

Chailights

May 2020

Rabbi Joseph H. Rosen



When we look at our biblical and historical narratives, it can be easy to focus on the many destructive moments in our history: slavery in Egypt, the destruction of the temples and subsequent exile, persecution under grand empires, pogroms, wars, the Holocaust, resurgences of anti-Semitism. Yet, Judaism ought to never be defined by this timeline of destruction. After the countless atrocities faced by our people, we have fought destruction by finding opportunities for persistence.

Two important observances we had this April were Passover and Yom HaShoah. During Passover, Jewish families across the world retold the story of the Exodus, how we overcame oppression to define and take pride in our faith. On Yom HaShoah, we were reminded to reflect on the horrors of the Holocaust. Even as we relived those gruesome memories, we are also reminded of the sparks of hope that lived within the hearts of prisoners and survivors. It is the recognition of these small bits of light that illuminate our constant drive to contribute to Tikkun Olam, the building of a better world.

An important aspect that unites these observances is the importance of the generations to come. Children play an extraordinary role in the Passover Seder, asking questions that stimulate a conversation on the meaning of the Exodus. Armed with the knowledge from our answers, our children and our children's children perpetuate this hallowed exchange. On Yom HaShoah, we revive painful memories to remind ourselves that such atrocities should never happen again. We teach future generations the memories of the past so that they may recognize how to fight unspeakable evils that may swell against them. From the euphoria of Passover to the bitter pain of Yom HaShoah, we find that our children are our greatest asset in strengthening the Jewish heritage.

I have been thinking a lot about this topic as we approach the end of our religious school calendar. Nearing the end of my first year in the rabbinate, I have begun to take a critical look at what improvements I can make to ensure that our children will have the tools they need to feel knowledgeable and responsible for their heritage. And as I begin to explore what questions will lead me to these improvements, I need your feedback as well. The Jewish tradition emphasizes the importance of Chevruta, a friendship that facilitates sacred conversation. Chevruta relies on the ability for people's ideas and feelings to be shared, challenged, and debated. Your participation in this process can provide meaningful conversation about how we can evolve and improve. As we recall our messages from Passover and Yom HaShoah, we remember how we rely on our children to strengthen our heritage to stand strong in challenging times ahead. I hope you will join me in this effort.

Until next time...L'hitraot,
Rabbi Joseph H. Rosen

Contacting the Office

As part of our effort to take care of our congregation and community, we have decided that the best way to practice Social Distancing is to expect it of our office staff as well. To this end we have decided to minimize our own presence in the Temple.

This does not mean that you can't contact the office. Our Administrative Assistant has agreed to have all Temple calls during normal business hours forwarded to her personal phone. Thus you can still call the office at the **(601) 956-6215** number. She's also reachable by e-mailing the office.

To speak to Rabbi Rosen you can call or text his work cell phone at **(601) 351-5238** or email him at **rabbijrosen@bethisraelms.org**.

Calling the office will have Michaela get a message to the Rabbi but for direct contact, please call him or send an e-mail.

To speak to Kim in Bookkeeping please either reach out to her e-mail address, or call the Temple Office number above. Michaela will take a message and contact Kim. We are still processing all donations, pledge payments and checks while the office is closed, and Kim can still answer questions.

BETH ISRAEL DIRECTORY 2020

Due to a low response rate, we have extended the date for updating your information for the directory.

Responses are now due May 30th.

If you have not responded yet, you will receive an e-mail before Friday with a copy of your Beth Israel Membership Report. Look over this report for correctness, then reply to the e-mail to inform the office whether the information is accurate or if changes are needed. If changes are needed, please detail them. If you are unable to respond by e-mail, you are welcome to print the report out and mail it to the Temple at the address above.

Have you still not received this contact?

If you are part of a married couple, please start by checking to see if your spouse received the e-mail instead of you. Also check your spam/junk mail filters. If you are concerned that you haven't found the contact, send a message to **office@bethisraelms.org** or respond to the Blast, and Michaela will forward you a copy of your report to the e-mail address of your choice.

Please take a few minutes to help us out and make sure you're reachable by your family, friends, and community here at Beth Israel.

Beth Israel Board — 2020

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ARTICLE DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING:

BIC BLAST
12:00 P.M. Tuesday (For publication
in the *following week's* blast.)

