CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

THE CHRONICLE TEMPLE FEBRUARY 2025 VOLUME 25 - ISSUE 2

THE RABBI SPEAKS Rabbi Barry Block



Dear Friends,

Sometimes, people tell me that they prefer a "celebration of life" over a funeral. Judaism doesn't recognize the difference. In our

tradition, the purpose of a funeral is כבוד המת (*k'vod ha-met*), literally, "honoring the one who has died," or, as we would say in English, "a celebration of life."

I know what people mean, though. They want the gathering to be joyous, not mournful. Not everyone wants that, of course. Some are striving in vain to avoid feelings of sadness that naturally accompany a loved one's death. Others are eager to spare their family grief at the time of their own passing. They are not likely to succeed, no matter how the service is conducted, as sorrow is unavoidable when a beloved family member or dear friend dies.

Sometimes, though, after engaging the hard work of mourning, we may later find fun and meaningful ways to celebrate the life of a person who has died. We may retell their humorous stories or jokes. We may cook their favorite dinner or bake their preferred cake for their birthday. We may give גדקה (*tz'dakah*) that continues their good work.

On December 31, 2023, our congregation joined the family of David Bauman, זצ״ל,

WORSHIP AT-A-GLANCE

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Oneg Shabbat at 5:45 pm Services at 6:15 pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 Shabbat Service honoring the legacy of David Bauman, z"l, led by Rabbi Block with Bauman Family Music Fund guest artist-in-residence, Rick Recht, with Temple musicians, and followed by Shabbat Dinner Oneg Shabbat Hosts: Pat Highley and Arnie Nachmann Bimah Flower Sponsor: Kathy Bauman Shabbat Dinner Chair: Rita Fagan

> FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 Shabbat Service Led by Rabbi Block Sermon: Love Worth Celebrating Oneg Shabbat Hosts: Jan and Larry Alman Music: Jana Cohen

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 Shabbat Service Led by Lewis, Mira, and Milo Krain Music: Jana Cohen, Perry Young, and David Korenblat

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 Membership Shabbat Service Led Rabbi Block, E. Lee Ronnel Student Cantor Aleksandra Dubov, and our new members Accompanist: Diana Brandon Oneg Shabbat Hosts: Ellyn Polsky, in honor of Howard Bresnik's birthday



(The Rabbi Speaks continued from front page)

to grieve his untimely and unexpected death. David's family was plunged into mourning, and our congregation was bereft alongside them.

Here, it behooves me to say a word about who David was, since we always have new members, including many who joined in 2024. David was unmatched in serving two full terms as President of our congregation and was the first among near equals, a group of Temple musicians who revolutionized

SATURDAY MORNINGS IN FEBRUARY

Shabbat Torah Study at 9:30am, led by Rabbi Block on February 1, 8, and 15, and by Bruce Greenberg on February 22.

Shabbat Morning Worship at 11am, led by Rabbi Block on February 1, 8, and 15, and by Emily Adams and Carmen Arick on February 22.

worship music at Congregation B'nai Israel. Beginning with the Bat Mitzvah of his elder daughter, now-Rabbi Katie Bauman, David joined his brother Steve to lead music for services. David and Steve had grown up in SoFTY, now NFTY-Southern, our regional Reform youth movement. Above all, they had been inspired by what was then a new style of Jewish liturgical music, drawing on folk music and even rock-and-roll.

David would go on to lead our Temple musicians, prominently including Jana Cohen and many others. He frequently traveled to Reform Movement gatherings, where he and his bass guitar would accompany some of the best-known creators of contemporary Jewish music, learning new melodies and bringing them home to Congregation B'nai Israel. Under David's leadership, our worship music was carefully curated and beautifully led.

Every Shabbat service at our Temple is a celebration of David's life. Those who played and sang with David and growing numbers of new voices continue to inspire us with worshipful song.

On February 7, we shall honor David's extraordinary legacy at Congregation B'nai Israel and throughout and beyond Central Arkansas. Rick Recht, an internationally recognized songwriter and worship leader, who often collaborated with David here in Little Rock and at Reform Movement gatherings, will be with us to celebrate, as will members of David's family. David's friend and fellow past president, Rita Fagan, has taken charge of preparing a festive Shabbat dinner, including David's favorite meatballs. The festivities will continue on Saturday night with Havdalah and singalong at the home of Jill and Steve Bauman.

Ecclesiastes famously wrote, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven." Having taken the time to grieve David's death, the time has come to celebrate David's extraordinary lifetime of gifts to Congregation B'nai Israel, a living legacy.

