

**January 2021**

**Tevet 17, 5781 – Shevat 18, 5781**

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**RABBI JUDY’S MESSAGE**

**Welcome to 2021**

Finally (many of you may say) we are leaving the year 2020. For a little over nine months we have been actively dealing with a pandemic, a deadly virus which has taken its toll on our country and the world. In the same amount of time that it takes to incubate and bring a new life into the world, over 300,000 people have died in the United States alone from COVID-19 and over 7,000 of those deaths have been in Louisiana.

We have isolated ourselves from our families, our friends and our communities out of a necessity to stay safe. We have weathered tornadoes, two hurricanes and many in our community are dealing with health issues not related to COVID. Through all of this, we have remained a community. We have checked in on each other, tried to stay in touch, tried to keep connected through emails, phone calls, Zoom meetings, weekly worship services and other special events such as the recent successful Matza Ball Soup sale, nightly menorah lightings for Chanukah on Facebook, a special virtual event on Chanukah and art which I conducted for the Masur Museum and more. Even though we cannot be physically together, our Congregation has tried to find ways for us to stay connected to one another.

Even though we are seeing some “light at the end of tunnel” with an available vaccine, it will still be some time before we are able to meet in person. Most Jewish organizations I am in communication with are predicting it will be at least summer before we can safely congregate together again.

So, we will continue to offer special programming and services. I will continue to send our families Jewish activities to do at home, I will continue to offer Torah Study and Shabbat services once a month on Zoom and I am working on another Introduction to Judaism Class that will be offered on Zoom. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please let me or

**Rabbi Judy’s Message Continued**

Shirley know. And, on January 29, 2021, our congregation will be joining with Rabbi Jana from B’nai Zion in Shreveport for a joint streaming Shabbat service celebrating Shabbat Shira – the Sabbath of Song. (See article in this bulletin for more information). Feel free to join us for any and all of these activities.

If there is anything more I can do for you or your family, you know where to find me and I am always here for you. I pray that we can bring all of that light from Chanukah into this New Year to shine brightly and bring us to a place of healing, hope, community and peace in the near future. Everyone stay safe and healthy.

Rabbi Judy

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**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

January 1st Mike Rhymes

January 8th  Bob Eisenstadt (via Zoom)

January 15th Rabbi Judy (via Zoom)

January 22nd TBA

January 29th Joint Service w/B’nai Zion (via YouTube)

Services will be held in person at the Temple, as well as live streamed through our website, [www.bayoujews.org](http://www.bayoujews.org), unless otherwise noted.

Safety protocols published elsewhere in the newsletter will be in place for in person services.

Lay leaders are subject to change.

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**DONATIONS**

**General Donation:** In honor of the Yahrzeit of Dad Victor Cahn, Uncle Sol Cahn,

Uncle Eugene Cahn and Uncle Oscar Cahn

Carol Super Gold

**Archives Fund:** In honor of Jean Mintz

Marshall and Vicky Sanders

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**MUSEUM/ARCHIVES**

**SPECIAL EXHIBIT COMING SOON**

How many of you spent time at the baseball/softball diamond watching your children play ball or participating in the game as a player, coach, or official? Did your business sponsor a little league team? Krauss & Cahn was a sponsor. Do you remember when we had a semi-pro team right here in Monroe, LA? Was that your first introduction to professional baseball? It was for me! The team played in a stadium at the present zoo location.

Jews in Monroe have played a significant and important role in the sport of baseball. We would like to honor those that had a role in supporting baseball in Monroe, whether you were a player, coach, official, or sponsor. To make this happen, we need the help and support from you. We are planning an exhibit of the impact baseball has/had on Monroe, which will open in late summer 2021. The timing of the opening will depend on COVID restrictions. We also hope to have other activities as part of the opening of exhibit.

Here are some of the ways you can help:

1. Loan pictures, news clippings, etc. to be include in the display. Narratives/stories of your experiences with baseball are welcome.
2. Help plan & design the display. Having input from several people is always better than from one.
3. Help plan & execute the plan for the opening of the exhibit. Everyone’s input on baseball related activities is welcome.
4. Become a docent for this exhibit and/or all the exhibits in the museum.
5. Financial support.

 Play Ball 

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Chanukah. I am looking forward to gathering together for our usual Chanukah celebration in 2021.

