

Connections

Beth Sholom Congregation Newsletter

Adar, Nisan, Iyar, Sivan 5775

March/April/May 2015

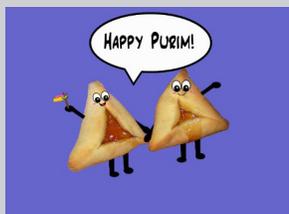
Volume 95, No. 3



Passover Schedule

In this issue:

Shop Online at
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Come celebrate
Purim at
Beth Sholom! Read
more on
pages 11 and 12.

preparing your child to navigate the world
**EARLY
LEARNING**
At Beth Sholom Congregation

Don't Miss Out on
the Latest Preschool
Initiatives. Now
Enrolling for Fall
2015. Read more on
page 8.

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE is
April 20, 2015.

Bedikat Hametz

Thursday, April 2 after sunset

Bedikat Hametz (search for leaven) is customarily done on the night before Passover immediately after sunset. The "Kol Hamira" ("All the hametz...") formula for nullifying unseen hametz is recited at this time; it can be found in the beginning of the Haggadah.

Siyyum Bikhorem

The Fast of the First-Born

Friday, April 3 at 7:00 a.m.

(Sisterhood Sanctuary) followed by breakfast

A first-born (whether of the mother or the father) should fast on the day before Passover, in commemoration of the deliverance from Egypt. It is the custom for synagogues to make a siyyum (the public completion of the large section of study) on the morning before Passover. Since the siyyum is followed by a seudat mitzvah, a festive meal that follows the performance of certain mitzvot, a first born who is present may eat and having eaten need not fast that day.

Biur Hametz

Friday, April 3 at 8:30 a.m. sharp

Biur (burn) Hametz at Beth Sholom -- and then roast some marshmallows! Beth Sholom's 7th Annual Hametz Burning is a great way to start the holiday! Join us for a communal hametz burning, public sale of hametz, and roasting & eating marshmallows. Bring your hametz, a stick and Passover songs. Location: Beth Sholom parking lot, weather permitting. Friends and family are welcome!

Hametz may not be eaten after three hours (from sunrise) into the day, nor stored away / sold to a non-Jew / burned after four hours (from sunrise) into the day. This year, all Hametz must be eaten by 10:42 a.m. and stored away / sold to a non-Jew / burned by 10:42 a.m. The symbolic "burning of the hametz" should be completed by this hour. After this hour, no Hametz may be used and all hametz should be out of the house or stored away. The synagogue's sale of hametz will take place prior to this hour.

If you would like to be a guest at a seder, please call the Administration Office by March 19, 2015 at 215-887-1342.

FIRST DAYS

1st Seder, Friday, April 3

Erev Pesah

6:00 p.m. Evening Service

1st Day Pesah, Saturday, April 4

9:15 a.m. - Congregational Shabbat Pesah Service

2nd Seder, Saturday Night, April 4

6:00 p.m. Evening Service

2nd Day, Sunday, April 5

9:15 a.m. - Congregational Shahrith (Morning Service)

7:00 p.m. - Ma'ariv (Evening Service)

HOL HA-MOED

INTERMEDIATE DAYS OF PESAH

Hol Ha-moed Pesah I

Monday, April 6

7:10 a.m. Morning Service

Hol Ha-moed Pesah II

Tuesday, April 7

7:10 a.m. Morning Service

Hol Ha-moed Pesah III

Wednesday, April 8

7:10 a.m. Morning Service

7:30 p.m. The Bernard Wolfson Civil Discourse Forum

Hol Ha-moed Pesah IV

Thursday, April 9

7:10 a.m. Morning Service

CONCLUDING DAYS

7th Night, Thursday, April 9

6:00 p.m. Erev Yom Tov (Holiday Service)

7th Day, Friday, April 10

8:00 a.m. Morning Service (only one service)

8th Night, Friday, April 10

6:00 p.m. - Shabbat Under the Stars Neshamah Service

8th Day, Saturday, April 11

9:15 a.m. - Shabbat 8th day of Pesah Service

(Yizkor) followed by the Reitenberg Memorial and Social Action/Mitzvot B'Yahad Lunch & Learn

7:15 p.m. - Minhah, Ma'ariv, Havdalah

Pesah concludes on Saturday night, April 11 at approximately 8:20 p.m. Please allow 30 minutes after this time for Rabbi Glanzberg-Krainin to buy back the hametz.

