

Beth-Elements

The Bulletin of Beth-El Congregation • A Reform Synagogue Serving Tarrant County



August 2026



Brian Zimmerman, Rabbi

Divrei Torah

Rabbi Brian Zimmerman

I am writing to you during this strange time of in-between.

My father passed yesterday. We sat

together as one family in the hospital watching his breaths get shorter, simultaneously wanting him to hang around with us one more moment while also praying that his pain would end quickly.

Today was filled with arrangements, calls, and e-mails to many people who were touched by his long life of service. And, of course, I did the many small details of mourning — planning that too many of you know well.

It is the limbo between the death and the funeral. I am waiting in the in-between. As a rabbi, it is my job to help you get from here to there.

No matter the years in rabbinical school, the many funerals I have officiated, the *shiva minyanim* I have attended and led, the hands I have held, and the many hugs, and even the time spent grieving with my own father when his parent passed, this is different.

I wait for the next moment to get

from here to there.

I know well that the funeral, then *Shiva*, *Sheloshim*, and even the traditional year of saying *kaddish* for a parent are just imposed human-created boundaries for emotions that cannot be set or planned. The work is getting from here to there.

As I become an *Avel*, the category of mourner reserved for parents, children, spouses, and siblings, I want to say thank you.

Thank you for helping me get from here to there — wherever that is.

I also want to acknowledge that the month of Elul is about to begin. For four weeks leading up to Rosh Hashanah, we are all asked to pause, to stand in awe of the fragile gift of life and love, to think of the blessings we have gained, and the losses we felt from the last year.

For those who have lost, my prayers are with you during this new year.

For those who have not lost a loved one, Elul, the last Jewish month of the year before Rosh Hashanah, is still an important time for taking account of our lives.

I hope our Temple can be there for you just as you are there for me.

Worship Services

Minyan with the community

Tuesday-Thursday 6 p.m.

Welcoming Shabbat reception

Join us every Friday night for wine, cheese, and to welcome Shabbat with friends 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 7

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 14

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 21

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 28

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin 6:15 p.m.

Selichot weekend

See page 8 for details.

Friday, Sept. 4

The work of T'shuvah: Shabbat service of music, preparation, and reflections for the holidays with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 5

Selichot program, dinner, and film, *Crimes and Misdemeanors* 6 p.m.
Selichot service of preparation 8:45 p.m.

.....
All services in person and streamed at
youtube.com/BethElCongregation.

High Holy Days 2026 - 5787

Rosh Hashanah

Sundown, Friday, Sept. 11 – Sundown, Saturday, Sept. 12

Yom Kippur

Sundown, Sunday, Sept. 20 – Sundown, Monday, Sept. 21



Michael Appleman

President's Message

..... Temple President Michael Appleman

Happy summer, all.

After a short break, the bulletin is back.

I don't know why the deadline for the submission of this column always seems to sneak up on me — and sometimes flies right past me.

I would blame my delinquency on the dog days of summer or the summer doldrums, both of which have interesting origins I took time to look up, but we really do not have those at Beth-El. Or we do not this year, with the High Holy Days starting in early September.

Yes, there is a slight lull in activity around the Temple during the summer. How could there not be without our Religious School in session? And Shabbat services are a little more casual, especially in dress with it being summer in Texas and all. But we are hard at work rolling over the Congregation's fiscal year, renovating the kitchen, registering families for Religious School, and preparing for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

As I wrote last month, Shavuot teaches us that there is value in the preparation and that there is worth in the work, but whew! Thank you to

Marc Slotter, our Finance Committee, and the Board for your diligent efforts crunching our numbers; Renee Woods, Laurie Kelfer, and Faye Slater for your general contracting; Brittany Walker, our Religious School Committee, and Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov for your preparations; and Russ Schultz for your assistance.

You should have received by now notice of your annual financial commitment (i.e., your dues), along with an invitation to do more and join one of our Sanctuary Circles. You also should have received our High Holy Days mailing. And you may have received emails about registering for Religious School. If you have not, please contact the Temple office.

Please pay your dues in a timely fashion. Please join us for services (more specific details are in the separate High Holy Days communiqué). Finally, please sign your kids up for Religious School early so Shoshana may plan accordingly.

It will be "that time" the next time the Bulletin arrives. I should probably start writing now. The good news is that repentance for misdeeds is right around the corner, and we have an opportunity for a fresh start. I plan to take advantage of this opportunity!

