

# MONTHLY BULLETIN

February/March 2021 \* Sh'vat/Nisan 5781

Dear beloved congregation,

After Adam and Eve eat from the forbidden fruit, they attempt to hide from God. It is futile in that the eating of the fruit has implanted conscience in humanity. God, wandering in the garden, calls out to Adam, "where are you?" Suddenly lost, Adam's response is not one of physical position. Rather, it is an expression of one who knows they have done wrong, yet is not quite ready to accept responsibility. The same for Eve. Each blame an other. Adam, Eve. Eve, the serpent. In reality, the story of Adam and Eve is repeated every day by us. The episode in Eden is unique only in its particulars. We hide, Charlie Brown-like. We are seen, still hoping that our misdeeds, past and present, remain hidden. Yet, as for Adam and Eve, so for us. We are imbued with a conscience, a knowledge of right and wrong. We may try to hide our actions from others, but our conscience speaks to us. However, we do not always listen well to that voice. It hurts us to be less than perfect.

When God calls out to Adam, God already knows where Adam is, physically and morally. God knows that Adam, like a child, is hiding, hoping not to be caught, to be disciplined. God, however, knows something of which Adam and Eve have just become aware; they are imperfect.

We are not always good. We

are not always "at our best." We are not always truthful, with ourselves and towards others. We are not always kind, forgiving, humble, and just. We cannot be. Nonetheless, this does not grant us carte blanche to act without concern for the consequences and repercussions of our actions. It is our obligation, seeing ourselves as a reflection of the Divine, to find our hidden selves, to be honest, to answer that question: "Where are you?"

Just as Adam and Eve became lost in the Garden of Eden, during these past ten months of physical separation from one another, focused as many of us are on our own needs, pains, and sorrows, our own ideas and ideals, our own expectations, and beliefs, we too may have become lost. Recovery of self and place, however, is still possible. I envision this quiet time, this time of being lost in familiar surroundings, as an opportunity to find our way back towards the representation of Eden. That journey is an individual one, one that is necessary in order to find our way back to the Divine sense of self, and to one another .

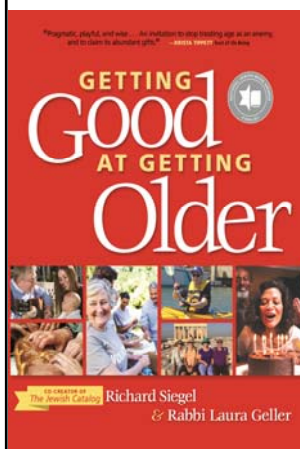
May it be so – *ken yehi ratzon*,

Rabbi Looper



Rabbi Looper's program *Getting Good at Getting Older* continues.

If you'd like to participate, contact Gina at 334-262-3314 or [bethor@templebethor.net](mailto:bethor@templebethor.net).



The opening chapter of *Getting Good at Getting Older* is entitled: Changing Your Life for (the) Good. Its focus centers on mussar, a Hebrew term that means "instruction, correction, or ethics." As the book details, "everyone has 'soul traits' (middot), such as humility, patience, honor, enthusiasm, and

generosity, but each of us possesses those traits in different measures." Our work will entail practicing one middah (one character trait) each week. We begin by considering the middah: defining it, measuring its prevalence in our life, and then, focusing on it for a week, endeavoring to reinforce it within and exemplify it outwardly. One may choose to journal, and/ or work with a study-partner; chevruta – studying with a partner – is the quintessential mode of Jewish study.

Over the next couple of months, as we work through the middot, I will setup monthly Zoom meetings (morning and evening) for open discussion. All those who wish to participate are welcome. This, I see, as a sharing of wisdom. However, it is not required. In general, it will be helpful for me to know who is engaging in the initial mussar activity. Moreover, the Zoom meeting info will be protected and sent only to self-identified participants.

Rabbi Looper

Since April 12, 1852



Scott Looper, *Rabbi*  
David A. Baylinson, D. D., *Rabbi Emeritus*

**Temple Beth Or Officers**

Andy Weil ..... *President*  
Mae Cohen..... *Vice-President*  
Larry Capilouto ..... *Treasurer*  
Jeff Blitz ..... *Secretary*  
Morris Capouya..... *Past President*

Steve Clein                          Jim Levy                          Steve Wallace  
Harriette Dorosin                  Jamie Loeb                      Alison Williamson  
Joy Kaplan                          Micki Beth Stiller

**Board Members**

SISTERHOOD PRES. ♦ MEN’S CLUB Co-PRES.  
Carol Loeb                          Milt Livingston/Lew Nyman

