



Ma Yesh

מה יש

January 2021

*Tevet -Sh'vat 5781*

Phone: (505) 883-1818

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So long, 2020. Moving on to 2021,  
...Onward!



# *How to contact us:*

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## **Office Hours**

Monday—Closed

Tuesday—9:00am—5:00pm

Wednesday—9:00am—5:00pm

Thursday—9:00am—5:00pm

Friday—9:00am—2:00pm

Saturday—Closed

Sunday—Closed

**Phones will be answered from  
9:30am to 1pm Tuesday—Friday**







## A message from Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld

In her book *The Case For God*, Karen Armstrong writes (2009, p. 10):

“Before the modern period, most men and women were naturally inclined to religion and they were prepared to work at it. Today many of us are no longer willing to make this effort, so the old myths seem arbitrary, remote and incredible.

“Like art, the truths of religion require the disciplined cultivation of different modes of consciousness.”

To paraphrase: religion, and more specifically religious belief is hard and, Reform Judaism is harder still. Why? I believe it is because religion is a moving target. It swings from “There are no atheists in foxholes”, to God has no impact on this world, God does not exist. We turn to religion when we have needs, when we confront the ultimate questions, when we are lost, and periodically when we rejoice. Conversely, we reject religion when we have needs, when we confront the ultimate questions, when we are lost, and periodically when we rejoice. Most often we find ourselves in the middle.

I have been thinking about someone I know who, when presented with a cancer diagnosis with a prognosis that they would soon die, s/he rejected God because, God had let the cancer bring her/him close to death. When his/her treatment was successful beyond possibility, it was thanks to the doctors. S/he gave absolutely no thought that God might have influenced the cure. To maintain her/his faith in the face of illness was too hard. To regain his/her faith in the light of being cancer free, was also just too hard.

His/her theology is not mine. I do not believe that God allowed the cancer, nor do I believe that God cured him/her. I have wrestled for decades evolving my religious beliefs and it has been hard. I neither blame God for the lows in my life, nor do I give God the credit for the highs. I believe that God created this world and for that I am and will be grateful for as long as I am alive.

Why is Reform Judaism even harder? Because we do not “enforce” a particular theology or particular practices and beliefs on each other. As Reform Jews we are called up to confront our beliefs head on, while accepting that the beliefs of others may be correct.

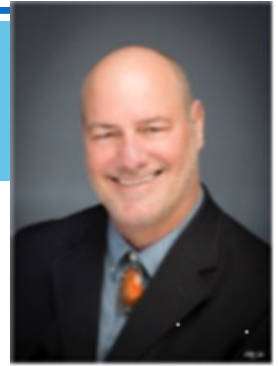
We, especially in the Western World, live in a society that values that which is easy. But religion has always been hard.

To paraphrase Rabbi Amnon of Mainz: To do religion, we need to join hands and find our individual and communal paths together, supporting each other and challenging each other.

Shalom uv'racha,

Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld

**Dale Atkinson**  
**Board of Trustees President**



Shalom.

January. The start of a new calendar year, the kids are back in school virtually or otherwise, our ECC is going again after the holidays, and Doctor Martin Luther King Junior Day is coming. This year, there will be the inauguration and, more importantly, my wife's birthday.

Other than this year's inauguration, I'm expecting that this January will be much like the ones in the past. We'll be recovering from a rapid and busy set of months from the High Holy Days through New Year's Eve and we're hoping to slow down and take a breath.

But like many of you, my expectations for January never turn out quite as I'd hoped. Something always comes up that kicks January into high gear and the new calendar year is off to the races. This year it is the Rabbi Search. Our Rabbi Search Committee and their supporting Advisory Group has been very busy. Starting last spring and summer, they held numerous meetings and conducted surveys to identify what we are looking for in a new Rabbi. Then the Rabbi Search Committee put together an application package for the Central Conference of American Rabbis which was excellent and drew many more candidates than we expected. Since then, the Rabbi Search Committee has been busy doing interviews and down-selecting candidates to get to a finalist. The Rabbi Search Committee is expected to provide a recommendation to the Board by the beginning of January.