From the family of Suzie Koonsman

With heartfelt gratitude, thank you for all the love and support, the thoughts and prayers, the wonderful messages, stories, cards, and donations in Suzie's memory. You have helped to fill our hearts with so many blessed memories, and we are so incredibly grateful.

Dinner and a Movie



The Frisco Kid

Rated PG
119 minutes

Saturday, Aug. 8

6 p.m. Free

MRJ will prepare a wonderful meal while we watch this 1979 classic Jewish western comedy.

Rabbi Avram Belinsky (Gene Wilder) arrives in Philadelphia in 1850 with nothing but a Torah scroll and sets out for San Francisco. He is robbed by thieves and "adopted" by a bank robber played by a very young Harrison Ford. The Frisco Kid is an anomaly. A comic western about the many different people of faith trying to find their way in a new and strange land.

Celebrate Sukkot



Sukkot begins at
sundown on Sept. 25

Order an Etrog from Israel and celebrate Sukkot in your own home!

Make this the year you order a Lulav and Etrog set!

Lulav and Etrog sets are only \$36

But you must contact Rabbi Zimmerman at rabbiz@bethelfw.org before **Sept. 7** to place your order.



Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

Religious School

.....Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

As summer begins to wind down, there is an unmistakable sense of excitement at

Beth-El as we prepare to welcome our students and families back for another incredible year of learning, friendship, and Jewish discovery. I am thrilled to begin the 5787 Religious School year and look forward to all we will experience together!

Our theme this year is **"Be the Light" (Heyu Ha'Or)**. Throughout Jewish tradition, light is one of our most powerful symbols. From God's first words in Creation **"Yehi Or"** (*Let there be light*) to the glow of our Shabbat candles, the eternal light above the ark, and the Chanukah menorah, light reminds us that hope, kindness, wisdom, and faith can shine even in the darkest moments.

This year, we will invite every student to discover the unique light they carry within and explore how they can share that light with others. Through meaningful learning, engaging *t'filah*, acts of *chesed* (kindness), social action, creativity, and joyful community experiences, our students will learn that even the smallest act of compassion or courage can make a lasting difference.

We want every child to know that they matter, that their gifts are important, and that by being their authentic selves, they can help brighten our community and our world.

One of my favorite Jewish teachings from *Pirkei Avot* reminds us: "It is not your responsibility to finish the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." Each of us has the ability and the responsibility to add our own light to the world. When every person shares even a little light, together we create something extraordinary.

Our first day of Religious School is **Sunday, Aug. 30**, and I cannot wait to welcome everyone back! If you have not

yet registered, please complete your registration as soon as possible so we can finalize class placements and prepare for a wonderful year ahead.

Before Opening Day, I hope you'll join us for our **Welcome Back Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.** at Beth-El. It's a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends, meet new families, enjoy a sweet treat, and get excited for the amazing year ahead.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. I am looking forward to seeing all of our families very soon and beginning another meaningful year together.

Here's to an amazing 5787!

Religious School Wishlist

Custom T-shirts for our students, teachers, and madrichim..... \$3,000

BETH-EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

REGISTRATION
is **OPEN!!!**

Members in good standing:
Complete only the Religious School Registration Form.

Non-members:
Complete the Temple Membership Form first followed by the Religious School Registration Form.

OPENING DAY
Sunday, August 30th
at 9:30 am

SCAN HERE!

Welcome Back Ice Cream Social
At Beth-El Tuesday 8/18
3:30pm-5pm



Ruth Roper



Marilyn Stenzler

Women of Reform Judaism

..... WRJ Co-Presidents Ruth Roper and Marilyn Stenzler

Welcome back, ladies!

As the sun sets on summer, we gather once again to ignite the powerful bond of our sisterhood. This new season brings fresh opportunities to uplift, inspire, and grow alongside

one another. Our first event will be the **WRJ membership kickoff** on Sunday, Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. at The Rose Garden Tea Room located at The Mercantile, 7200 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth.

As usual, we will host the Rosh Hashanah reception on Sept. 11, in honor of our

clergy and their spouses. But this year, because the Beth-El kitchen is getting a facelift, there will be no bake-ins at the Temple prior to the reception. Please make your specialty dishes at home. Plating will take place the morning of the reception.

Stay tuned and keep an eye out for the Punchbowl invitations for these events.

Again, welcome back. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Save the Date:

**WRJ Annual Donor Bingo Brunch
Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026**

Stay tuned for more details!



Eric Lawrence

Men of Reform Judaism

..... MRJ President Eric Lawrence

Sitting at my computer on July 11, it almost feels like summer is already past. The

MRJ event planning meeting for 2026-27 was earlier this week, which focused my thoughts firmly on fall, winter, and spring. Our MRJ event calendar for 2026-27 has now gone out to all MRJ members and I await their responses.