**Temple Beth Or Staff**

Gina Friday ..... *Temple Administrator*  
Kerry Bleiberg ..... *Religion School Co-director*  
Linda Smith ..... *L’Chaim League*  
Marlon Cotton..... *Maintenance Manager*  
Becky Taylor ..... *Music Director*  
Turia Stark ..... *Cantorial Soloist*  
   *Music Administrator*

Temple Singers..... *Michele Lott, Shane Nishibun*  
   *Tiffany Nishibun, David Peden,*  
   *James Seay, Mabs Seay,*  
   *Bill Taylor*

**Office Hours**

Monday ..... CLOSED  
Tues., Wed. & Thurs..... 9-4  
Friday ..... 9-1

2246 Narrow Lane Road • Montgomery, AL 36106

Office: [bethor@templebethor.net](mailto:bethor@templebethor.net)  
Rabbi: [rabbis18@templebethor.net](mailto:rabbis18@templebethor.net)  
[www.templebethor.net](http://www.templebethor.net)  
(334) 262-3314 Tel ✪ (334) 263-5183 Fax

*Please call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to report any corrections or inaccuracies in the bulletin.*

**Leaves for Life Cycle Events on our Tree of Life**

Our Temple is proud to possess our “Tree of Life.” This original sculpture is permanently displayed in the Temple Beth Or lobby. The branches of the tree contain leaves which can be inscribed to highlight or commemorate such joyous events as births, weddings, anniversaries, bar and bat mitzvahs, graduations or simply to honor parents, family or friends. Share your happy occasions by inscribing your family “Simchas” on our temple’s “Tree of Life.” This will be a permanent dedication to the meaningful and happy events that touch our lives. The price per leaf is \$250.00 for small leaves and \$350.00 for large leaves. Contact Sharon McDaniel or the Temple regarding purchase.

*from the*  
**PRESIDENT**

A New Year, a New Beginning!

I hope you all had a nice and peaceful Chanukah and New Year. Indeed it was probably a very strange one, as many of us were not able to spend time with loved ones, and here at Temple, we were not able to have our annual Chanukah Shabbat and Latke Dinner . Perhaps there is light on the horizon with the promise of several vaccines to aid in building herd immunity, and we will be able to return to some sense of normalcy.

I don’t really have anything to report or events to remind you of, as we are still unable to have any for the next couple of months. Our Food Festival is cancelled this year, but hopefully we will be able to resume it next year or maybe a similar, revamped event. As we monitor the rollout of the vaccine and its efficacy, we will keep you posted as to when we can return to the temple for services and events, and the measures we will need to take for a safe return. My hope and wish for you all is for a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year and to be able to gather together again in 2021.

Andy Weil

L’CHAIM LEAGUE

L’Chaim League will be sponsoring a new community-based service through Zoom. This is a much-needed program that will appeal to many L’Chaim members. Information will be forthcoming as soon as it is available.

Hope you all stay well and stay safe.

Linda R Smith  
Executive Director  
[lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com](mailto:lchaimleague2246@yahoo.com)

# Thoughtful Donations

## Condolence Fund

In Memory of Robert Lieberman  
 In Memory of Sara B. Jones  
*by Lucille Adler*

## Floral Fund

In Memory of Florence Troutman  
 and Roger Behr  
 In Memory of Honor Loeb  
*by Al and Akiko Bloom*  
 In Memory of Fran Fleischman  
 In Memory of Ronnie Rosen  
*by Lynne and Pete Ginsburg*

## Greil Memorial Fund

In Memory of my parents, Faye and  
 Gaston Greil  
*by Steven Greil*

## Lucien Loeb Memorial

In Memory of Joan Loeb  
*by Jan Weil and Amos Avgar*

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

For Temple Beth Or  
*by Richard and Jodi Clute*  
 In Memory of Robert Lieberman  
*by Kelly and Morris Capouya*

## Social Concerns

In Honor of Micki Beth Stiller  
*by Laura Graham*

## Youth & Scholarship Fund

Happy Birthday Bette Sue  
 Strasburger  
*by Bari and Joe Levin*  
*by Myrna and Alan Rothfeder*

## General Fund

The Memory of our parents, H.  
 Victor and Ann Bauman Kerns  
*by David Kerns, Susan Kerns and  
 Janice LeBlanc*

In honor of Andy (and Lisa) Weil, as  
 President of Temple Beth Or  
*by The Mandell Family*