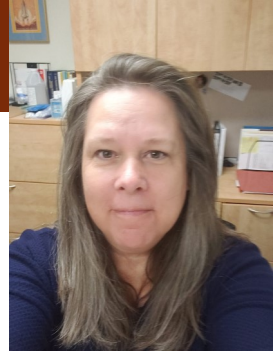
That will kick off my part as the Board reviews the recommendation and decides who we should hire. Whoever it is, I'll be busy in January helping to negotiate the contract for our next Rabbi. I expect that, in February, we'll be able to have a Special Membership Meeting via Zoom to introduce the new Rabbi and ask the membership to vote on acceptance of this Rabbi. If approved, I'll complete the contract with our next Rabbi, and we'll start the process of helping them move to Albuquerque.

Keep an eye out for our communications as we solidify plans for the Special Membership Meeting. I want to thank the Rabbi Search Committee and everyone on the Advisory Group for such excellent work during this search. I believe we have a great future in front of us with our next Rabbi.

I wish each and every one of you a wonderful and healthy 2021. Please stay safe during this ongoing pandemic until we can all get the vaccine.

Shalom.

## Joell Ackerman – Administrator



I am happy to report, the staff at Congregation Albert have entered 2021 in the most negative possible way. Yep, you heard me, we are a very negative staff. Ok, perhaps some clarity is in order. The office staff was tested for Covid 19 and we all tested NEGATIVE!

Thanks to Dale Cooperman, the office staff and ECC teachers have been able to partner together to use the mobile “medic buddy” for COVID tests. The entire staff got tested and it was a surprisingly quick process. If you’ve never tested before, it’s a simple process. First, they take your medical information and then take your temperature, then blood pressure and finally they place a q-tip deep into the nostril for 10 seconds, swirl it around and done. Slight irritation, only because it’s not a normal occurrence, but it’s not unbearable. Frankly the most painful part is when they asked me my weight. That hurt.

What a great way to roll into 2021. It is our intention to continue to follow State Covid regulations. We are all excited about the New Year and hope to keep learning and growing as a staff. We truly want to bring the highest caliber of service to our congregants.

As always, I am honored to be the Administrator of Congregation Albert.



Do you buy things on Amazon? If so, did you know that you can turn on AmazonSmile in the Amazon shopping app, or shop on the internet at <http://smile.amazon.com>, and you can designate Congregation Albert as one of your charities? Amazon gives a portion of all sales using Amazon Smile to the designated charities, all at no additional cost to you!

For those that know about this and have been shopping this way, a huge thank you! Through November 24, 2020, Amazon has donated \$733.35 to Congregation Albert. If you shop on Amazon, I hope you will consider joining us in shopping Amazon Smile. Thank you!

Dale R. Atkinson  
President



## Ma Yesh—What's Happening?

Rachel White Sternheim, M.A.Ed.

Chanukah started with a flurry of community events and programs for all ages. Beginning on December 10th, the Jewish Federation of New Mexico hosted a nightly candle lighting event that brought together households from the many synagogues and Jewish organizations throughout the community. In this time of being safe and staying at home, it was fun to get together, virtually.



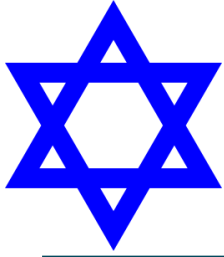
The Jewish education programs in Albuquerque also came together in community by planning a Zoom Chanukah event for students and their families. Sunday, December 13th, families logged in for a morning of programming that included stories, workshops for participants young and old, and breakout sessions of interest to different age groups from preschool – teens. Of course, no Zoom program is ever without a glitch, but the show went on and the event was meaningful and educational for all.

## Calling all Congregation Albert families!

We welcome Kindergarten – 9<sup>th</sup> grade families to join us for our second semester. Our fabulous teachers have been missing you and we would love to see in our Zoom classrooms!

Please stay tuned for special programs of interest to families, young children and teens. These include a video concert series with some of the top Jewish music artists in the country, holiday programs, and Mitzvah Day on January 31. These programs are open to all families whether enrolled in CASJS classes or not. Pandemic or not, Jewish community finds a way to keep going.

Contact: [Education@congregationalbert.org](mailto:Education@congregationalbert.org) for more information.