We kick off this new Temple year on **Saturday, Aug. 8**, with MRJ movie night and a showing of the Gene Wilder classic "The Frisco Kid." Full of Jewish humor, it should be great fun for all of us. MRJ will provide dinner, and I look forward to a

great turnout. Thanks to Jim Stanton for arranging this event.

On **Aug. 16**, we will gather at the home of Mitch and Marcie Reitman for our annual MRJ BBQ. This is always a great fellowship event. A big thank you again to Mitch and Marcie for hosting us.

On **Aug. 30**, the first day of Religious School, MRJ will provide a light breakfast for parents and teachers. Thank you to Joe Davidson for continuing as our MRJ liaison with the Religious School.

We're looking forward to another busy and meaningful MRJ year. If you're interested in joining or learning more about MRJ, please contact me at elawr1951@yahoo.com.

Contributions

Archive Fund

In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for
Bruce Weiner

· Holly & Bill Schur

In Honor of and Thanks for

Red Goldstein's Tour of Hebrew Rest
Cemetery

· Robert & Gail Weltman

In Memory of Belle Silverman Cohen

· Judith Cohen

In Memory of Suzie Koonsman

· Judith Cohen

In Memory of Gary Sadow

· Michael & Eileen Pink

Caring Congregation

In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for
Bruce Weiner

· Richard & Carol Minker

In Honor of Marilyn & Jack Rubin's Anniversary

· Sharon Mothner

In Honor of our 55th Wedding

Anniversary to Carol Minker

· Richard Minker

In Memory of Ralph Lau

· Maxine Levy

In Memory of Suzie Koonsman

· Richard & Carol Minker

· Mark Pritchard & Robin Weinberg

In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert

· Mark Pritchard & Robin Weinberg

Floral Fund

In Memory of Louise Snelgrove

· Russ & Susan Schultz

In Honor of Anne Westermann's Birthday

· Yuyo Westermann

Library Fund

In Honor of Bob and Dick Greenman the
Mickey Goldman Persons of the Year

· Margie Zentner

In Memory of Allen Klotzman

· Laurin & Cheryl Baum

In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert

· Judie B. & Robert Greenman

In Memory of Erna Lesaius Zentner

· Margie Zentner

Mitch Stenzler Scholarship Fund

- In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for
Randee Kaitcer
· Marilyn & Van Stenzler
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Sonya Stenzler

Operating Endowment Fund

- In Memory of Nell G. Hall
· Charles Hall and Valerie Frost Hall
In Memory of Frederick W. Hall
· Charles Hall and Valerie Frost Hall
In Memory of Rolly F. Schur
· Holly & Bill Schur

**Rabbi Mecklenburger
Discretionary Fund**

- In Honor of
Rabbi Ralph Mecklenburger
· Larry & Gail Berlin
In Memory of Ruby Kantor
· Sandra Polsky, son Joseph and
Debbi and son Julian Tyler
In Memory of Joseph Maurice Polsky
· Sandra Polsky, son Joseph and
Debbi and son Julian Tyler
In Memory of Sandra Rubin Koslow
· John & Meg Rubin
In Memory of Gary Sadow
· Darin Sadow

**Rabbi Zimmerman
Discretionary Fund**

- In Honor of Rabbi Zimmerman
· Michael & Pam Kalpin
In Honor of Rabbi Zimmerman's
10-year Anniversary
· Holly & Bill Schur
In Memory of Paula Kelfer
· Howard & Laurie Kelfer
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith
Person of the Year Award
· Eric & Marjorie Deutsch
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Eric & Marjorie Deutsch
In Memory of Sandra Rubin Koslow
· John & Meg Rubin

- In Memory of Lillian Maass
· Steve & Cindy Bond
In Memory of Woodstock
· Martha Brown
In Memory of Morton H. Meyerson
· Gordon & Louise Appleman
In Memory of Caleb Deutsch naming
· Marcia Koff
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Sheldon & Phyllis Levy