Faithfully,

Jamy 20, Block

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Friday Evening: Musical Tribute Shabbat Service, followed by Shabbat Dinner Saturday Evening: Hors d'oeuvres, Havdalah and Singalong at the Home of Jill and Steve Bauman, 1815 Canal Pointe, 5:30-7:30pm

David Bauman, of blessed memory, followed his brother Steve into leading Temple worship music with guitar from time to time, then quickly grew that into weekly musical leadership by Temple volunteers on Friday nights as well as ever-growing involvement of volunteers on the High Holy Days and on other special occasions.

Rick Recht is one of the most influential and celebrated Jewish artists and leaders of our time. His innovations in Jewish music, media, and leadership training have had a profound impact on the fabric of Jewish life. He frequently collaborated with David as a guest of our congregation and at international gatherings of our Reform Movement, where David regularly accompanied Rick and others on bass.

Rick Recht's visit is made possible by a generous grant from the Bauman Family Music Fund.

\$18 per person with reservations by February 5, \$20 with reservations by noon on February 7, \$25 at the door.

RSVP to Lane, LBoyd@bnai-israel.us, 501-225-9700 Please indicate any dietary requirements



Bonnie Nickol, whose granddaughter, Sydney Felson, is a coauthor of "The Effect of Exercise on Nonmotor Symptoms in Parkinson's Disease with Deep Brain Stimulation," published by the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society.

Mary and Corbin Otwell, on the birth of their daughter, Carlie Elizabeth Brooks Otwell. Congratulations also to Carlie's grandparents, Rebecca and Alan Kauffman.

The Temple Chronicle



Friday, February 28

Oneg Shabbat, Service and Dinner Honoring Our New Members Hosted by the Board of Trustees



Mockie and Raymond Abramson Amanda Bentley and children—Noah Cardona, Layla Knight, and Alaya Smart Lane Boyd Tish and Morris Estep, Lena and Hannah Susan and Robert* Flemming Marnie Golden Maggie Head Rebecca and Roger Horn, Ella-Sophia and Jaxon Stephanie Metilly, Hadar and Shoshanna Daniel Roda and Elizabeth Michael and son, Paul Elli Samuels and David Sheldon Clover Wagner John Mackey Weber Elizbeth and Ray Weiner Amanda and Shawn Williams, Raelynn, Preston, and Sloane

Each new member will be invited to participate in the service and will receive a welcome gift bag at the Shabbat Dinner. To make a reservation for dinner, please contact Lane in the Temple office, LBoyd@bnai-israel.us or 501-225-9700.

New and Prospective Members: No Charge, but please make a reservation by Wednesday, February 26.

All others: \$18 per person with reservations by Wednesday, February 26; \$25 if reserved on February 27 or on February 28 by 12pm; \$30 at the door. (Please indicate any dietary restrictions)

*of blessed memory

Thank you to our

Oneg Shabbat hosts for January:

Emily Adams and Carmen Arick, Bonnie Nickol, the Krain family, Krysten and Mark Levin, and Ruthe Kaplan

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From Lewis Krain, President

I did not know David Bauman as well as I would have liked. He was a larger than life figure to me. Physician, Musician, President of the Congregation (twice!). He was always friendly towards me, though in my own insecurity I found him intimidating and I was always shy to approach him. I'm sure he would have found that ridiculous if he knew.

Despite this distance, he was a role model for me in more ways than one. As a practicing physician, he did not let his busy clinical duties stop him from taking a central role in the Jewish community and the CBI congregation. I have no idea how he juggled his role as a cardiologist with the responsibilities of the Presidency of the Temple, or with the time he took to rehearse and perform for the Temple. I would love to ask him now; it's a lesson I have been thinking about increasingly in the past few weeks since I've become President myself.

David's musical contribution cannot be overstated. All-Music Shabbat was one of the strongest calls to worship in those days for my growing family. Many remember my daughter as a toddler dancing in the aisles to the music of David, Jana Cohen, Russ Parish and others, and she has told me this is one of her first memories of childhood. Under David's leadership, the music of that time transformed my understanding of what a Jewish service could be, and went a huge way towards making Temple B'nai Israel my Jewish home when I returned to Little Rock from Michigan.

I'm disappointed that I never took the chance to tell David how much admiration I had for him. It's a lesson I've learned (and keep learning) about the importance of taking advantage of time with people while we have it, and not letting my own insecurities be a barrier to connecting with them. On that note (pun intended!) I encourage you to take the opportunity to join the congregation as we celebrate David Bauman and his musical legacy on the weekend of February 7-8. Rick Recht will be coming into town to be part of Friday Evening Services and a Havdalah on Saturday. Please come add your voice to the celebration of a life of joy, music, and service, and while you're there take the moment to tell an unsuspecting person how much they mean to you.