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In Sholom

Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin



David Glanzberg-Krainin
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Sylvia Pomerantz and Karen Sandler - Proofreaders

One of the highlights of our communal religious life at Beth Sholom Congregation is our annual celebration of Purim. This year's event will have a new twist. In addition to great costumes, wonderful food, and intoxicating beverages for those over the legal drinking age, we will be staging a Purim-style dinner theatre under the direction of Jay Leistner. Members of our Beth Sholom community will be given a venue to showcase their comedic talent as part of the evening.

We envision funny *spiels*, funny songs, and people trying to be funny who are funny just by trying! You won't want to miss the evening's festivities beginning at **6:00 PM on Wednesday, March 4th**.

But amidst all the revelry of the holiday, there is a serious message to be found as well. Rabbi Joseph Telushkin notes that of the five biblical books known as *megillot* (scrolls), three of them have unexpected heroines. In The Song of Songs, it is a shepherdess who describes in starkly sensual terms her beloved shepherd, a man to whom she is not yet married. The heroine of the Book of Ruth is a Moabite woman (Moab was an historic enemy of Israel) who converts to Judaism.

Yet more unusual than either Ruth or the unnamed shepherdess of The Song of Songs is Queen Esther. Esther's greatness is so taken for granted among Jews that we seldom reflect on how peculiar a role model she is. After all, how many of our daughters of a certain age can resist trying on their Queen Esther costume? But who is Esther, after all? Esther is a young Jewish woman who wins a beauty contest and marries a non-Jewish king. These are the two main biographical details that the Bible supplies. Nowhere in the Tanakh do we learn anything about Esther that would indicate that she is a woman who is involved or committed to her Jewish life. While the Bible frequently omits details about the everyday lives of its characters, Esther is not portrayed as a woman who has a profound relationship to any aspect of Jewish life. Nonetheless, when the Jewish people were in danger of being murdered by Haman, it was Esther who turned the king against his anti-Semitic adviser, Haman, and saved the Jewish people.

What is the meaning of this most unexpected heroine of Jewish life? Perhaps one of the most significant, though rarely mentioned lessons of this biblical book is that the Jewish community—today no less than in the past—should be very cautious before it despairs of any Jew. If 2,500 years ago an intermarried beauty queen risked her life and ultimately saved the Jewish people, just think about how many not-so-obvious heroes and heroines are in our midst today. It is far too easy to write off large swaths of the Jewish community because of what we may perceive as indifference to the fate of the Jewish people. But if we remember that saviors are sometimes found in the least obvious of packages, we may find ourselves a bit kinder, and a bit more compassionate to those Jews who now sit on the periphery.

May Esther's example remind us to better seek out the unexpected heroes in our midst. And may we, inspired by her example of courage and commitment, find that we contribute more actively to building our Jewish life here at Beth Sholom and throughout the world.

Hag Purim Sameah--Have a wonderful Purim!

In Blessing

Rabbi Andrea Merow

Vote in the elections for The World Zionist Congress

In August of 1897 the First World Zionist Congress, chaired by Theodore Herzl, met in Basel, Switzerland. It was the beginning of organized modern Zionism. Since then the Congress has met every several years and will meet in Jerusalem this fall. Delegates to the Congress help to decide critical issues in Israel-Diaspora relations and are part of the discussion of how funds are allocated in the Jewish world and in Israel. Delegates to the Congress come from major Jewish organizations and slates.



