

Iyar/Sivan 5780

May 2020

B'nai Israel

The Newsletter of Temple B'nai Israel

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Letter from the President

Dear Friends -

I write this from my home office thinking about you all and hoping you are all healthy and finding ways to feel productive and stay sane. This has certainly been a trying few months. It seems as if we have flattened the curve and the strict state guidelines have helped keep us on track for a healthy recovery. I know we are all certainly ready to get our economy going again.

Please remember those of us who may not be able to connect online. If you know someone that either does not have internet, or may not know how to connect, think about giving them a call to touch base. I am sure they will appreciate hearing from you.

Our strength lies in our community and not being able to gather for shabbat has been difficult. TBI has rallied though and has been offering short, Kabbalat Shabbat observance via the Zoom meeting platform. This has been an informal and heartwarming time with our community. We have had 15-20 participants to share in lighting candles, singing songs and prayers, reciting the Mi Sheberach and Mourners Kaddish.

Student Rabbi Maddy will be providing weekend services via the Zoom Meeting platform as well. She will be with us 7:30 pm on May 15 and 29, as well as providing a Torah Study session on the Saturday mornings at 10AM, on the 16th and 30th. Maddy will also be meeting with the Sunday school students on the Sunday following each Torah study.



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 }

May Events

Sat., May 1, 7:30pm – Community Shabbat

Sun., May 3, 10am – Sunday School

Sat., May 8, 7:30pm – Community Shabbat

Mon., May 11, 7pm – Board Meeting

Fri., May 15, 7:30pm – Shabbat Services

Sat., May 16, 10am – Torah Study

Sun., May 17, 10am – Sunday School

Sat., May 22, 7:30pm – Community Shabbat

Fri., May 29, 7:30pm – Shabbat Services

Sat., May 30, 10am – Torah Study

Sun., May 31, 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:

cfreedland@hotmail.com

Donations Received

General Fund

Dr. Carol Ellstein and Joseph Wildberg
Thomas Johnson

Security Fund

Joseph Wildberg

Perpetual Kaddish

Val Meyerson: IMO Sherwin Berhmann

2020 Rabbi Weekends

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

Summer weekly services with Maya and Menachem begin June 19.

Rabbi House and Summer Services

With the stay at home orders in Michigan, the construction of the Rabbi House has been delayed. Currently we have power and water, most of the drywall and siding up, but there is still plenty of work to do. With that said, I am sad to say that we will not make our previously opening date of June 1. It is hard to say when we will be able to begin work again, but we are hoping the house is done by the end of the summer.

At this time, it is not clear if Maya and Menachem will be able to join us. They are currently scheduled to fly here in mid-June. We are hoping they will make it. We are working on a “plan B,” just in case. And, whether it is Maya or another Rabbi, with the Rabbi house completion date delayed, we are looking for other housing this summer. If you know of anyone that would be willing to lend their home for part of the summer, please let Gus Paz know to work on arrangements.

Please watch the emails and check the website for updates.

Virtual Events

All of the events in May will be virtual. Val Meyerson, Temple President, will be sending out links and instructions on how to join in!

Fall Student Rabbi

HUC recently announced the match for the 2020-21 Student Rabbis. I am pleased to announce that both Maddy Anderson and Matthew Derrenbacher will be with us. Maddy, a fourth-year student, will spend her third high holiday season with us and Mathew, a third-year student, will then join us for monthly visits beginning in October.

Watch for more information in the emails.