

Tuesday Tidbits

~June 30, 2020~

Treasury Notes

First, I am continuing to enter all of the temple's financial transactions for the past year into QuickBooks for Non-Profits with the help of our consultant, Donna Vickerson. Once this detailed process is complete, we will be able to save money by filing our own payroll taxes, providing each member with a monthly statement of donations made to date, and have accurate and consistent financial reports that will allow easy comparison of transactions across months and years. However, because it is a computer program, some of the flexibility I had with regard to handling your donations is gone. For right now, it is important that those who typically make their annual membership donations (dues) for the upcoming year (2020-2021) in July and August know that I cannot deposit those checks until September 1st. Other changes will be introduced to you as they come up. Annual membership packets will be sent out in mid-August. They will include information about how to arrange for dues adjustments, what tuition payments might be for the coming year and how to handle High Holy Day donations.

Second, some have asked to make donations electronically. You have been heard! Several of us have spent hours trying to get this done through various electronic payment services. These services require that we use their "non-profit" programs, and usually require us to pay 2.6%-3.9% plus small transaction fees for each donation. In addition, many require us to pay rather substantial annual fees in order to access their services. Our goal is to find an electronic service that dovetails with our QuickBooks program and our bank's requirements (with their added fees) in a way that is cost-effective for our small volume. I know many make liberal use of Venmo (a subsidiary of PayPal) and other personal options. Those personal services are relatively simple and inexpensive to set up. However, the requirements for a non-profit corporation, such as Temple Emanu-El, are quite different and far more costly. However, we will continue to look into this with the hope of finding something that meets our needs and won't break our budget. If anyone is interested in working on this for the temple, please contact me. I will take any kind of help I can get!

Marcy
205-310-8343

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We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during these unusual times. We are very thankful that Marianne and Shelly Rosenzweig have recovered and are doing well. We are also grateful that others who have been sick have had only a mild case of the flu or a cold. Please let us know if you or any other member of our temple family should get sick and need assistance. We want to be there for them!

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There will be a temple Zoom board meeting Monday, July 13th at 5:30 pm. More information will be sent to the Board of Trustees in a separate email.

Zoom Shabbat Service | Friday, July 3, 2020 | 6PM - 7PM

Join here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89547739615>

Temple Emanu-El Meeting ID: 895 4773 9615

OR dial-in if you wish only audio: 312-626-6799

Zoom Virtual Torah Study | Sunday, July 5, 2020 | 10AM - 11AM

Join here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87870980013>

Temple Emanu-El Meeting ID: 878 7098 0013

OR dial-in if you wish only audio: 312-626-6799

Donations:

Bob and Geri Stone in honor of Angela Lewis' contributions to Temple Emanu-El
Bob and Geri Stone in appreciation to Allen Rosen for his contributions to Temple Emanu-El
and his kindness shown to us.

An anonymous and generous temple member

Larry Lewis

Chris Williamson

Allen Rosen

Hank Lazer

Yahrzheits

July 3-4

Abe Shugerman 07 01 1960

Leona Stuart 07 01 1985

Sondra Dinoff 07 02 1997

LT Morris Applebaum 07 04 1943

July 10-11

Martha Rivlin 07 05 1976

Simon Raymon 07 06 1963

Catherine Gardiner 07 06 2006

Jonas Spiro 07 07 1953

Joan Carlin Spaw 07 09 2011

Henry Jacobs 07 11 1986

This week's Torah Portion: Chukat - Balak

The Ritual Law / Balak

Numbers 19:1-22:1, 22:2-25:9

The Eternal One spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying: "This is the ritual law that the Eternal has commanded: Instruct the Israelite people to bring you a red cow without blemish, in which there is no defect and on which no yoke has been laid." - Numbers 19:1-2

Balak son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. - Numbers 22:2

SUMMARY:

- The laws of the red heifer to purify a person who has had contact with a corpse are given. (19:1-22)
- The people arrive at the wilderness of Zin. Miriam dies and is buried there. (20:1)
- The people complain that they have no water. Moses strikes the rock to get water for them. God tells Moses and Aaron they will not enter the Land of Israel. (20:2-13)
- The king of Edom refuses to let the Children of Israel pass through his land. After Aaron's priestly garments are given to his son Eleazer, Aaron dies. (20:14-29)
- After they are punished for complaining about the lack of bread and water, the Israelites repent and are victorious in battle against the Amorites and the people of Bashan, whose lands they capture. (21:4-22:1)
- Balak, the king of Moab, persuades the prophet Balaam to curse the Israelites so that he can defeat them and drive them out of the region. However, Balaam blesses the Children of Israel instead and prophesies that Israel's enemies will be defeated. (22:2-24:25)
- God punishes the Israelites with a plague for consorting with the Moabite women and their god. The plague is stayed after Pinchas kills an Israelite man and his Midianite woman. (25:1-9)