Breaking News:  
Congregation Albert Brotherhood  
has come out of its COVID-induced sleep!



**Happening Now** for Brotherhood Members:

- Weekly emails with articles and stories on Jewish culture, politics, humor
- Openings on the Brotherhood Board
- Monthly Brotherhood member “Coffee & Schmooze” on Zoom (January)
- Back to our monthly Sunday Brotherhood Brunch programs (Bring your brunch to Zoom and we’ll bring the speakers)

**Coming Soon** for Everyone:


- Drive-Thru Coffee & Schmooze (an outdoor, safe event)
- Back to our monthly Sunday Brotherhood Brunch programs



Not a Brotherhood member? It's easy to join.

Go to [www.congregationalbert.org](http://www.congregationalbert.org) and click on Community, then Brotherhood.

OR use this link, [BROTHERHOOD](#).

Click here ->  to check out our Facebook page for articles, stories, events, humor, and more!



# *Congregation Albert Green Team*

co-lead by Paula Donahue & Judy Smith

Consider planting a tree or shrub in honor of Tu B'Shvat. This year the Jewish New Year of the Trees will be January 28<sup>th</sup>. Although it may be a little early to plant a drought tolerant specie, this is a great time to think about where you can plant a tree or shrub in the spring that will be a low water user and provide food for birds, bees and other pollinators. Winter is always a good time to survey your yard for future planting.

## **Here are just a few small tree and shrub options:**

- Desert Willow (bees and hummingbirds)
- Western Serviceberry (birds)
- Cotoneaster (birds)
- Lavender (bees)
- Yellow Bird of Paradise (bees)
- Western Sand Cherry (birds)
- New Mexico Olive (birds and bees)



The following links contain much more information for dreaming about your spring planting:

[Plant-Cards-2015.pdf \(dpsdesign.org\)](#)

[CNM-Gardens-2017-11-28.pdf \(npsnm.org\)](#)

This is also a good time to plant parsley seeds in small pots or cups indoors if you have a sunny window. If you plant them now, the greens should be ready for your Passover Seder plate.







## MEDITATION SHABBAT SERVICES

Co-Facilitators Paula Schwartz and Paula Donahue

*“When prayer is taken to its highest level, it becomes meditation — a progression from words to sounds to silence to being with God.”* Yoel Glick

Congregation Albert’s Shabbat Meditation service consists of silent and voiced mantras which are repeated words or phrases, guided imagery meditation and chanting.

We now meet once a month on Zoom from 10:30 a.m. to approximately 11:10 a.m. The link is sent to everyone who receives Congregation Albert email information about weekly services and people who contact us to be on a Congregation Albert meditation group email list. We meditate at the same time as Shabbat services, but usually end before the Torah reading. That way meditators may join with other worshippers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of traditional services if they wish. If you have questions call co-leaders Paula Schwartz and Paula Donahue.

Here is the schedule through August 2021. Come join us!