What you provide when you sponsor security for Shabbat worship

Congregation B'nai Israel is committed to the safety of our Temple.

Will you help us keep our sacred Temple safe for worship? Your donation is greatly needed and appreciated more than ever.

Contact Lane at LBoyd@bnai-israel.us or 501.225.9700 to select a date.

Sponsor Shabbat evening or morning worship for \$180.00.

Share Temple B'nai Israel with our Neighbors BEATEMPLE DOCENT Image: Mail

And Learn More about the Temple Yourself in Training!

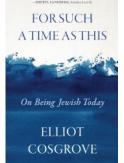
To let us know you are interested, please contact Lane, 501-225-9700 or <u>LBoyd@bnai-israel.us</u>. Training with Ron Lanoue will be scheduled at your convenience.

Our Congregation has played an important and often leadership role in the advancement of social justice issues in Arkansas beginning even before Rabbi Sanders' transformative tenure, 1926-1963.

So many people come through our doors looking to learn about the congregation and about Judaism.

This interest in the Jewish People continues to this day. Dale Ronnel, Trudy Jacobson, Emily Lewis, and Ron Lanoue have offered countless tours over the course of many years. Now is the time to expand our cadre of docents who can guide our visitors on their visits to Temple.

Requests for tours most often fall on Fridays in advance of services.



AL BARRON BOOK CLUB

Sunday, March 2 at 3pm, in the lobby

For Such a Time as This By Elliot Cosgrove

For thousands of years, the Jewish people have wrestled with what it means to be Jewish. In this often divisive era, Rabbi Cosgrove reminds of how we can come together despite—and even because of—our differences. For Such a Time as This is a guide for a new generation that is reconciling the past with the present and facing the unknown future with courage, spirit, and unwavering hope. Agudath Achim Sisterhood invites you to join us for an important discussion on

Women's Heart Health

Sunday, February 16, 2025 2~4 pm Dr. Jeff Neuhauser DO, FACC, FHRS Debbie Bentley RN

Signs of heart attack in women often differ from those in men. Dr. Neuhauser will tell us what signs to look for and will discuss heart health for everyone.

Debbie Bentley recently experienced a heart attack. She recognized the first signs and acted accordingly. She will speak from her perspective.



January at Congregation B'nai Israel Religious School!



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DONATIONS

Endowment Fund Doris Krain In memory of Bettye Korenblat Jill & Steve Bauman Yahrzeit Fund In memory of Ted Baer Milt Baer In memory of Sgt. Sherrill Berntstein Nathan & Tina Bernstein In memory of Herbert J Garon In memory of David C. Bauman Kathy Garon Bauman In memory of Catherine Nachmann Arnie Nachmann In memory of Sandra Levin Fred Levin In memory of Uncle Bookie and Aunt Fran Eiseman The Stroock Family In memory of Harry S. Lasker, Jr. Harriet Lasker Kathz In memory of A. David and Jean Goldberg Ellen Goldberg In memory of Blanche Alman and Sol Alman Charles and Martha Alman In memory of Annette J. Sanders Keith Maddison In memory of Elsie Axler and Martin Greenberg Lynn and Bruce Greenberg In memory of Hyman Reifer Ken & Judy Reifer and Rachelle Sanders In memory of Arnold and Janet Mayersohn Arnie and Betsy Mayersohn In memory of Sandra Levin John Levin and Family

Bauman Family Music Fund

In memory of Marilyn Thomas Robison Frank and Joan Main In memory of Dr. David Bauman Carey Kaufman In honor of Jana Cohen's Leadership Joanne Matson

Pfeifer Community Outreach Fund In honor of Jim Pfeifer for arranging a marvelous Christmas dinner and entertainment for Our House Gene and Linda Pfeifer

Mayersohn Leadership Development Fund In memory of Janet & Arnold Mayersohn and Bettye & J. W. Fullerton Loris and Jay Fullerton Sustaining Fund Eric Siegel

Vogel Family Caring and Sharing Fund In honor of Eileen Hamilton for her hard work, dedication, and integrity Esther Gordon In memory of Bettye Korenblat Phyllis Storthz In honor of Eileen Hamilton Joanne Matson **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** In memory of Bettye Gentry Korenblat The Family of Betty Korenblat In memory of Marilyn Oshman **Gus Block** In memory of Ann Storthz The Family of Ann Storthz In honor of Raida Snyderman Carol and Chester Storthz In memory of Blanche Roubein Elli Samuels In memory of Nelly Urbach Janet Kahn and Jeffrey Urbach In memory of Ronald Harkavy Gus Block