MERCAZ, the Zionist arm of the Conservative (Masorti) Movement, represents Conservative Judaism in the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI). The WZO and JAFI allocate over \$2.5 million annually to Zionist Masorti projects in Israel and in Europe. The following are some of the benefits accrued as a direct result of the size of our MERCAZ delegation at the Zionist Congress, and translate into an annual net equivalency of cash and services in excess of \$2.5 million, as well as significant influence in decision-making that impacts the global Jewish agenda and the Jewish Agency budget of more than \$300,000,000:

- \$1,300,000 of allocations to Masorti (Conservative) institutions in Israel every year on behalf of the Masorti Movement, Schechter Institute and Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center;
- An annual allocation of some \$100,000 for activities for the young adult Zionist movement;
- Hundreds of thousands of dollars to Masorti/Conservative educational projects around the world;
- Shlichim for our youth movements and kehillot in the Diaspora;
- More than \$700,000 annually for spiritual and educational needs in Europe and South America;
- Official representation on the Executive and other major decision-making bodies of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization, allowing for direct influence over policy in matters affecting the entire Jewish world, such as conversion;
- Membership on the Board of Directors and key committees of Jewish National Fund allowing for significant impact on issues relating to the environment and Jewish values.

- Election of the Deputy Chairman of the WZO with responsibility over the WZO budget;
- Support for a variety of activities to promote aliyah.

Your vote matters; you get to elect the next slate of delegates. I hope that you will vote for slate #2, Mercaz, either online at www.mercazusa.org or call Mercaz at 212-533-2061 and they can help register you for a mail-in ballot.

On a personal note, I am personally honored to be on the Mercaz slate of potential delegates to The World Zionist Congress. Though I am a bit low on the list, I remember the words of Herzl, "if you will it, it is no dream." I am proud of the work of all those who build Masorti Judaism in Israel and Europe; they are building a traditional, egalitarian, pluralistic Judaism. (See the note on Magen Avraham Synagogue)



Our Growing Partnership with Magen Avraham Synagogue:

Last summer we began a partnership with Magen Avraham Synagogue in Israel. Our school children have written each other, we have shared videos between the shuls, and we hosted their rabbi. The shul is located in the Negev desert, in the town of Omer, near Be'er Sheva. Last year Magen Avraham celebrated its 40th anniversary. The shul is a member of The Masorti/Conservative Movement and is committed to traditional, egalitarian, modern Judaism. In January, we had a wonderful Shabbat with their rabbi, Yonaton Sadoff. Recently, our Men's Club and Sisterhood made donations to the fund to build a new bomb-shelter and to their camp scholarship fund. We look forward to a growing relationship with our partner shul. If you are going to Israel, consider visiting Magen Avraham.



The Campaign for Beth Shalom Congregation - An Update Part 6

I am pleased to report that our *Today, Tomorrow and Forever* Campaign is alive and well and more than two-thirds of the way toward achieving its \$12 million goal. The campaign has been a great success to date because of the generous participation of so many of you. We have seen major enhancements in our endowment funds and the creation of new programs and services which will have a significant impact on our community for years to come. You will hear more about these gifts in the coming months.

On Tuesday May 5th, at 7:30 p.m., plans have been set to dedicate the Campaign's recognition wall in the newly named Finkel-Sterling Reception Center. The evening will be capped off with a formal dedication of our newly completed elevator. This is an evening you won't want to miss. Watch for your invitation and plan to celebrate with us.

