

**November 2021**

**Heshvan 26, 5782 – Kislev 26, 5782**

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**RABBI JUDY’S MESSAGE**

Well, it is difficult to believe that it is almost the end of another year. The weather is feeling more like Fall and in this month, we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a time to think about all the things that we are grateful and thankful for. I am thankful that we are once again able to safely meet in person at our synagogue. I am thankful that we lost no one in our congregation to COVID-19. I am thankful that we have such a warm and hospitable congregation making all who visit us feel welcomed and accepted. This is something I hear over and over again from visitors – “everyone was so nice.” “Nobody judged me.” Statements like this make me proud and happy.

Our new conversion class began this past week. We have five people who will begin their journey to becoming Jews and in August, 2022, we will welcome them as new members of our Jewish community. I will be with you again on Friday, November 19 for Shabbat services. On Saturday, November 20, I will lead Shabbat Mishpocha for our families at 9:30 am and Torah Study at 11 am. Whenever I am in town, I am available to meet with you on Friday prior to services or Saturday afternoon after Torah Study. All you have to do is schedule a time to meet with me in advance.

Just a few days after Thanksgiving is Chanukah. It begins at sundown on November 28th! I will be with you for the end of Chanukah the weekend of Dec. 3-4. If you need candles for your menorah or Chanukah wrapping paper, cards, etc. please be in touch with Shirley as we have some for sale. I am looking forward to our annual Chanukah dinner on Friday, December 3rd where the Men’s Club treats us to potato latkes. Yum!

We all have so much to be thankful for. And I hope we each count our blessings every single day. See you soon. Stay safe and healthy.

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

I want to thank Rabbi Sim for coming to Monroe. I was unable to be here, but I have heard great feedback regarding her visit. She had a packed schedule. She read Torah during Shabbat service, which made the service a little long, but nobody seemed to notice. Those that went to eat dinner with her enjoyed the time to visit with her.

On Saturday, she had some fun activities, including a piñata, following the Shabbat Mishpocha service. Those that came for her evening presentation requested a Torah study instead. She accommodated their request and they studied for 2 ½ hours, which I was told felt like they had only been studying for an hour. I want to thank all of you that made Rabbi Sim welcome.

We have implemented many new security and safety measures. The Board of Trustees in continuously evaluating procedures and taking the appropriate steps to ensure everyone’s safety while at the Temple.

The Annual Hanukkah Party is December 3rd. Rabbi Judy will be here to celebrate the holiday with us. Save the date!

Gay Nell Barth, President

Pictures are in separate file. I was not able to send the newsletter with the pictures inserted.

Rabbi Caroline Sim – Shabbat Service October 15, 2021 Rachel Allen assisting Rabbi Sim

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**SERVICE SCHEDULE**

November 5th Bill Levinson

November 12th  Deb Roa

November 19th Rabbi Judy

November 26th Mike Rhymes

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.

Lay leaders are subject to change.

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**RITUAL AND WORSHIP**

I would like to thank Deb Roa and Sandra Blate for leading services and Rachel   
Allen, Chris Colbert, Allison Dalton, and Heather Dickinson for leading our responsive reading in October. A special thank you goes to Bob Eisenstadt for leading services October 1st from the Temple. It was nice to see him in person instead of on Zoom from South Carolina.

We had very inspirational services from both Rabbi Judy and Rabbi Caroline Sim from the ISJL. While Rabbi Judy was here she taught an Introduction to Judaism class, which was requested by many members of the community.

Rabbi Sim from the ISJL will be here October 15-16. Our members found her Torah Study so interesting that the study lasted almost 2 ½ hours. We appreciate Rabbi Sim spending the extra time with our members.

We have a new associate member. Don Smith has been attending our services for some time and is in the conversation class. Welcome Don.

Hanukkah is very early this year. We will have our annual Hanukkah party on December 3rd. We will share more information as it become available. Save the date!