We are looking for members interested in serving on the Board of Trustees. These are three year terms. I would like to have an informational/training session in late January for those that are interested or think you may be interested in serving on the Board. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the office or me at 318-547-4319.

Have a safe and happy new year.

Alan Barth, President

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**SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

* Masks must be worn at all times, please bring your own mask, disposable ones are available should you forget yours.
* Social distancing – each family group must be seated 6 feet from the next family – unavailable seats will be blocked off.
* No standing in the building to socialize – please go to the parking lot and maintain your social distancing.
* Temperatures will be checked before you enter the building – if you have a fever, you will not be allowed to enter.
* Touchless hand sanitizer dispensers are located in the lobby near the doors and in the hall near the bathrooms.
* Public use areas will be sanitized after each service.
* Sanitary wipes are available in both bathrooms.

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**YAHRZEIT**

**JANUARY 1ST**

Esther B. Masur

**JANUARY 8TH**

Wilma Zavelo Marx Otto Haas 3-21 Harriet Kern Manuel Slipakoff

Hettie Lowentritt Bessye L. Stern

Herman Masur 1-11 Maurice Roby

Abe Froug 1-7 Dora Israel

Sam Smith Doniel Weil

Lillian Henninger Sol Arthur Stern

Philip Wilenzick Etta Levine

**JANUARY 15TH**

Louis Flemin Ralph Marks

Dula Mae Roby Carl Goettinger

Yetta Leibowitz Leopold Hirsch

Maude Selig 2-7 Joan Halperin 5-15

Rachel Rosenberg Stanley Shlosman

**JANUARY 22ND**

Marvin Carlie Louise Z. Hakim 6-2

David Masur 1-5 Joe Doernberg

Louis Masur 1-2 Morris B. Rosen

Tola Rosenberg 5-19 Sol Rosenberg 5-20

Sam Rubin, Sr. Clem Heninger

Stella Heninger Moise King

Dr. Fred Marx Jan Fishman

Jakob Strauss

**Yahrzeit Continued**

**JANUARY 29TH**

Dr. Samuel Lewis Virgina Marx

Sam Zavelo 1-8 Alan Blumenthal 2-6

Leonard Lemle 3-7 Lonare Schwelling

Louis Weinberg Dora Heiman

Carol Marx Ida Scherck Bogen 3-19

Minnie Kristal Levine Edgar Masur 1-4

Tootsie Sara Scherck

**JANUARY 31ST**

Abraham Blumenthal

The numbers following a name is the location of their plaque on the Memorial Board in the Foyer. The first number represents the column. The second number represents the position in the column. The lights on both sides of the plaque are light during the week of their Yahrzeit. If you would like to have your loved one remembered with a bronze plaque on the memorial board, order forms are available at the Temple.

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**MEN’S CLUB**

We would like to thank everyone who came out for our Matzo Ball Soup Fundraiser. Due to your generosity, we raised $750 for the Northeast Louisiana Food Bank. The Food Bank has a sponsor that is matching donations $2 for every dollar donated. The money raised from the soup sale actually resulted in a donation of $2,250. A big thank you goes to Mike Rhymes, Chris Colbert, Rachel Allen, and Becky Ham for help preparing and packaging the soup, as well as cleaning the kitchen, and to Mindy Rogers who assisted people picking up the soup.

The Men’s Club is planning a Kosher-Style hot dog and Challah sale in the spring. More details later.

Due to the Pandemic, there are no meetings scheduled at this time. Watch your emails and future newsletters for notification of meetings.

Alan Barth, President

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Peggy & James Greenbaum January 29th 66 years

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Cecile Smith – January 20th Carly Laudenheimer – January 22nd (6 yrs)

Phyllis Marcus – January 22nd Tanya Speyrer – January 22nd

Michal Hakim – January 26th Ron Israel – January 27th

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**RITUAL AND WORSHIP**

I would like to thank Rabbi Judy for providing services via Zoom in December. As always, she provided a very inspiring service. I would also like to thank Bob Eisenstadt for leading 2 services via Zoom from South Carolina. It was nice to see Bob and he always provides an interesting service

We will continue to live stream our Shabbat services, with Zoom as a back-up when necessary. Please watch the weekly email or our website for information on whether the service will be live streamed or on Zoom. The attendance at the Temple is very small, but seems to be increasing a little each week. I hope when you are comfortable attending services at the Temple you will come join us. There is plenty of room for social distancing and masks are required.