On that matter, I am pleased to report that after eight months of arduous work, we now have an elevator to make all of our worship spaces in the Synagogue Building accessible. Save some final finish details, the project is complete. Visitors and members needing accessible entry will find new accessible parking spaces behind the Sanctuary. Accessible admission is through the rear entry of the building. Opening the new automatic entry doors is managed through the use of key fobs which have been distributed to over 600 people. These are the same fobs used to enter other parts of our buildings. If you haven't yet received a fob, contact the office at your earliest convenience to have one issued to you. Once in the building, you will be in the elevator lobby. The elevator goes to both the Sisterhood and Main Sanctuaries. The Main Sanctuary features a signal system controlled by our ushers telling you when it is appropriate to enter and when you must wait to maintain the sanctity of the service. Like all new innovations, I am sure we will receive comments and recommendations on ways of improving the use of the new elevator. I look forward to hearing from you about this.

During the construction of the elevator, an interesting thing happened. We found that we had a space in the structure that is an ideal location for a Genizah. Several thousand prayer books and ritual items were placed in the Genizah. These materials represent a historic cache of Jewish items. We plan to formally name this space the Genizah of Elkins Park. It represents a significant naming opportunity. Please contact me should you have an interest in this unique program.

Many of you may have noticed during the High Holidays last year that our holiday Torah Scroll covers were beginning to deteriorate. They have been in service for nearly 50 years and are ready to be replaced. We are initiating a replacement program through our *Today, Tomorrow and Forever* Campaign. Each cover will have the congregation's logo on it and will have two embroidered lines for recognition and dedication. The cost of each cover is \$2,500. There are 20 such dedications available on a first come first served basis. Multiple year payouts are available for these dedications. We need to have our order in by mid-April to ensure delivery in time for this year's High Holidays. Call Brooke Keyser in the synagogue office at (215) 887-1342, ext 109, at your earliest convenience for more information about this limited opportunity.

Our House Committee has begun plans on what will mark the next major building improvement funded through our campaign. This will include the replacement of the School Building roof, new air conditioning and heating for the Fischman Auditorium and a facelift for our tired and worn social hall.

These are exciting times for Beth Shalom. I want to encourage those of you ready to make gifts to call me through the synagogue office or e-mail me at fhwmrw@aol.com. What we do as a congregation today will leave footprints far beyond our time. Join me in ensuring the future of Beth Shalom Congregation.

Fred Wolfson
Capital Campaign Chair

I am Proud to Be a TAP Teen Because . . .

by Alexandra Gaev of Beth Shalom

I am proud to be a part of the TAP program because it allows me to be a part of a team and it gives me the opportunity to work with children in a Jewish environment. Being a TAP teen member, I have met other Jewish teens in the area. I have enjoyed our monthly meetings. I get to know my TAP teen members in a fun way. We do a lot of talking, eating, and learning. I appreciate hearing about other TAP teen member's lives and work experience.

Working in the classroom is a new adventure for me. I find it exciting to assist at Beth Shalom. I remember being a student at Beth Shalom, never thinking I would be a teaching assistant. I have enjoyed working with the kids. It is amazing to see them learn and have fun at the same time. One of my favorite lessons was when the kids were learning about mitzvot. The kids all sat in a circle and shared their mitzvah with each other. The kids were taught to support each other by singing together "it's a, it's a, it's a mitzvah!" Everyone was smiling and happy. I thought it was so cute. It made me feel good and brought back wonderful memories for me as a student at Beth Shalom. I can't wait to experience more Sundays and share them with the other TAP members.

About the TAP Program

The Teen Assistant Program (TAP) participants work every week in their synagogue schools, supporting children with learning disabilities or other special needs.

SHUL BUDDIES

Beth Shalom is a community where people care about each other. Last year, we formed a committee called "Shul Buddies" whose goal is to work together to find ways of assisting congregants through acts of kindness.

Over the past year volunteers have been cooking, writing cards to members in the hospital, running errands, offering rides to those who need help getting to shul, and calling or visiting people that just need to hear a friendly voice.

Please send us an email at shulbuddies@bethsholomcongregation.org or call us at 215-887-1342 ext 233. Leave a message if you would like to volunteer. We require volunteers to do a short training. Also, we would love help from the community in finding any people that could use a buddy.

