joseph Klein

September 20

Oscar Skopitz
Michael Wexler

September 30

Minnie Caplan
Carole Sue (Jaffey)

September 5

Isadore Gan
Arthur Goldman

September 14

Ruth Brandwein
Anna Fishman
Eleanor Miller
Chana Neuberg
Meyer Neuberg

September 21

Selma Eckhaus

September 6

Sidney Leitman

September 16

Paul Halpern
Harry Zoghlin

September 23

Marsha Fishman
Arnold Fleisher
Rachel Ojalvo

September 24

Walter Kielar

The yahrzeit date that appears above is the date of observance using the secular calendar. These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.

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Do you receive our Weekly News email?

If not, you are missing out on the latest news about Temple Beth David services and events, as well as community information. Call or email the Temple Office to add your name to the mailing list!

HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) is United States legislation that provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information. Hospitals are no longer permitted to contact the temple office to notify us of admitted congregants.

Please contact the office with family news.



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