All the services that have been streamed are saved and available to view through our website, [www.bayoujews.org](http://www.bayoujews.org). Just click on the button with the date of the service and it will redirect you to our YouTube channel.

Many of the people who have been leading services are no longer able to do so. Therefore, we are looking for members who are interested in leading services. Generally, you would lead no more than one service per month. If you are interested in this very rewarding experience or have any questions, please contact the Temple office as soon as possible. I would like to conduct a training class via Zoom some time in January.

Mike Rhymes, Chair

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**JOIN US FOR TORAH STUDY**

Rabbi Judy began a new Torah Study program in September and we have been meeting online once a month. We will meet once again on Zoom on **Saturday, January 16 at 10:30 am**. Our topic will be Interpersonal Relationships. If you would like to join us, please contact Shirley at the Temple for the Zoom link.

If you are unable to Zoom from home, Shirley will live stream the Torah Study at the Temple. You must make reservations in advance to participate at the Temple.

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**SPECIAL JOINT VIRTUAL SERVICE WITH B’NAI ZION IN SHREVEPORT**

On Friday, **January 29, 2021**, Rabbi Judy will be sharing the pulpit (virtually) with Rabbi Jana from B’nai Zion in Shreveport. This happens to be Shabbat Shira – the Sabbath of Song and Rabbi Jana wanted to do something special to celebrate this musical Shabbat. Since Rabbi Jana and her three siblings are all musical, they will be sharing musical performances with us. Rabbi Judy will be sharing a song and she will also be giving the sermon. Other musical Rabbis and cantors from around the state have been invited to participate as well.

The service will be streamed on B’nai Zion’s YouTube channel. [www.youtube.com/BnaiZionCongregationShreveportLA](https://www.youtube.com/c/BnaiZionCongregationShreveportLA) or there is a dedicated page at the B'nai Zion website to be able to find the newest Friday night service (which lets you jump to the YouTube page):

[www.bnaizioncongregation.org/watch-bz-service.html](http://www.bnaizioncongregation.org/watch-bz-service.html)

The service will begin at 6 pm. Shirley will send more details out the week of the service, but we hope you will join us for this special musical, collaborative service.

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**NORTH LOUISIANA JEWISH FEDERATION**

**The Federation is sponsoring the following programs online:**

**Celebrity Chef Series**

**Tuesdays in January/February**

**7:00pm - 8:00pm**

Enjoy a virtual international culinary journey with four celebrity chefs on the Israeli and American scenes. Explore their Moroccan, Yemenite, Persian, Tunisian, and Ashkenazi backgrounds, recipes and culinary inspirations.

**Einat Admony – The Ultimate Balaboosta**

**Tuesday, January 19, 7:00pm**

Menu: Moroccan Spiced Fish, Yemenite Salad with Fenugreek-Yoghurt Dressing, and Ja’ala

**Lior Lev-Sercarz – The Spice Master**

**Tuesday, January 26, 7:00pm**

Menu: Freekah and Feta Salad; Charred Eggplant and Labneh Parfait

**Danielle Renov – Peas, Love &amp; Carrots**

**Tuesday, February 2, 7:00pm**

Menu: Meat stuffed artichokes; Sumac-Scented Fennel and Tangerine Salad

**Adeena Sussman – Sababa**

**Tuesday, February 9, 7:00pm**

Menu: My Mother’s Irresistible Peach Kuchen; Chewy Tahini Blondies

**This is free event, but a donation is requested of $18 per class or $36 for all 4 classes. Here is the link to register for these classes:** Chefs: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrity-chefs-series-registration-129628370947>

**North Louisiana Jewish Federation continued**

Teens & Family Programs:

Voices of the Generations

Sunday, January 10th, 2021

**Julie Kohner, daughter of Holocaust survivor Hanna Kohner, shares memories, videos, and her parents inspiring love story. This program is geared towards Middle and High School students and their families, but is open to the general public. Join us on January 10th, as we do our part to “Never Forget” the Holocaust.**

The event is free, but you need to register using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/voices-of-the-generations-registration-130440574269>

**ANNUAL PURIM PARTY**

We hope you'll join us for our **Annual Purim Party** to enjoy Food, Fun, Friends, and Community! This year, our party will be held on **Sunday, February 28th**.Due to the pandemic, we anticipate this year's festivities to be fully online.  Stay tuned for more details to follow, and be sure to check our website for up-to-date information. <https://www.jewishnla.org/events/purim>

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