Anonymous

Ann and Sam Storthz Religious Education Fund

In memory of Ann Storthz Susan Lesser Jackie and Jerry Bendorf Carol and Chester Storthz Ellie and John Moore Raida Snyderman Leslie Goodman-Allen Tracye and Larry Townley Sally and Jack Cotlar Dale Ronnel Ruth Howell Sarah Hartz Nan Selz Karla and Larry Back The Family of Ann Storthz Doris Krain Gary and Carole Weisbly Harriet Strasberg Miriam and Leonard Hasson Lesley Roberts The Selakovich and Sun Families James Aronson

Diner Memorial Fund For Jewish Education

In honor of Diner Birthdays Hardy Winburn

1st	Gus Blass III	
1st	Tess Kramer	
1st	Lee Thalheimer	
1st	Kathryn Tull	
1st	Sam Vogel, Jr.	
2nd	Sheree Meyer	
2nd	John Oakes	
2nd	Harold Tenenbaum	
3rd	Lauren Appell	
3rd	Cidney Hulett	
4th	Muriel Lederman	
5th	Gay Block	
5th	Astrid Dockter	
5th	Susan Lowitz	

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

6th	Daniel Berleant	21st	Lisa Coffey Hulett
7th	7th Elizabeth Michael		William H. Friedman
8th	8th Leonard Hasson		Brooke Daniels
8th	8th Sydney Lowitz		Natalie McGarry
9th	9th Stephen Rousseau		Jerry Bendorf
9th	Brian Storrie	25th	Jenny Boshears
13th	Joyce Franklin	26th	Joseph Margolick
14th	Emily Hooks Vaughn	26th	Arnie Mayersohn
14th	Aaron Lubin	28th	Lena Estep
15th	Joannie Collins	28th	Eli Krupitsky
16th	Kelli Schlesinger	28th	Michelle Lemaire
17th	Julianne Grundfest	29th	Brad Joseph
18th	Kathy Grundfest	30th	John Sokora
18th	Franklin Richard	31st	Donald Evans
20th	20th Nancy Rousseau		Trip Strauss

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

CORRECTION:

Eileen Hamilton's

Birthday was inadvertently omitted from the January Chronicle. Please wish Eileen a happy birthday on February 20.

5th	Kirsta and Keith Nigro	16 years
11th	Elizabeth and Alex Daniel	14 years
20th	Joanne and Charles Matson	32 years
21st	Jill and Jon Flaxman	26 years
22th	Luci and Dan Rodell	45 years
25th	Eileen and Larry Hamilton	30 years
28th	Susan and David Mack	44 years
29th	Joan and Larry Nafe	45 years
30th	Rebecca and Alan Kauffman	41 years

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FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS

February 7/8

Fran Abts Gittel Adler Betty Lasker Alexander Dr. Dorothy G Axelroth Lance Bogoslavsky Harry Bresler Albert K. Cohen Edith L Fleisig Louis Goldman Alan Hirsch Birdie L. Lasker George LeCompte Bernice Marx Lion Lilah Ann Sewall Mulkey Laura Reifer Jeanette Rubin Judith Sarvetnik Shirley Schumann William A. Stern

February 14/15

L. Julian Alexander Joyce Arick Delia G. Bloom Adolph Bluthenthal Mary Lou Cohn Charles Herrman Dante **Charles Fleisig** Max Greenbaum John Eric Kerner Eugene P. Levy Chester E. Miller Milton Richard Sander Shapiro Dorothy Blass Storthz Hulda D. Thalheimer Carla Smith Webb Arthur Weiss Marcia Weiss **Bessie Weller** Eleanor Wolff

February 21/22

Natalie Loeb Alexander Don-Neil Brotman Annah Cohen Nat M. Cohen Carrie L. Dosch Chai Rachel Epstein Hattie Jean Falk Rhoda Lowenberg Gilbert Robert Hestermann J. B. Heyman Lilian Cohen Horton Ruth Horton Max Knoff Jean Lachmann Leo Lansky Hattie Sickles Levy Randy Maughan Heloise Kaufman Pfeifer Irene Bott Pfeifer Vivian Brooks Rosen Louis C. Salinger Morris B. Sanders Levi Storthz Catherine Towbin Jean Walter Fave Block Weinstein

February 28/March 1

Alice Lasker Back Sadie C. Bauduy Noland Blass Sr. Ann W Carb Flora L. Cohen Larry Easley Harold F. Epstein Rachel Frank Edward Leonard Gealt Max Gold Isadore Goodman Mimi Back Loeb Joseph Lyons Morris Marks Daniel P. Ottenheimer Clara Goldenblank Raff Henry Rephan Dorothy Cone Sherman Samuel J. Spitzberg G. Warren Stephenson Jr. Lewis Alexander Storthz