**Religious School Director
Discretionary Fund**

- In Memory of Sully Collins
· Harry Leventhal &
Judi Massis-Leventhal

Religious School Fund

- For Religious School
· Sandra Polsky
For Religious School Registration
· Hannah Amber Love & Leah Sloan
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Cathy & Charles Freid
· Mark & Roberta Gerrick
· Jeanne Ginsberg
· Sandra & Ira Hollander
· Howard & Laurie Kelfer
· Sheldon & Phyllis Levy
· Susan & Bob Lewis
· Alan & Leslie Magee
· Michael & Eileen Pink
· Amelia Robbins
· Michael & Beverly J. Ross
· Russ & Susan Schultz
· Rick & Lesli Siegel
· Jim Stanton
· Marilyn & Van Stenzler
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Memory of Alfred Rosenfield
· Steve & Carol Kline
In Memory of Brad Gaber
· Steve & Carol Kline
In Memory of Dr. Allen Kline
· Steve & Carol Kline
In Memory of Peter Levy's mother
· Michael & Beverly J. Ross

Temple Fund

- In Honor of Birth of
Eleanor Martine Ginsburg
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Honor of Bob and Dick Greenman,
the Mickey Goldman Persons of
the Year
· Peter & Kerrin Bermont
In Honor and Thanks of Prof. Tamas
Unger's special Shabbat program
· Maxine Levy
In Honor of Ruth Roper's Birthday
· Jack & Marilyn Rubin
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith
Person of the Year Award
· Jack & Marilyn Rubin
In Honor of Karen & Henry Simon's
65th anniversary
· Jack & Marilyn Rubin
In Memory of Harry Roth
· Sidney & Barbara Ander
In Memory of Lee Anspacher
· Felice Anspacher
In Memory of Mariam Anspacher
· Felice Anspacher
In Memory of William Wyatt Campbell
· Abe & Kim Factor
In Memory of Allen Klotzman
· Arnold G. & Harriette Gachman
In Memory of Irving Klotzman
· Arnold G. & Harriette Gachman
In Memory of Robert K. Houston
· Noreen & Bill Houston
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Michael & Pam Kalpin
· Michael & Beverly J. Ross
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Memory of Nan Sonderer
· Marcia P. Kurtz
In Memory of Sylvia Bronstein
· Rochelle & Buddy Moses
In Memory of Sadie Gross
· Billy & Rozanne Rosenthal
In Memory of Anna Belle Rosenthal
· Billy & Rozanne Rosenthal

- In Memory of David Krumholtz
· Billy & Rozanne Rosenthal
In Memory of E.M. "Manny" Rosenthal
· Billy & Rozanne Rosenthal
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Jack & Marilyn Rubin
In Memory of Rolly F. Schur
· Holly & Bill Schur
In Memory of Sidney Stern
· Henry W. & Karen Simon
In Memory of Freda Isenberg
· Henry W. & Karen Simon
In Memory of Dora Goldberg
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Memory of Bill Goldberg
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Memory of Pauline Weiner
· Bruce & Hollace Weiner
In Memory of Ivan and LeDonna Miller
· Keith & Karen Zeff

WRJ

- In Honor of Ruth Roper's Birthday
· Howard & Laurie Kelfer
In Honor of Kim Factor
· Alan & Leslie Magee

Youth Fund

- In Honor of Bob and Dick Greenman,
the Mickey Goldman Persons of the
Year
· Jeff & Linda Hochster
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith
Person of the Year Award
· Alan & Leslie Magee
In Memory of Erica Hochster
· Jeff & Linda Hochster
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Jeanie Luskey & Kenneth Huffman
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Barry Schneider
In Memory of Sally Lynn Schur
· Holly & Bill Schur

Kitchen Remodel Project

- In Honor of a Speedy recovery for
Richard Minker
· Marilyn & Van Stenzler

Beth-El College Outreach

School is about to start. PLEASE send Rabbi Zimmerman your college student's address EVEN if you did it last year.

Most dorm addresses change every year!

Your college student will receive packages during the year, maybe a

visit, and ALL parents who get Rabbi the address by Sept. 30 guarantee a Starbucks card sent to their college student for a sweet New Year.

Cards go in the mail late September whether we have the address or not.

Don't deprive your kids of essential caffeine!

Send Rabbi Zimmerman your college student's information:

Name

Address.....

Email

Phone

Birthday

to: rabbiz@bethelfw.org



Finding Our Place in the Jewish Puzzle of Life:

A Search for Personal Theology with Rabbi Zimmerman

Tuesdays at noon, Aug. 18 and Sept. 1

Our Tuesday afternoon conversations, now in the fourth year, are a chance to explore the world in which we live seeking context and answers from past Jewish teachers.

This twice-monthly conversation moves between recent articles, current events, philosophy, and older Jewish prayers and texts all with the goal of articulating a personal theology.

Want to join us? Drop by any time or contact Rabbi Zimmerman for more information.

