

Nissan/Iyar 5780

April 2020

B'nai Israel

The Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel

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Letter from the President

Dearest Congregants -

It is with a heavy heart that I am writing today. Our main business is bringing people together for community and spiritual wellbeing. Being told to socially distance ourselves goes against the fabric of our Temple. But, in order to help our greater community slow the spread of this new corona virus, the Temple Board has agreed to cancel all events through April 12. This means that all Sunday School, Community Shabbat Potluck, and the Community Passover Seder have been canceled.

The Temple Board will be meeting on April 13 and will reevaluate the schedule of future events. Currently we are hoping to keep to our Shabbat April plans with Rabbi Maddy's visit on April 24. But please visit the website or watch for email updates prior to attending to confirm. We will also be posting some resources for continued study and live streaming services.

If you are not receiving our Temple's weekly/biweekly eMail updates, and would like to, please signup at templebnaiisraelofpetoskey.org.

If any of our congregants need assistance due to loss of wages, or other unmitigated pandemic circumstances, please contact Emily Stuchell: 231.330.4936 Please stay safe, healthy, and calm. We will get through this crisis.

Valerie Meyerson, President



Support Evie

In this time of uncertainty and stress, the Schwartz family is in need of support more than ever. Kim, as a healthcare worker, and Harris, as a college student, both pose risks to Evie.

To help support the family in this time of chaos, you can donate to their GoFundMe at bit.ly/EvieSupport.

Any and all support is greatly appreciated.

{ B'nai Israel }

April Events

Mon., Apr. 13, 7pm – Board Meeting
Fri., Apr. 24, 7:30pm—Shabbat Services
Sat., Apr. 25, 11am—Torah Study w/ potluck dairy brunch
Sun., Apr. 26, 10am—Sunday School

All Temple events, including Sunday School sponsored programs, are open to all!

For questions about programs, please contact:

Tot Shabbat: lindsey-kaufmanlb@gmail.com

Shabbat and other events:

efreedland@hotmail.com

2020 Rabbi Weekends

Maddy will be in town on the following weekends: April 24-26, May 15-17, May 29-31, June 5-7.

Summer weekly services with Maya and Menachem begin June 19.

Donations Received

General Fund

Dr. and Mrs. Kaufman
Gloria Levine: IHO Bar Mitzvah of Aton Wiess

Gordon Memorial Fund

Gloria Levine: IMO Henriette Kaplan

Perpetual Kaddish

Mrs. Elizabeth Frey: IMO Barbara Caroline Frey
Rhoda Raider: IMO Robert Moers

Letter From The Editor

Hello everyone.

I have been alive for almost twenty-one years (which I realize isn't that long in the scheme of things) and I've been editing this newsletter since September of 2018. Honestly, this whole 'pandemic' thing really scares me. One moment, I was in the Bahamas with my family. We were drinking Dark and Stormy's and swimming. I got back to school in Ann Arbor and two days later, classes were canceled for two days and online for the remainder of the year. Four days after that, I was leaving Ann Arbor for my last time as a student. All of this is unprecedented.

I've been crying and stressed and scared, like I imagine everyone else is. I'm writing today to talk about the one thing that has been uplifting me time and time again. My community, both in Ann Arbor and in Petoskey, have risen to the occasion in a way I never could have anticipated. Small businesses are sacrificing critical profits to feed those who need it and local people are rushing to support that effort. I've seen friends offer up spare rooms, couches, inflatable mattresses, to those who are being displaced by the dorms closing.

Hopefully this will never happen again. This pandemic is extraordinary, at least in our lifetimes, but if we keep our community close and care for those who need it, we will make it through. I encourage everyone to keep in touch with everyone else; phone, texting, Skype. With empathy and love, this will all be okay.

Chashah Johnson