Mike Rhymes, Chair

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**YAHRZEIT**

**NOVEMBER 5TH**

Joe E. Marx, Sr. Estelle Rubin

Morris Lande Bessie Kaplan

**NOVEMBER 12TH**

May Doernberg Nathalie Haas Hirsch

Abie Marx Rabbi F. K. Hirsch

Margarethe Gerson Ruth S. Rosen

**NOVEMBER 19TH**

Anna Berkelhamer Morris Brahinsky

Simon Fried Rose Lemle Masur

Louis Krauss Harry Rabinovitch

Charles Speyrer Rebecca Kahn

Dorothy Mintz 4-8 Charles Fogel

**NOVEMBER 26TH**

Joe M. Schendle, Sr. Oscar Cahn 6-6

Madeline Hirsch 2-21 Rosaline Liebreich 1-22

Simon Shlenker, Sr. 1-10 Abraham Tumaroff

Leopold Baer David Guter

Mathilde Schochet Sigmund Masur

Sol Cahn 6-11 Gertrude Snyder 1-24

Yetta Dorn Jessie G. Weil

**NOVEMBER 30TH**

Martin Lerner Bern Stern

Annette Milligan Eva Felsenthal Heller

Hannah (Sis) Kahn Lowentritt

The numbers following a name are 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.

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**MEN’S CLUB**

The Men’s Club will be meeting on **Sunday, November 14, 2021**, at 10:00 AM at the Temple. We will be discussing the Hanukkah party on December 3rd. We will be making our world-famous latkes for the party.

The Men’s Club will be having a Kosher-style Hot Dog & Challah Sale Fundraiser on February 8,2022.

Alan Barth, President

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Don Marx – November 8th Mel Cohen – November 11th

Alan Barth – November 21st John Roa – November 21st

Kelli Goza – November 22nd Diane Rosenberg – November 28th

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**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

Religious School classes have started and are being taught by Kelsey Laudenheimer, with the help of other Temple members. The classes are every Sunday, except the weekends Rabbi Judy is in Monroe, from 10 -11 am. When Rabbi Judy is in Monroe, Shabbat Mishpocha will be held on Saturdays at 9:30, in place of the religious school.

November schedule:

Sunday, November 7th, 10-11am – religious school

Sunday, November 14th 10-11am – religious school

Saturday, November 20th 9:30-10:30 am – Shabbat Mishcopa

Sunday, November 28th 10-11 am – religious school

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**ARCHIVES/MUSEUM NEWS**

Through my 60 years of volunteer work, I have learned that no one does any project by themselves. The Precious Legacy Archives/Museum personifies the above statement. Recently Ron Downing passed away and that brought to mind the contributions he brought to the Archives and the Temple. When Ron Downing heard about our archives project, he began donating copies of articles about special celebrations from newspapers published in the late 1800s. A descendent of Mayor Endom, Ron knew who was related to whom and what they did. Ron Downing felt a kindred relationship to our Jewish community as his ancestors were members of the Jewish faith. He took great pleasure in lending his talents to our project. The family owned a flower shop and every Friday they would deliver the most beautiful flowers to adorn our pulpit. On special holidays they knew exactly what we needed and provided the most elegant floral arrangements. Thank you, Ron, for your contributions.

Several weeks ago, the Museum Directors met with Mayor Ellis and representatives from the company hired to reinvent Monroe’s downtown area. If you have ideas for the types of businesses and activities for the downtown area, here is your opportunity to make some contributions to the redevelopment of DeSiard Street and the surrounding area. Send your ideas to the following two ladies: Janina Scalfano, Senior Architect, at jscalfano@jtcampo.com or Veronika Suarez, Designer, at vsuarez@jtcampo.com.

The long awaited exhibit of the art of Theo Tobiasse will finally open in Monroe on Friday, November 19th, 2021 at the Masur Museum. Theo Tobiasse is a French artist. Some of his paintings reflect his time during the Nazi occupation. The Masur Museum asked Temple B’nai Israel to participate in the introduction of the exhibit opening. We have arranged for the showing of movie **“The Woman in Gold”,** starring Helen Mirren, on Thursday, November 18th at 5:30 pm at the Monroe Civic Center. The movie is about an Austrian woman’s journey to reclaim a family portrait ceased during the Nazi occupation. Following the movie will be a discussion by Ron Israel and Brian McGown. Mark your calendars for this exciting event!

This film could be the start of a Jewish Film Festival in Monroe! We are looking into that possibility.

Many, many thanks to the Board of Trustees for the new ceiling in our archives/museum work room. It makes the room feel new.

Sandra Blate

**NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS**



Turn your clocks back – Sunday, November 7th

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Men’s Club – November 14, 10 am

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Thursday, November 25th

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Introduction of Theo Thobiasse Art Exhibit at the Monroe Civic Center

“The Woman in Gold” – Thursday, November 18th at 5:30 pm

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Hanukkah – November 28 – December 6

Hanukkah Party – December 3, 6 pm