Our goal is to involve as many members of the congregation as possible in this project. Time commitments are flexible. You can spend several hours a week or just a few minutes once a month connecting and caring for people in our community.

Thanks and we look forward to meeting you.

Susie, Ruth, Agnes and Janet

Getting to Know You

Hazzan Jeffrey Weber



Did you know that Moses was a singer? Not only was he a singer, he was also a songwriter. Not only was he a singer and songwriter, he was a song leader. If he had the benefit of possessing a Smartphone, Tablet, or iPhone, who knows if he might have been a great recording artist. We all may recall the story of his carving the tablets of the Aseret HaDibrot, or Ten Commandments, but not many realize that there is a well known song that was composed and sung by him. The children of Israel were so inspired that they sang along as well.

In Parashat Beshallah we experience the “ Shirat Hayam;” the Song of the Sea. If you can picture the famous scene in the movie “The Ten Commandments,” you will recall the waters of the Sea of Reeds crashing down upon Pharaoh’s pursuing army. “And when Israel saw the wondrous power which the Lord had wielded against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord; and they had faith in the Lord and his servant. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord” (Exodus 14:31-15:1). At this point, Moses literally broke into song and the children of Israel joined with him. Shirat Hayam, the Song of the Sea, is a song of glory, celebrating God’s power. We include this as part of our daily liturgy, recalling the story each day, of the Exodus and the parting of the sea, whether it is thought of as a great metaphor, a “blast of [God’s] nostrils,” or more naturalistically as a “strong east wind” that blew all night. Why did Moses choose this time to sing?

There are times in everyone’s lives that words just cannot express what we are feeling adequately. Music and song take over, transcending the mere use of text alone. The use of “niggunim” even takes it to the next level by leaving the text out and allowing us to experience the “kavannah” or spiritual intention of the moment without even thinking about the exact words. So why didn’t Moses break into song earlier during any of the other miracles that lead to the Exodus? Shouldn’t those have been enough to inspire song? Perhaps it was because his believing “ b’emunah sheleimah,” with all of his spirit, was not enough. At this moment at the Sea of Reeds, when all seemed lost, the Children of Israel were to experience the strength of the Lord first hand, all witnessing the same miracle together. As Moses witnessed the people’s faith in God he sang. His song was inspired from within himself as well as from without.

As a community we pray together in many different ways as we express our own faith. Our liturgy is traditionally transmitted though the use of “nusach” or prayer modes and motifs. The use of music and song is a vehicle which allows us to go beyond the use of the text alone. There are old songs which we are familiar with and make us feel comfortable because of their familiarity. There are new songs that we hear and that may touch us in some way. There are songs from within ourselves that we must always allow to grow. Just as Moses allowed himself to sing from his heart and the people joined together in song, may we all allow ourselves the freedom to experience our faith and lift up our voices together in song.

Passover is Approaching

at the

Beth Sholom Gift Shop



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ADULT EDUCATION PRESENTS

Jsr*★*eli* Dancing @ *Beth Sh*▲*lom
COME DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH US!



Join us for our weekly dance session. Come and join us!

Meet nice people, shmooze, exercise and have fun!

7:30 -8:30 pm beginners dancing

8:30 -11:00 pm open dancing

THIS IS OPEN TO ALL BETH SHOLOM MEMBERS

AND GUESTS AND IS FREE OF CHARGE

Contact Julie Glass for more information: 215-887-3625, x 216

From the President

Shelley Hittinger

At every Board Meeting and Executive Committee Meeting, I read aloud the congregational announcements. In addition to the upcoming events, I announce the recent births, engagements, B'nei Mitzvah, weddings, and deaths that our board members and their extended families have experienced. Each of these events, whether joyous or solemn, was marked by a ceremony. The purpose of having such ceremonies is to enable us to honor important times of transition in our lives and to share these times with our families, friends, and the community. Similarly, when there is an important time of transition in the life of our Congregation, it is appropriate to channel the emotions of our community into a ceremony to mark such a new beginning.