1/16 – Va’eira

2/20 -Trumah

3/20 – Vayikrah

4/17 – Tazria-Metzorah



5/22 – Naso

6/19 – Chukat

7/17 – Devarim/Hazon

8/21 – Ki Teitzei

## *Tributes & Donations*

### **General Fund**

*Giving Tuesday* - Linda Lefton

*In memory of Ed Caplan*

Ron & Meryl Segel

*In memory of Judy Kaiser*

Steve & Debra Kesselman

*In memory of Judy Kaiser*

Venia Stanley

*In memory of Lester Novick*

Phyllis Bernstein

*Thank you For being our shul -*

*Danielle Panter, Caleb, Libby & Ellie Shaw*

### **Cantor's Discretionary Fund**

*Judy Kaiser's funeral service*

Dave Janik & Randee Kaiser

*In memory of Dr. Benjamin Levy*

Dave Janik & Randee Kaiser

### **Cemetery contributions**

*In honor of Judy Kaiser*

Judy Kaiser's funeral service & Shiva

Vicky & William Russell

### **Cooperman-Beracha ECC Education Fund**

Dave Janik & Randee Kaiser

### **Inter-faith General Fund For Family Promise**

David & Cheri Wheelock

### **Goffe Memorial Garden Fund**

Bernard Goffe

### **Jim Grad Music Fund**

Joel Matek & Linda Weiss

### **Jim Grad Music Fund—Shana Shel Shira**

Robert Rosenberg & Jane Wishner

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

*In honor of Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld*

Caryn Grosse

### **Security Fund**

Harry Ettinger

Joel Matek & Linda Weiss

### **Giving Tuesday – New Member Management System**

Lisa Leeper

Angela & Benjamin Meisner

Ron & Meryl Segel

*Giving Tuesday*

Tom & Lois Ruby

Mary Carter & Gary Priester

Rose Singer

Daniele C. Williams

Evelyn Zlotkin



# *Yahrzeits*

*In Memory of Thelma "Teddi"*  
Barllin

Norman & Linda Jones

*In memory of Andrew Edward Schiff*  
Marcia Schiff

*In memory of Arlene Resnick*  
Stanley Burg

*In memory of Bertha Rosenberg*  
Jeffrey & Diana Paul

*In memory of Booker T.C. Cameron*  
Norman & Linda Jones

*In memory of Carol Meyerson*  
Judy Lieberman

*In memory of Cecelia Rosenthal*  
Sondra Eastham

*In memory of Clare Dreyer*  
Cliff & Nancy Blaugrund

*In memory of Corinne Ricardo*  
Norman & Linda Jones

*In memory of Ed Kaiser*  
Dave Janik & Randee Kaiser

*In memory of Ed Kaiser - from Judy*  
*Kaiser posthumously*

Dave Janik & Randee Kaiser  
*In memory of Elizabeth Greenberg*  
Schechter

Mark Schechter  
*In memory of Emery Schaffer*

Scott & Carol Schaffer  
*In memory of Goldie Rimson*

Ira Rimson

*In memory of Harry Enock*  
Julia Seligman

*In memory of Jack Moise*

Sharon Moise O'Connor

*In memory of Joan Dreyer Allen*  
Cliff & Nancy Blaugrund

*In memory of Joseph Werbner*  
William & Ona Albert

*In memory of Judith Meyer*  
Sandra Meyer

*In memory of June Ettinger*  
Harry Ettinger

*In memory of Paul Lieberman*  
Judy Lieberman

*In memory of Pauline Ehler*  
Jeffrey & Diana Paul

*In memory of Rudolf Dreyer*  
Cliff & Nancy Blaugrund

*In memory of Rudolph Stern*  
Ron Stern

*In memory of Ruth Epstein*  
Jay & Debbie Greenhood

*In memory of Sally Kokot Hoffer*  
Phyllis Bernstein

*In memory of Samuel Boyet*  
Michaeline Kelley-Boyet

*In memory of Sylvia Kaufman*  
Steve & Debra Kesselman

*In memory of William Jeffrey Meyer*  
Sandra Meyer



# January Kaddish Lists

*December 27, 2020 -*

*January 2, 2021*

*Rose Ulman Abrams*

*Margaret Brown*

*Ackerman*

*Susan Berry*

*Edward Brenner*

*Harry Browstein*

*Andrea Camras*

*Helene H Catz*

*Milton Cooperman*

*Hans Doerfert*

*Joan Ellis*

*M. Harvey Engle*

*Bessie Feinstein*

*Jeanette Gins*

*Ann Goldberg*

*George Goldberg*

