



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

November 18-20

Rabbi Joanne in Billings

Friday, November 18

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service

December 2-4, 16-18

Rabbi Joanne in Billings

January 20-22

Rabbi Joanne in Billings

February 10-12

Rabbi Joanne in Billings

March 3-5, 17-19

Rabbi Joanne in Billings

March 31-April 2

Rabbi Joanne in Billings



The President's Column

The High Holy Days are over. The Jewish year of 5777 has begun. Succot is upon us. Congregation Beth Aaron will hold our celebration of Simchat Torah on October 28, when Student Rabbi Joanne Loiben is here for the weekend.

Thanks are due to so many who helped make the High Holy Days special. Rabbi Joanne and our "cantor" Jill Salisbury led us with beautiful services. Mark Bergman, playing the double bass, helped to enhance Kol Nidre. Al Page and his new hip supervised the set-up and preparation for the holidays, with the help of Board members. Brian Schnitzer and Theo Hirshfeld helped with Torah readings. Steve Kramer was a greeter and organizer. Tricia Williams (past president) helped provide "behind the scenes" time and direction. Andy Rio, "resident shofar blower," was in good breath.

A New Column: The Jewish Religious Service, by Uri Barnea

With encouragement from CBA's Board, I am launching a new column for our newsletter, *The Temple Tablet*. I name this column **The Jewish Religious Service**. In it, I will attempt to provide historical and liturgical background, explanations for customs, and practical tips for the performance of rituals.

As this is the very first column in the series, I'd like to begin with **The Origins of the Prayer Book** (Siddur), which will be covered in two parts.

Part I: As long as the Temple stood in Jerusalem, the most common way for both repentance and petitioning God was through the priestly ritual of sacrifice. It was the destruction of the Second Temple by the Romans in the year 70 CE that ushered in prayer as substitute to sacrifice and as the main way to communicate with God. Still, the idea of substituting animal sacrifice with prayer (i.e., words, whether uttered aloud or in silence) was known in ancient Israel for a long time prior to the destruction of the Temple. For example, we read (I Samuel, 1:9-13) of Hannah praying to God with a petition to have a son whom she would dedicate to God. Another famous biblical example of prayer to

The CBA Board provided a beautiful Rosh Hashanah oneg. Goodies provided by others helped to round it out. Break-fast mavens Sandy and Bob Sukin, Nyd and Alan Kraushaar, and many others provided a beautiful break-fast.

Brian Schnitzer headed up our Sukkah Committee for all to benefit from.

With congregants and guests participating, 5777 is off to a wonderful start. Thank you to all who helped and participated.

B'shalom,
Don Alweis

P.S. Please remember to mark your calendar for Friday, October 28, Simchat Torah, and Friday, November 18, regular services, and Saturday events. Rabbi Joanne will be in Billings.

God is uttered by Jonah while being in the belly of "a great fish" (Jonah 2:2-10 in the Jewish/Hebrew Bible, 2:1-9 in the Christian Bible.)*

Furthermore, it seems that in the course of time, animal sacrifice lost much of its validity as it had become a mechanistic routine, less heartfelt and possibly just a token for communicating with God. Some of the prophets show disapproval of such less-honest practices in their rebuke of the people. Isaiah, in 1:12-13, decries the practice of meaningless sacrifices, while Hosea, in a similar vein, urges the Israelites to return to God and promises that "[i]nstead of bulls we will pay the offering of our lips" (Hosea 14:2-3.)

Thus, while prayer had already been practiced in ancient Israel even during the Temple era, it fell upon the early rabbinical authorities to decide which prayers should be included in a particular service and in what order. Part II of this article, in the next *Tablet*, will address this development.

***Note:** The discrepancy in the numbers of chapters and verses between the Jewish and Christian Bibles is outside the scope of this article and may be addressed at a later time.



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

The deadline for submitting items for the December Temple Tablet is **Tuesday, November 24**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Nov 4	5:37 p.m.
Friday, Nov 11	4:29 p.m.
Friday, Nov 18	4:21 p.m.
Friday, Nov 25	4:16 p.m.
Friday, Dec 2	4:13 p.m.
Friday, Dec 9	4:11 p.m.
Friday, Dec 16	4:12 p.m.
Friday, Dec 23	4:16 p.m.
Friday, Dec 30	4:21 p.m.
Friday, Jan 6	4:28 p.m.
Friday, Jan 13	4:36 p.m.
Friday, Jan 20	4:45 p.m.
Friday, Jan 27	4:55 p.m.
Friday, Feb 3	5:05 p.m.
Friday, Feb 10	5:16 p.m.
Friday, Feb 17	5:26 p.m.
Friday, Feb 24	5:36 p.m.
Friday, March 3	5:46 p.m.
Friday, March 10	5:56 p.m.
Friday, March 17	7:05 p.m.
Friday, March 24	7:14 p.m.
Friday, March 31	7:23 p.m.

Torah Portions for November

11/5: Noach Pent. Gen. 6:9-11:32; Pr. Isa. 54:1-55:5
11/12: Lech Lecha Pent. Gen. 12:1-17:27; Pr. Isa. 40:27-41:16
1/19: Vayera Pent. Gen. 18:1-22:24; Pr. II Kings 4:1-37
11/26: Chaye Sarah Pent. Gen. 23:1-25:18; Pr. I Kings 1:1-31

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Rabbi Joanne's Schedule of Visits

Rabbi Joanne will be in Billings during the following weekends:

November 18-20
 December 2-4
 December 16-18

January 20-22
 February 10-12
 March 3-5
 March 17-19
 March 31-April 2

Member News

***Julian and Rosemary Wright** are looking for an iPhone-literate tutor to help them understand its basic uses and get it up and running—perhaps a teen looking for a mitzvah to perform?