After three years of searching for the right Cantor for our Congregation, Cantor Jeffrey S. Weber began his tenure at Beth Sholom on July 1, 2014. The past six months have flown by, as we have gotten to know Cantor Weber at services, through the choir and in our preschool and religious school. We are pleased to let you know that the official installation ceremony of Cantor Weber will take place in the spring. At that time, there will be an installation ceremony. This installation will enable us to begin a new chapter in the musical expression of our commitment to Beth Sholom, the Jewish people and the pursuit of the holy.

On Sunday afternoon, May 31, the celebration will continue with a gala concert featuring Cantor Weber and many of his colleagues, including Hazzan Jack Mendelson, Hazzan Benjamin Meisner and The Delaware Valley Cantors Assembly Ensemble. Many of our children and adults will also be participating in this magnificent choral event.

This concert will be the key congregational fund raising event for this year and it promises to be a truly memorable and exciting afternoon. Prior to the concert, there will be a brunch where donors contributing at the various Sponsor levels will be able to meet and greet the Hazzanim participating in the concert.

You can participate in welcoming Cantor Weber and helping him recognize you, by including a personal or family photo, selfie, and/or a short greeting in our On Line Photo Tribute Album. A printed and bound copy of the Tribute Album will be prepared and presented to Cantor Weber. Contribution amounts and instructions will be sent to all congregants.

Sponsors contributing a minimum of \$1800 will receive a full page in the Tribute Album, tickets to the concert, invitations to the brunch and a pre-event cocktail hour and buffet dinner on May 17 at 4 p.m. at the Gladwyne home of Michael and Kristin Karp.

Once again, thank you for your generous and consistent support. We hope you can join us in honoring Cantor Weber as we start a new chapter in the life of our Congregation.

B'shalom,

Shelley

SOCIAL ACTION/ MITZVOT B'YAHAD NORMA FINKELSTEIN AND JEANNETTE NORRIS, CO-CHAIRS

On Shabbat morning, April 11th, our committee and the Reitenberg Memorial Program will jointly sponsor a Lunch & Learn program on the issue of immigration, featuring guest speakers from HIAS, the only Jewish organization whose mission is to assist refugees wherever they are, helping people who have been forced to flee their homelands due to persecution or simply because of their race, religion, nationality or political opinions. These speakers, one of whom will be Justin Mixon, an Immigrant Youth Attorney and a parent of one of our own Beth Sholom pre-school children, will focus on the experiences and legal challenges of their immigrant youth clients.

Since its founding in 1881, HIAS has helped more than 4.5 million people. The organization, known originally as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, began by helping Jews who were running from the pogroms of Russia and Eastern Europe. Today, HIAS is dedicated to providing safety and freedom to refugees of all faiths and ethnicities from all over the world. Its basic principle: the right to refuse is a universal human right. Guided by Jewish values, it helps people to rebuild their lives and reunite with their families in safety and freedom. HIAS rescues those whose lives are in danger simply "for being who they are." As Jews, we can certainly relate to stories of fear, isolation and despair told within our own families as our ancestors fled from country to country to escape anti-Semitism and persecution. With conversations about the complex issue of immigration so often in the news, this Lunch & Learn program is timely and highly relevant. Please join us as we learn together!

Our ongoing mitzvah work continues: dedicated volunteers serve about 120 families each week in our Mitzvah Food Pantry; Cook For a Friend volunteers prepare over 400 meals monthly for needy and homebound Jewish families; our congregants are receiving support and help from our wonderful Shul Buddies volunteers; and on MLK Day, under the guidance of Marlene Snyder and her Kare 4 Kids project, we had another successful blanket making event. In addition, as an active member of the Act Against Hunger/Mazon coalition, we continue to advocate for state policy change to ensure that all Pennsylvania citizens have access to adequate, healthy and affordable food. Along with Mazon's Samuel Chu, we are planning a meeting with Mr. Ted Dallas, the new PA Secretary of the Department of Human Resources. We hope to continue an active dialogue with Secretary Dallas to improve the lives of Pennsylvania families, children and senior citizens.