*Gerald Grosse*

*Mike Halpern*

*Louis Helstein*

*Marie Nash Johnson*

*Sonya Kite*

*Estelle Kramer*

*Seymour C. Lefton*

*Carl K. Lifson*

*Sandra Lipman*

*Adolph Lipstein*

*Pauline Lipstein*

*Eugene Marchesi*

*Jeffrey Marcus*

*Maxine Mead*

*Hilda Miller*

*Robert Earl Mondlick*

*Christa Read*

*Frances Rosenfeld*

*Stanley Rudolph Rosenthal*

*Burton Ruby*

*Lillian Hedstrom*

*Sandstrom*

*Mildred G. Schultz*

*Max Segel*

*Oscar Shapiro*

*Samuel Smith*

*Allen Stein*

*Suzanne E. Steinberg-*

*Henry*

*Kate Sussman*

*Suzanne Gayle Tobin*

*Rosalie Zuckerman*

*January 3 - 9*

*Anna Maria Alexander*

*Stanley Berez*

*Esther Berger*

*Lillian Binder*

*Jay Birch*

*Francesca Broward*

*Esther Z. Caron*

*Ben Cohen*

*Evelyn Cohen*

*George Salim Dallal*

*Max Davis*

*Sylvia Fromm*

*Myron Gins*

*Helen Handmaker*

*Nathan Handmaker*

*Al Herman*

*Janelle Reed Hoffer*

*Maurice Joseph*

*Scott J. Kamin*

*Julius Kaplan*

*Phillip Kessler*

*Julius H. Klein*

*Benjamin D. Kranz*

*Frieda Libman*

*Seymour Lubin*

*Jack J. Margolis*

*Liz Meyers*

*Irving Milner*

*Leonard Evan Mondlick*

*Deborah Moskowitz*

*Beatrix Padway*

*Rose Pomerantz*

*Karen Morris Reuter*

*Anne Rittenband*

*Esther Rosenbloom*

*Dot Rubin*

*Ruth Ann Schrichte*

*Gordon Segall*

*Beatrice Shank*

*Max Shapiro*

*Clara May Shwartz*

*Constance Slavin*

*Claude Smith*

*Betty Stark*

*Paul Jr. J. Vollmar*

*Ann Dennis Weil*

*Jan Zimmerman*

*Max Zuckerman*

*January 10 - 16*

*Teresa Ashley*

*Seymour L. Bernstein*

*Herman "Hy" C. Bloom*

*Rose Brown*

*Henry Clopton*

*Arthur Cohen*

*Irene Cohen*

*Melvin S. Cohen*

*Harriette Dubinsky*

*Harold Goldberg*

*Bessie Handler*

*Diana Hartmann*

*Lewis I. Kahn*

*Sidney S. Kamin*

*Esther Knight*

*Albert Lewis*

*Maurice Liberman*

*Frieda Wilks Litwin*

*Celia Mizel*

*Julius Mizel*

*Hugh F. Robison*

*Stan Rose*

*Simon M. Rosenthal*

*Bettie Meyers Rothschild*

*Dorothy Rubin*

*Alyce Seyburn*

*Sarah Shapiro*

*Max Sheer*

## January Kaddish Lists (cont.)

*Simon M. Rosenthal*

*Bettie Meyers Rothschild*

*Dorothy Rubin*

*Alyce Seyburn*

*Sarah Shapiro*

*Max Sheer*

*Sophie Slater*

*Arthur Sussman*

*Irwin Volkin*

*Lois Ward*

*George Werner*

*Thomas Zipp*

### *January 17 - 23*

*Rachel Aronesti*

*Frances Basen*

*M. Marvin Berger*

*Benjamin Feinstein*

*Marvin Friedman*

*Harriet Glazer*

*Lenore Gottlieb*

*Max Horowitz*

*Jerome Kleinfeld*

*Marian W. Leopold*

*Miles Lerman*

*Howard Lipschutz*

*Mary Lubin*

*Sandee Meizlesh*

*Jeremy D. Miller*

*Ruth G Morris*

*Sylvia Pomerantz*

*James Rappaport*

*Ben Rosenblum*

*Bruce Ross*

*Herbert Roth*

*Shirley Seiden*

*Lt.Col Morris Shur*

*Ethan Samuel Simon*

*Edward Small*

*Edna Stein*

*Ben Weiller*

### *January 24 - 30*

*Shirley Anton*

*Albert W. Bailet*

*Stanley Barlin*

*Israel Benjamin*

*Rose Benjamin*

*Ella Berez*

*Florence Rothschild Bloch*

*Roalie Braveman*

*Rose Glovinsky Cosden*

*Rebecca Ann Crispo*

*Marla Edelstein*

*Hella Nusbaum Freisen*

*Pearl Friedman*

*Michael B. Greenfield*

*Ariel Gutierrez*

*Dorothy Heilbronner*

*Belle Kohn Keller*

*Peter Kezele*

*Louis Kite*

*Marvin Landau*

*Marsha S. Lieberman*

*Eva Lishnoff*

*Edward Lubar*

*Bertha Mader*

*Irving Mann*

*Theodore Morrell*

*Martin S. Morrison*

*Flora Pfeffer*

*Estelle Stengel "Casey" Phil-  
lips*

*Asher Randell*

*Samuel R. Stein*

*Josephine Waldstein*

*Christine White*

### *January 31 - February 6*

*Stella Rein Stern Abrams*