Please contact them directly if you can help or know someone else who can. And if you need contact information, let the *Tablet* editor, Rachel Schaffer, know (they are listed in the membership directory).

Yahrzeits

In Jewish custom, the yahrzeit is the anniversary of a loved one's death according to the Hebrew calendar. The Hebrew date comes first; the civil date follows (and varies by year).

Cheshvan

1 (Nov 2): Honey Kramer, mother of Steve Kramer
 Sophie Parkans, grandmother of Bob Nemer

8 (Nov 9): David Greenstein, grandfather of Sandy Sukin

16 (Nov 17): Mildred Kraushaar, mother of Alan Kraushaar

17 (Nov 18): Les Alweis, father of Don Alweis, grandfather of Sheldon Alweis

19 (Nov 20): Joe Sax, grandfather of Marc Blum

20 (Nov 21): Berthe Perlmann, mother of Thelma Lakier
 Ted Fahrenwald, father of Roxanne Fahrenwald

21 (Nov 22): Irving Sanders, father of Jeff Sanders

24 (Nov 25): Bess Misner, mother of Marilyn Kramer

25 (Nov 26): Hugh Ford, husband of Julie Coleman Ford
 Richard Wexler, father of Diane Kersten

27 (Nov 28): Richard Civin, brother of Donna Healy

29 (Nov 30): Mollie Sanders, mother of Jeff Sanders

Kislev

9 (Dec 9): Evelyn Jaffe Miller, mother of Heather Rio, grandmother of Jonathan Edward Rio
 Bernice Samuels Schaffer, mother of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer

11 (Dec 11): Norman Alweis, uncle of Don Alweis

12 (Dec 12): Juanita L. Rio, mother of Andy Rio, grandmother of Jonathan Edward Rio
 Vivian Civin, mother of Donna Healy

14 (Dec 14): Sherwood Schnitzer Kopelove, mother of Brian Schnitzer

15 (Dec 15): Morris Niss, founding member of CBA

17 (Dec 17): Rose Yoelin, grandmother of Sandy Sukin

18 (Dec 18): Bessie Schnitzer, grandmother of Brian Schnitzer

November 2016

October 2016	November 2016	December 2016
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29 30 31
30 31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 28-30	Halloween	1	2	3	4	5
Daylight Saving Time End		Election Day			Veterans Day	11
13	14	15	16	17	Shabbat service 7:30p.m. Rabbi Joanne in town	11
20	21	22	23	Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Historic Temple Closes

Jesse Paul of *The Denver Post* writes that one of the oldest temples in the West, Temple Aaron in Trinidad, CO, has had to close its doors because of difficult financial times and a declining Jewish population. Built in 1889, the temple “was emblematic of Jews’ pioneering role in the Southwest,” but because of maintenance and repair costs that can no longer be funded by the congregation, the building, along with the Torah it holds, are now for sale. A piece of western history goes with them. For the whole story, visit www.denverpost.com/2016/10/06/temple-aaron-trinidad-closes-after-127-years/.

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Joanne Loiben

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org

Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series
<http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters>

Weekly newsletter of the
Reform movement
<http://urj.org/eneews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of
Torah"
<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

Adult Education on Jewish Subjects

Once again this fall, Uri Barnea will offer two courses on Jewish subjects:

"The Biblical Prophets" will take place at The Lincoln Center downtown every Tuesday, 6:00-8:00 p.m., from October 25 – December 6 (except for November 22). Fee: \$75.00.

Course description:

"Who were the Biblical Prophets? What qualities did they possess? What was their purpose? How did they convey their message? What was their role in Jewish history and how did they influence other religions? Come and learn about the phenomenon of the Biblical Prophets from a Jewish point of view."

Donations

New Year's Greetings

Joel and Elaine Ziskind
Jeff, Melinda & Sarah Sanders
Bob & Sandy Sukin
Al Page
Roger & Tricia Williams
The Alweis Family: Don, Ellen,
Sheldon & Nikki
Dr. Arthur & Denise Fink
Uri & Liz Barnea
Rondel Smith
Diane Kersten
Dr. Donald & Carol Roberts

In memory of

Art Pollack, by Joel & Elaine Ziskind
Rabbi Samuel and Minna Horowitz, by
Jonathan Horowitz

Endowment Fund

Dr. William and Robin Knopf

High Holy Days

Sherri Turner
Laurie Townsend
Robert Kurtzman
Terri Sporkin & Tim Morrison
Mike & Cyd Rodriquez

A second course, titled **"Revisiting The Biblical Creation Story,"** will take place at The Lincoln Center every Thursday, 6:00-8:00 p.m., from October 27 – December 8 (except for November 24). Fee: \$75.00.

Course description:

"Aided by the original Hebrew Bible, we will explore the Old Testament's Creation story not from any theological or religious point of view, but from its literary and philosophical aspects. Our goal is to illuminate embedded, hidden ideas in this unique story that touch on important and relevant issues to our own lives."

To enroll in one or both of these classes, call 406-281-5010 or visit www.billingsadultcommunityed.org.

High Holy Days Security

Bob & Sandy Sukin
Anonymous
Dr. Arthur and Denise Fink
Julian Wright

Tablet

Julian Wright
Theo and Dawn Hirshfeld
Rondel Smith

Building

Theo and Dawn Hirshfeld

Cemetery

Theo and Dawn Hirshfeld
Jonathan Horowitz

In Honor of CBA

Tammy Dayton
Drs. Rachel & Deborah Schaffer
Rondel Smith

Outside Flowers and Planter

Don and Ellen Alweis

CONGREGATION BETH AARON

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