CHAILIGHTS
10th of every month

FRIDAY NIGHT LEAFLET
1:30 P.M. Thursday

Please e-mail all submissions to
office@bethisraelms.org

BETH ISRAEL OFFICE HOURS

Monday
CLOSED
Tuesday
10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday
10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.
Thursday
10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Friday
10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Closed daily for lunch
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

MAY BIRTHDAYS	
3	Bernice Silberman
5	Melanie Howell
	Steven Williams 15
	Beth Orlansky
	Jacob Craig 17
	Kenneth Schipper 19
8	Benjamin Hearon
	Jeanne Rozman
10	Jerry Branson 20
	Randy Harris 21
11	Julie Paul 22
12	Sondy Berman
	Buddy Fish 23
13	Hannah Guimbellot 24
	Samuel Orlansky 26
	Peter Zapletal 27
	Ellen Shemper
	Jacob Schneider
	Charna Schlakman 29
	Deborah Crystal
	Ashley Rubinsky
	Kira Giammarco
	Halina Mitchell
	Morgan Samuels
	Carol Finn
	Manny Grossman
	Wyatt Davidson
	Hulbert Crystal
	Peggy Goldstein
	Richard Schwartz
	Robert Kay

May Anniversaries	
4	Karen and Malcolm Barham
23	Susan and Stuart Rockoff
25	Donna and Ted Orkin
28	Susan and Marc Goldberg
29	Dana and Jonathan Larkin

*May you be gifted
with life's biggest
joys and
never-ending bliss.
After all, you yourself
are a gift to earth, so
you deserve the best.*



**WE APPRECIATE THE
THOUGHTFULNESS OF THOSE
WHO SUPPORT BETH ISRAEL BY
REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THEIR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES
THROUGH THEIR GENEROUS
CONTRIBUTIONS.**

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following funds:*

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- MEMBERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT**
- MITZVAH FUND (SISTERHOOD)**
- ONEG FUND**
- PROGRAM FUND**
- RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**
- RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**
- SATURDAY MORNING FUND**
- TIKKUN OLAM FUND**
- WEBSITE FUND**

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RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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In Honor of William Denison Morris — The Kassoff Family

NOTICE

Donations received after April 10th will
be published in the next Chailights.
Please email office@bethisraelms.org if
your contribution was not listed.

BETH



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Fax: (601) 952-0895

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We Remember — Yahrzeits for May

5/1/2020 - 5/2/2020

*Gerald Crystal
Donald Liverman
Helen Weil Loeb
Eli Abromson
Deborah Danziger
Lena Katz
Abraham Plotkin

5/3/2020 - 5/9/2020

Marvin Kirsch
Jack Davidson
Sally Friedman
Clara Nelson
Joe Wilk
Sydney Chain
Lillian Gerber
Rufus Branson
*David Alan Hesdorffer
Anna Marcus
Marx Rosenzweig
Mildred Wise
Dorothy Alter
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*Alice Mackevich

5/10/2020 - 5/16/2020

*Vivian Ascher
Mollyne Karnofsky
Bess Tubias
Estelle Binswanger
Sydney Geiger Sr.
Lou Humphrey
*Ann Joseph
*Rose Sherman
Jack Wallick
Ben Applebaum
Abe Berman
Louis Katz
Charles Shapero
Irving Jacob Ratner
Sidney Rubin
Stanley Cohen
*Selma Glass
Richard Parker
Rita Printz
Roston Lucas

5/17/2020 - 5/23/2020

Esther Gavant
John Hirko
Nick Karno
Morris Silverman
Alex Feldman
Mel Feldman
Isadore Schwartz
Florence P. Stiebel
Leota Blaw
Gilbert Balkin
*Sydney Geiger
Allen Latzman
Florence Libglid
Wanda Calliss
Katherine Saik
Pompey Ucci
Lola Muskin
Jenia Howell

5/24/2020 - 5/31/2020

James Glass
Birgitte Hoffberg
Judith Rivlin
*Ralph Daniel, Jr.
*Meyer Falk
Judy Hazen
*Mark Benjamin Hesdorffer
Florence Weinberg
*David Shornick
*Jonathan Blumenthal
Morris Erlich
William Ettinger
David Salomon
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