So, there is much going on at Beth Sholom of which we can all be very proud...but there is always more mitzvah work to do. Join us at our next committee meeting on March 19th and share your ideas and energy!

Congregational Engagement

Julie Glass

I'm thinking of a dinner we had in January. If you were there, you'll know. It was (yet another) cold and icy night when Rabbi Sadoff from Magen Avraham, in Omer, Israel came for dinner and services on Friday night, and services and a Lunch and Learn on Saturday. Everything was lovely, dinner was good and the Lunch and Learn was enjoyable, but that's not really what I remember.



What I remember most were the lovely people who volunteered to set up for the dinner. Some volunteered in advance. Some came a little early because of the weather and asked if they could help. Some came early and were drafted to volunteer. In the end, there were a dozen or so people who were busy setting tables, putting out food and utensils, and generally enjoying being part of this community that was arranging the dinner. The camaraderie in the room was evident, and the warmth of this beginning of dinner spread throughout the entire meal.

There were more volunteers than usual at that dinner, and it was wonderful to see. It may seem like the tables set themselves or the grape juice appears in the cups, but all of those seemingly small jobs take time and attention. We are all busy and often feel that the next person will take the job. After all, what do you really get from pouring 200 cups of grape juice, aside from purple stains on your shirt and a sore wrist? What you get is a sense of community and belonging.

Here are the top 10 reasons you should volunteer at Beth Sholom:

1. Beth Sholom needs you.
2. Those tables aren't going to set themselves.
3. The office needs your phone, computer and filing skills.
4. Beth Sholom needs you.
5. The Food Pantry serves over 100 families and your help is needed.
6. At the Rummage Sale you might just find a treasure for yourself.
7. The Mitzvah Garden needs planters, waterers and pickers, with all of the vegetables helping the Food Pantry recipients.
8. It feels good to help. Come volunteer - even if you weren't so excited about coming, you'll leave with a smile.
9. You will meet people you never knew before, and through your volunteering make a new friend.
10. Did I mention that Beth Sholom needs you?

We always need volunteers, whether your interest is helping in the office, setting tables or planting tomatoes. As the weather improves and you find you can come outside again, contact me at 215.887.1342 ext. 216, so I can help you find the best volunteering opportunity for you.

Have you recently lost your job?
Are you having difficulty making ends meet?

Do you need help taking that next step?

If you are under the age of 60 and have said yes to any of these questions, contact us now for help!

Let Heart to Heart help you spring into action!

215-698-7300 x135 or mhanfling@kleinjcc.org

Klein JCC • 10100 Jamison Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19116 • 215-698-7300 • www.kleinjcc.org



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO
SHABBAS?
WWW.BETHSHOLOMCONGREGATION.ORG



Beth Sholom Congregation is excited to begin its second year as a participant in the "Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas" program. The program involves congregants inviting other congregants to their homes for Shabbat dinner and then those guests become hosts (if able) in subsequent months. Reciprocity with the host is not expected.

Last year, more than 100 Beth Sholom families participated - make sure you are included in this year!

The next "Guess Who" will take place on May 29, 2015.

If you are interested in hosting or receiving an invitation to someone's home on May 29, please drop us a note via the email below or call Ivy Mermelstein at 215-947-8885. This is the last dinner of the year.

We look forward to your participation.