*Lee Barsky*

*Jack Berlint*

*Mitchell Bernstein*

*Benjamin Berson*

*Ruth Blaugrund*

*James Block*

*Dena Klein Epstein*

*Samuel Atkins Epstein*

*Waller J. Finn*

*Charlotte Glazer*

*Irving Gordon*

*Mickey Greenberg*

*Jack Grevey*

*Louis Herman*

*Harold Herre*

*Gladys Kaplan*

*Neal Kaufman*

*Hugh P. Kirkel*

*Sam Klein*

*Irma Lehman*

*Rose Marchick*

*Richard McGoey*

*Alfred Meyers*

*Catie Bessie Mitnik*

*Isadore Olsfanger*

*Leon Piskiel*

*Hilda H. Reuler*

*William Rieger*

*Dina Roniger*

*Maurice Stanley Rosenberg*

*Leonard David Rosenthal*

*George Rubinstein*

*Sophie Schmider*

*Norman Stark*

*Rebecca Steinberg*

*Sherman Sweet*

*David E. Weiller, Sr.*

*Samuel Zimmeroff*

*Rae Zimmer*

*Robert "Bob" Zlotkin*

# REEL JUDAISM

WITH RABBI DAVID N. YOUNG

Sundays at 3:30 PM Pacific/6:30 PM Eastern

~~DEC. 13 THE BIG CHILL~~

~~DEC. 27 UP/UP IN THE AIR~~

JAN. 3 THE TRUMAN SHOW

The  
Last  
One

Join us as we discuss a movie that expresses Jewish values, philosophy, and customs in ways you may have not thought of before. Please watch the movie in advance (movies are available to stream on a variety of platforms).



Rabbi David N. Young serves Congregation B'nai Tzedek in Fountain Valley, CA. He is a passionate fan of pop culture, and enjoys infusing movies, TV, and music with Judaism.

To join the Zoom meetings, type [rdyzoom.com](https://rdyzoom.com) into your browser.





## A NEW YEAR, A FRESH START, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

*For 9 long months we have been separated and trying to get back to normal. We have grieved for so many lives lost, watched injustice and hate and felt overwhelmed, we have seen the best in people and the worst in people, but we are still blessed. We have a community. We will be together again. Stay strong.*

*Hold those you love closely. Be kind. Forgive.*

*2021 may be the best year; the year where we find a new normal, and we will look back at what we lost and gain new insight about the most important things.*

# Standing Together Against Racism: *Building on Our Common Heritage*

Join us for a live, nationally streamed unity event co-sponsored by



BANK OF AMERICA 

Sunday, January 24, 2021

6 pm EST - 5pm CST - 4 pm MST - 3 pm PST

Free Virtual Event • All Are Welcome



Dr. Bernice A. King - daughter of Rev.  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Dr. Susannah Heschel - daughter of  
Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel



Rabbi Capers  
Funnye Jr. - Chief Rabbi of the  
International Israelite  
Board of Rabbis

## History in the Making

We look forward to Dr. King and Dr. Heschel weaving the story of their fathers' friendship and impact on social justice, and Rabbi Funnye, as an African American rabbi will guide the conversation and reflect on with how their legacy has affected Black-Jewish relations today with positive resolve for the future.

To register for this event, go to:

[www.TogetherAgainstRacismNM.org](http://www.TogetherAgainstRacismNM.org)

We thank our generous contributors who have made this event possible:

**Co-Sponsors:**

- Bank of America
- Burque Against Racism

**Patrons:**

- Stephen & Jane Hochberg
- Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque

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- Jewish Community Foundation of New Mexico
- Sabra Minkus

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- Stephanie Lipkowitz