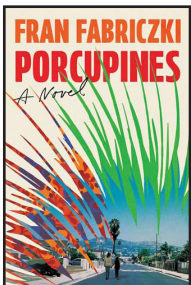
People of the Book

..... Sheryl Levy

Aug. 11, 10 a.m.

Oct. 6, 10 a.m.

Our **Aug. 11** selection is ***One Good Thing* by Georgia Hunter**. Set in Italy in 1940, it follows two friends as they navigate the war and the sacrifices they each must make.



Porcupines

by Fran Fabriczki

Our **Oct. 6** selection is *Porcupines* by Fran Fabriczki, which explores a modern immigrant's experience coming from Hungary to Los Angeles.

People of the Book, Beth-El's book group, meets on selected Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Temple library. We have lively discussions about books with Jewish themes or by Jewish authors. Please contact Sheryl Levy, slevy2608@gmail.com, for more information or if you would like to be put on the contact list.

Primetimers

Noon, Thursday, Aug. 13

Welcome back, Primetimers! I hope you are having a great summer. Our August event will feature a presentation by **The Taste Project**, a unique nonprofit that helps fight food insecurity in Tarrant County. Founded in 2012, the pay-what-you-can restaurants in Fort Worth and Arlington rely heavily on volunteers and community support. There are many ways we can help, even by just having a meal there. Come hear what it is all about.

Lunch will be catered by La Madeleine, or bring your own. For \$13, you get chips, a cookie, and your choice of: chicken salad croissant, turkey sandwich, or pesto caprese sandwich

We will have some homemade treats to share as well. Please RSVP by Sunday, Aug. 9, to Michelle Hartman: Hartman 8729@sbcglobal.net or 817-706-3451.

Primetimers is brought to you in part by the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County and the Sylvia Wolens Primetimers Fund.



Minyan with the Community Resumes in Aug.

..... Tues. -Thurs., 6 p.m.

Join leaders Semé Cooper and Max Pell at Beth-El's weekday minyanim (Tues.-Wed.-Thurs.)!

The regular weekly schedule begins Aug. 4.

Can we count on you?

August - 2026 - 5786

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9 am Zoom Torah Study
2	3	4 6 pm Evening Minyan	5 9:30 am Archives Meeting 6 pm Evening Minyan	6 6 pm Evening Minyan	7 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	8 9 am Zoom Torah Study 6 pm MRJ Dinner and a Movie
9	10 7 pm Board Meeting	11 10 am People of the Book 6 pm Evening Minyan	12 9:30 am Archives Meeting 6 pm Evening Minyan	13 Noon Primetimers 6 pm Evening Minyan	14 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	15 9 am Zoom Torah Study
16 11:30 am MRJ BBQ, Reitman residence	17	18 12 noon Jewish Puzzle of Life 6 pm Evening Minyan	19 9:30 am Archives Meeting 6 pm Evening Minyan	20 6 pm Evening Minyan	21 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	22 9 am Zoom Torah Study
23 1 p.m. WRJ Membership Kickoff, The Rose Garden Tea Room	24	25 6 pm Evening Minyan	26 9:30 am Archives Meeting 6 pm Evening Minyan	27 6 pm Evening Minyan	28 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	29 9 am Zoom Torah Study
30 9:30 am First Day of Religious School	31	September 1 12 noon Jewish Puzzle of Life 6 pm Evening Minyan 7:30 pm Curious About Conversion	2 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am Gift Shop Open 6 pm Evening Minyan	3 6 pm Evening Minyan	4 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	5 9 am Zoom Torah Study 6 pm Selichot Movie Program 8:45 pm Selichot Service

For additional information and updates about events, please visit our website at www.bethelfw.org or see Rabbi's e-blasts.



Curious About Conversion

First class: Tuesday, Sept. 1, 7 p.m.

Save the date! The Curious About Conversion class begins Tuesday, Sept. 1!

Do you know someone who is not Jewish, but who has expressed a serious interest in Judaism?

Come explore the customs and culture, festivals, and philosophy of Judaism. The class is open to all those interested in conversion. This year-long class will meet every three to four weeks and study some of the broad themes and ideas, customs, and concepts of Jewish life as well as offer participants a chance to meet others who have already converted. All in a safe place to ask questions.

A prerequisite for this class is an in-person or phone conversation with Rabbi Zimmerman and a commitment to the readings and assignments that are a part of the initial conversion process. While taking this class is a requirement for conversion, it does not commit one to converting. There is no expectation that all participants will choose this path. Please contact Rabbi Zimmerman for more information or with any questions about this ongoing class.