In Memory of my daughter, Dr.  
 Aviva Hoffman  
*by Jan Hoffman*

In Memory of our parents, Drs. Jack  
 and Verna Wool  
*by Rosemary Wool Jones, Tricia  
 Wool and Ed Munson*

In Memory of Herman Franco  
*by Susan and Bobby Kohn*

In Memory of Linda DeMent  
*by Alison and Greg Williamson*

In Memory of Linda Taffett  
*by Susan and Bobby Kohn*

In Memory of Molly Ross  
*by Susan and Bobby Kohn*  
*by Alison and Greg Williamson*

Wishing you a very Happy Hannukah  
 and a Happy Healthy New Year Mr.  
 and Mrs. Richard Hanan  
*by Sandra and Alan Berman*

In Memory of Robert Lieberman  
*by Jenny and John Ives*  
*by Skipper Pools*  
*by Stefanie and David Shames and  
 Family*

In Memory of Sara B. Jones  
*by Robin and Jeff Blitz*

In Memory of Sharon Benn  
*by Milt Livingston*

## FEBRUARY

### BIRTHDAYS

3 ..... Alan Weil  
 3 ..... Mark Franco  
 12 ..... Hugh Bolen  
 13 ..... Lisa Weil  
 19 ..... Hanna Berger  
 25 ..... Carrie McKinney

### ANNIVERSARIES

10 ..... Jack & Gracie Hanchrow  
 21 ..... Steve & LaNette Clein  
 28 ..... Bobby & Susan Kohn

## MARCH

### BIRTHDAYS

2 ..... Bonnie Varon  
 2 ..... Kelly Capouya  
 3 ..... Tommy Wool  
 4 ..... Bob Sommer  
 5 ..... Nathan McDonald  
 6 ..... Anna Bern  
 6 ..... Evalynn Duncan  
 7 ..... Laurie Weil  
 7 ..... Robin Blitz  
 8 ..... Akiko Bloom  
 9 ..... John Seitz  
 10 ..... Josh Mandell  
 10 ..... Betty B. Loeb  
 15 ..... Michael Capilouto  
 15 ..... Karen Goldstein  
 16 ..... Myrna Rothfeder  
 19 ..... Ira Weil  
 19 ..... Tzlil McDonald  
 20 ..... Amy Vaughn  
 20 ..... Philip W. Bernstein  
 22 ..... Terri Capouya  
 22 ..... Gracie Hanchrow  
 23 ..... Jeff McKinney  
 23 ..... Sharon McDaniel  
 24 ..... Clare Weil  
 29 ..... Beverly Bolen  
 31 ..... Diana Lacey  
 31 ..... Celia Wool

### ANNIVERSARIES

6 ..... Robert & Alison Berman  
 8 ..... Richard & Jeanette Hanan  
 8 ..... Tommy Wool & Laurie Weil

## SISTERHOOD

While I don't have anything new to report for Sisterhood, I do want to reiterate that I hope all of you are staying safe and well in this new year. I am truly hoping we will be together in the not-so-distant future. Sisterhood is looking forward to getting back to our usual work in support of our Temple.

Carol Loeb  
 Sisterhood President

## RECENT DEATHS

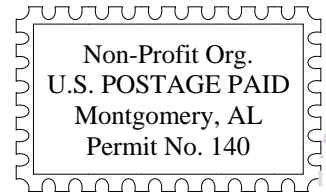
**Ronnie Rosen** ל"ה  
 January 7, 2021

Brother to Linda Smith;  
 Husband to Emily Allen

# Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or

2246 Narrow Lane Road  
Montgomery, AL 36106

FEB/MAR 21 Bulletin



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.templebethor.net

## ALVIN STEINHART SCHOLARSHIPS

for Postsecondary Education are now available. Applicants must be:

- Jewish
- Members of Temple Beth Or
- Graduating High School Seniors or Current College Students

Applications are available through the Temple office. Deadline for submission is April 1. Please contact the Temple office for more information.

## CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Each child of a member(s) in good standing of Temple Beth Or is eligible for financial assistance to offset the registration fee to attend an overnight Jewish Youth camp. Each camper shall be eligible for up to \$500 to attend a four-week session, or \$250 to attend a two-week session. All financial awards are at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of Temple Beth Or.

Contact the Temple office for an application.  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1.**

## Healing List

It is the custom at Beth Or to say a prayer for those in need of healing during Shabbat services. If you wish to have the name of a loved one mentioned, please call Gina at the office by Wednesday afternoon. We will keep names on our list for three weeks at a time.