WE RECORD WITH SORROW THE DEATHS OF OUR MEMBERS' RELATIVE

Jimmy Plumlee Father of Kelly (and Scott) Schlesinger

Max Jordan Chiswich Nephew of Howard Bresnik

CEMIFY FOR OAKLAND

JEWISH CEMETERY Check out the mapping system at Oakland Cemetery. Find our loved ones' graves and get a lay of the land and history of our beautiful cemetery by using the QR code. Take a photo with your phone and open up the amazing program.





Dear Members of Congregation B'nai Israel, effective May 31, 2024 the purchase price of a single cemetery space in Oakland Jewish Cemetery is now \$1250.00.

If you are interested in purchasing a space or spaces, please contact the Temple office by phone at 501-225-9700 or by email at templesecretary@bnai-israel.us



Click to see the Congregation B'nai Israel Brit Kehillah





REPORT AN ANTISEMITIC OR BIAS INCIDENT

We all have a responsibility to report and respond to antisemitism or hate when we see it.

TO REPORT AN ANTISEMITIC OR HATE INCIDENT, VISIT: **ADL.ORG/REPORTINCIDENT-KULANU**

IF YOU FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY OR THE SAFETY OF OTHERS, CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY.

What should I report?

You should report any incident you perceive as antisemitic, biased or hateful.

- Here are some examples
 - Antisemitic or other hateful graffiti in public places, including synagogues and schools. Vandalism of religious artifacts such as mezuzahs or menorahs and holy places.

 - Online harassment, including hateful social media posts and emails. Ren ember to take a screenshot
- Verbal harassment, including emails and voicemails.
- Media-based incidents, including antisemitic or hateful content in a news story. White supremacist propaganda

Make an impact in the fight against antisemitism and hate.

Scan this QR code to report an incident:





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DONATIONS: THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROSITY TO YOUR TEMPLE Your donations support so many of B'nai Israel's programs in so many areas. All donations to B'nai Israel are appreciated! To reduce our administrative costs, donations of \$10.00 and less will not be acknowledged to the donor or recipient separately by mail or email but will continue to be gratefully acknowledged in the monthly Chronicle. ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$_____ From: In honor of:_____ In memory of: In appreciation of:_____ Other: Send acknowledgment to: LIST OF NAMED FUNDS THANK YOU TO OUR CHRONICLE GENERAL ASSISTANCE TO B'NAI ISRAEL **ADVERTISERS** Endowment Fund Sustaining Fund Interested in becoming a Salinger Landscape Fund Steele Strauss Chronicle ad sponsor? Mulkey Sacred Music Fund Realtor It's another way to give (501) 517-4243 **Bauman Family Music Fund** steele@jonunderhill.com back to your temple. E. Lee Ronnel Fund for Cantorial Music www.jonunderhill.com Ottenheimer Fund LIFECYCLE SUPPORT Vogel Family Caring and Sharing Fund Hallie Cohen Miller Archive Fund Oakland Jewish Cemetery Fund **GOURMET LUXURIES** Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Voted Leigh Graham Pfeifer Community Outreach Fund Best Restaurant Owner Memorial Prayerbook Fund **Best Desserts** Stern Library Fund 11121 Rodney Parham • Little Rock, AR 72212 **Best Caterer** Phone (501) 224-2639 Email: leigh@dianes-gourmet.com EDUCATION, YOUTH, CAMP, AND www.dianes-gourmet.com **SCHOLARSHIPS** Mayersohn Leadership Development Fund **K** Electric Grundfest Israel Scholarship Fund Rosa Pfeifer Isaacson Scholarship Fund Storthz Religious Education Discretionary Fund power+communications Leibs Memorial Scholarship Fund **Arkansas Destinations** from the ground up Memorial Fund for Education and Youth Levy Fund for Camp Scholarships Jana Cohen Meir Chayim Camp Scholarship Fund Professional Party Planning since 2000 Diner Memorial Fund for Jewish Education 501.603.0113 Jordan Memorial Fund for Jewish Education Jana@ardestinations.com **Knoff Family Fund** www.ARDestinations.com Newfeld Fund for Interfaith Relations Sisterhood Legacy Endowment Fund Cabbage Rose 11220 N Rodney Parham Rd. har and table Lunch, Dinner, and STE 9 now introducing. Little Rock AR 72212 Sunday Brunch! 501-664-4042

Menus and reservations at 42barandtable.org