Pictured right: This summer, our Temple youth enjoyed fellowship and fun at Greene Family Camp.

Do you want to see this picture bigger?

Visit bethelfw.org/bulletin

Do you want to know more about camp scholarships?

Let Rabbi or the Beth-El office know!

Selichot Weekend of Preparation

Sept. 4-5

Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin and Rabbi Zimmerman will share special holiday tunes, stories and teachings to prepare us for our holiday observance. On Saturday night, Rabbi Zimmerman will show one of his favorite films and lead a discussion of its messages and challenges for our new Jewish year

Friday, Sept. 4

6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Service of music, preparation and reflections for the holidays: *The Work of T'shuvah*

Saturday, Sept. 5

6 p.m.

Selichot dinner program, movie, and discussion: *Crimes and Misdemeanors*

Is life a series of random events? Do crimes carry consequences? Does God see us and if so, why does injustice exist?

It sounds like the beginning of a joke: A rabbi, a philanthropist and a television producer walk into a wed-



Crimes and Misdemeanors

Rated PG
119 minutes

Saturday, Sept. 5

6 p.m. Free

ding and discuss the meaning of life. In a way, it is.

Woody Allen's most thoughtful and Jewish film also explores questions of reward, punishment, love, and free will. Prepare for the High Holy Day season with this beautiful, funny, and challenging film starring Alan Alda, Martin Landau, Mia Farrow, and Angelica Huston

Saturday, Sept. 5

8:45 p.m.

Selichot Service with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin

Summer of '26 at Greene Family Camp





Gift Shop News

The WRJ gift shop will open again **Sunday, Aug. 30**, for the school year. Regular hours are Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

This is the place to get all your Judaica needs! All purchases support our religious school students.

Pictured below: The CPR, Stop the Bleed, and AED training held at Beth-El on July 9 was presented in partnership with Cook Children's Hospital and the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County. Participants learned how to use an AED (automated external defibrillator), perform hands-only CPR, and respond to severe bleeding by applying direct pressure, packing a wound, and properly applying a tourniquet.



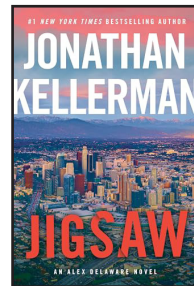
Library Reviews

.....Margie Zentner



Unfinished Acts of Wild Creation by Sarah Yahm

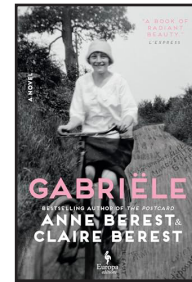
is a critically acclaimed debut novel that balances profound grief with irreverent humor. The story begins in 1974 at a Rosh Hashanah dinner, where cellist Lousie Rackoff meets aspiring therapist Leon Rosenberg, and it follows them over four decades. But their life fractures when Louise is diagnosed with a rare, degenerative neurological disorder and decides to vanish, hoping to spare her family the pain of watching her decline. Leon and daughter Lydia begin a chaotic and global quest to find her and to find meaning across multiple generations.



Jigsaw by Jonathan Kellerman

features the familiar duo of psychologist Alex Delaware and Detective Milo Sturgis who investigate two murders — a young woman found dead at home and a brutal murder of an elderly former cop that Milo knew personally. As

they dig deeper, they uncover a deadly puzzle linking the victims and forcing the two men to solve a "jigsaw" of clues.



Gabriële by Anne and Claire Berest,

named one of the New York Times Best Historical Fiction books, is set during the Bohemian Era in 1908 Paris and follows Gabriele as she navigates an era of massive artistic experimentation. Specifically, the story centers around her whirlwind marriage to painter Francis Picabia and her fervent relationship with artist Marcel Duchamp. Together the trio challenges established norms, helping to start radical movements like Cubism and Dadaism. The meticulous novel weaves in the real-life journey of the Berest sisters and sifts through family archives to discover their ancestor who was never spoken about.



Hollace Weiner

Then & Now: Old Temple Bulletins Now Online

Temple Archivist, Hollace Ava Weiner

The earliest Temple bulletin in the archives is 106 years old. The fragile, two-page

foldover brochure is dated September 1920. It announces that High Holy Days services will be conducted in Beth-El's brand new, two-story, red-brick synagogue at the corner of 207 W. Broadway Ave.

Frayed, torn, and crumbling at the edges, this historic piece of Temple history is now online at the Portal to Texas History. (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph1822370/>) or scan the QR code.



Take a look at who contributed to the building fund and who did not!

Also online at the Portal to Texas History are seven Beth-El bulletins from 1924, one loose page from 1947, and 11 bulletins from 1950s. Beginning in the 1960s, the collection is nearly complete up to April 2001. A Rescuing Texas History Grant covered the cost of uploading these hard copies of Beth-El's weekly and monthly bulletins, which are now in storage for safe keeping.

WHO BUILD AND THOSE WHO WILL BUILD THE TEMPLE

Subscribers Who Have Paid in Full	Subscribers Who Have Not Yet Paid
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TEMPLE BETH-EL BULLETIN

Tishri 5681 **TEMPLE BETH-EL, SEPTEMBER 1920**
DE. GEORGE FOX, Rabbi

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THOUGHTS.

Twenty-one years is just a span in one's life. New Year's we had services in our new Temple; surely such men as Sam Levy, U. M. Simon, Dave Brown, Oscar Seligman, Herman Lederman, and others can look back 21 years and have the satisfaction of realizing that all their efforts towards building up this community have at last brought forth the richest results. What a fortunate investment they made when they consented to give their labor to the upbuilding of the Jewish community! Some of these noble men acted as president, collector and janitor all at the same time. Surely all of them contributed money, but they gave in addition more than money; they gave Labor of Love, which all know is more valuable. Don't you remember when we held services in the Spiritualist Temple? How lucky we thought we were financially able to rent this Temple!

Then came Rabbi Jasin who put his shoulders to the wheel and lo! and behold! we had a House of Worship of our own costing approximately \$8000.00. How happy we were. Some of the most pleasant moments of our lives were spent in this House of Worship; and then comes Rabbi George Fox, ever harping that we were now full grown and that we needed a Temple worthy of the community. By constant hammering he convinced us that we must have a new Temple, and now we will have the pleasure of worshipping in one of the most complete Temples in the South.

How could the history of this community be written without mentioning the women? What a noble set of Jewish women we have in our midst. Ever ready to make any sacrifice for the betterment of the Congregation. One of the greatest pleasures to the writer is the recollections of the good of several of the Christian Ministers. Several of the Christian Churches were tendered us on several occasions to hold our services there, and is a fact that we held services for several months in the old First Methodist Church. So is it proven God is good. From a small hand we stand today as one of the strongest Congregations in the South, with good and loyal members, prominent in all walks of life, successful because their efforts put forth for the service of God and the betterment of man.

HENRY GERNBACHER.

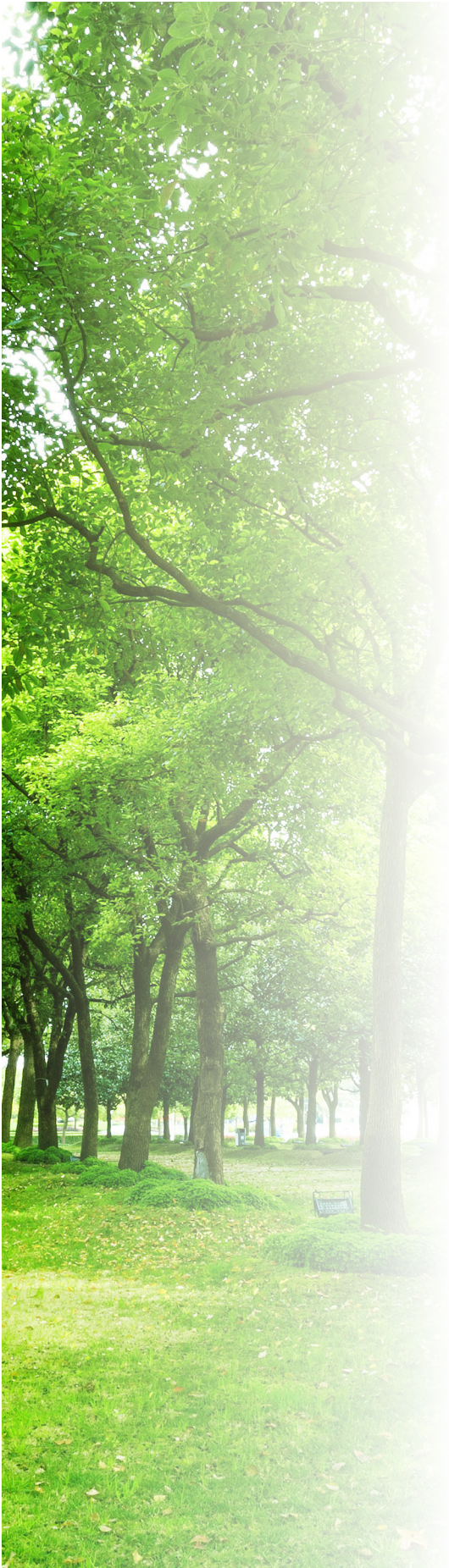
To which we add that no man deserves more credit for the success of our community than Henry Gernsbacher. No man has sacrificed more for it. To him belongs the same amount of praise he has given to others.



Healing Prayers & Visits

If you know someone at home or in the hospital who could use a visit from the Rabbi or another Temple member, or if you have the name of an ill family member or friend that you would like to be read at our Shabbat service, please call or email the Temple

office at office@bethelfw.org or Rabbi Zimmerman and rabbiz@bethelfw.org, or go to bethelfw.org to share your request. Rabbi Zimmerman or Renee Woods will get the information from this site quickly.



Yahrzeits

Aug. 7

Reuben Blumberg
Carmen Cocchi
Maurice N. Fairman
Michael Handleman
Jonathan E. Kemp
David Luskey
Daniel Neckers
Shirley R. Neckers
Peter Oshman
Barbara Schmidt
Madelyn Gross Walters
Jerry Wolens

Aug. 14

Noel Arthur Cohen
Paul Feinberg
Joseph Foreman
Goldye Kelfer
Willy Fred Kuehn
Clarisse Lavine
Al Lazarus
Peter Lederman
Rebecca Lulky
Carol Mayer
Bernard Rabinowitz
Joseph P. Rodriguez
Ruth Sandler
Miriam Schultz
Gertrude Steinharter
Jerome Stanley Waxman
Bessie W. Wertheim

Aug. 21

Molly Berkowitz
Michael Brown
Charles Cristol
Paul Diviness
Sheryl Feinberg
Ashley Fetterman
Leon Gachman
Susan Lau
Gladys Lawrence
Abraham Leventhal
Jaine Gernsbacher Meyerson
I. William Nusbaum
Sarita Parvey
Louis H. Schur
Myra Schussler
Esther Berman Singer
Walter Stone
Jean Whatley

Aug. 28

Margaret Dinklage
Phyllis Eertmoed
Herbert Ehrlich
Jeanne Glasser
Doris Grisham
Harry Jacob Kline
Ted Krakover
Irwin Krauss
Harold "Pacey" Laves
Oscar Lavine
Helen Levitan
Freda Margolis
Ferdinand Rivera, Jr.
Joel Rosen
Sallye Rosenblum
U.M. Simon
Joseph Harold Singer

Sept. 4

Melvin Blumberg
Julie Bush
David McLaurin Campbell
Jim Corder
Ira Diamond
Elias Friedmann
Marcus Ginsburg
Lora Goldin
Leslie Kaitcer
Seymour Lawrence
Tillie Levine
Joseph Strassman
Sam Taub
Nathan Uptegraft



Beth-El
Congregation

4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109

*Our mission: To meet the spiritual,
educational, social, and religious needs
of its members through the teachings
and practices of Reform Judaism and
to connect members to their Jewish
identity and community.*

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Rabbi Emeritus, Ralph Mecklenburger:
rabbie@bethelfw.org

Executive Director, Reneé Woods:
director@bethelfw.org

Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov:
shoshanaikaikov@bethelfw.org

Music Director, John Sauvey: jesbaritone@gmail.com

Building Manager, Jaime Rivera: cust@bethelfw.org

Student Cantor: Sam Chamberlin

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Rosenthal, Faye Slater

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FWFTY: Natalie Strausz, President

Contributions

· Make your contribution online at **bethelfw.org** or fill out the form below and mail it with your check to Beth-El Congregation

· **Undesignated donations** will be placed in the Temple Fund.

\$18-minimum contribution: Temple Fund, Religious School Fund, Youth Fund, Library Fund, Music Fund, Mitch Stenzler Scholarship Fund, Rabbi Zimmerman's Discretionary Fund, Rabbi Mecklenburger's Discretionary Fund, President's Discretionary Fund, Religious School Director's Discretionary Fund, Temple Archives, Caring Congregation

\$50-minimum contribution: Rosenthal-Siegel Education Endowment Fund, Operating Endowment Fund, Endowment #2

Other funds: **Tree \$20, Prayer Book \$30, Floral \$50, Tree of Life Leaf \$300**

Contribution Form

Enclosed please find the amount of \$ _____

Designated Fund: _____

☐ In Honor of: _____

☐ In Memory of: _____

Donor Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Send acknowledgment to: _____