Anna Green, Ivy Mermelstein, Mindy Cohen,
Carla Zigelboim & Randye Sable

bethsholomshabbas@gmail.com

Religious School

Selma Roffman

“As Important As Our Cell Phones...If Not More So”

In the month of March, we joyously celebrate Purim, the holiday commemorating the rescue of the Jewish people from the terror of King Ahasuerus and Haman. Students at Beth Sholom Religious school learn this story of an irresponsible ruler and his evil advisor while hearing about brave Mordecai and his beautiful niece, Esther. Then our children gather to pack mishloach manot, consisting of hamantashen, fruit and other yummy delights to deliver to congregants around the area. From Abington to Melrose Park and from Rydal to Northeast Philadelphia, Beth Sholom students are on the march with their Purim gifts throughout the area as their parents drive them from home to home. From Purim, students learn the lessons of being responsible, standing up for what they believe in and sharing and caring for others.



When April arrives, the learning in our classrooms shifts to emphasizing another story of redemption as we go back to biblical times to remember the Exodus from Egypt. Preparations begin in school as students practice traditional parts of the seder such as “Mah Nishtanah?” -- while also learning new songs such as “There’s No Seder Like Our Seder.” We celebrate our learning at a school-wide Pesah event which prepares our students to lead Pesah sederim in their own homes. From Pesah, students learn the importance of freedom, being part of a people and passing on the story to others.

There is so much important information to teach and review to assure that this knowledge of our people is passed on to the next generation of Jewish students. We use traditional books in our classrooms, while supplementing them with information and games on our iPads and computers. We sing and dance to the ancient words of Torah, while learning the mitzvot that enrich our lives.

But, have you ever wondered what would happen if we took the lessons of these holidays and stories of our Torah and treated them as carefully as we treat our cell phones and their messages? Here is an email I recently received from Rabbi Chaim Galfand, the Rav Beit Sefer at Perelman Jewish Day School, who wrote:

“Ever wonder what would happen if we treated the Torah as we treat our cell phone?”

- What if we carried It around in our bag or pocket every day?
- What if we looked through It many times each day?
- What if we turned back to go get It if we forgot It?
- What if we always checked It for messages?
- What if we treated It as if we couldn’t manage a day without It?
- What if we gave It to our children as a special gift?
- What if we always took It, and used It, when we traveled?
- What if we always thought to use It in case of an emergency?

Oh, and one more thing... Unlike our cell phone, we don’t have to worry about Torah being disconnected, because its “Carrier” never fails.

So next time, you stop to share a holiday lesson or think about using one of the middot from The Shabbat Experience, think of it as a precious item to be treated at least as important as that cell phone ringing in our back pockets – if not more so!

Selma Roffman
Interim Director of Beth Sholom Religious School

MAZAL TOV TO OUR KABBALAT SIDURIM
FAMILIES!



Matthew Chachkin

Son of Dr. Samuel Chachkin and Nina Russakoff

Isabella Chelder

Daughter of Michele and Howard Chelder

Shalom Cuker

Son of Amy and Dr. Adam Cuker

Lacey Friedman

Daughter of Caryn and Forrest Friedman

Dalaney Galster

Daughter of Najah DiPaolo-Brown and Gerry Galster

Lindsay Kasner

Daughter of Glori and Jordan Kasner

Jaron Shelow

Son of Doreen Shelow

Elana Small-Zlochower

Daughter of Samantha Small and Rabbi Joshua Zlochower

Montana Wright

Son of Emily and Miko Wright

Jacob Yagur

Son of Rachel and Elad Yagur

Alexis Zaroff

Daughter of Meredith and Jason Zaroff

Early Learning

Eileen Weingram

Each year, at our opening parent meeting, I emphasize the importance of the relationships that the children and parents will develop with other parents and their children during their preschool years. About 30 years ago, I was that preschool mother bringing my daughter, Abbye, to school for the first time. I knew very few people at Beth Shalom and was not at all connected to the synagogue. Today, these other preschool families are still among our closest friends. It was hard to imagine the impact that these preschool years would have on our family, and our involvement with Beth Shalom.



Because of my personal experience, I was not surprised to read that the results of recent studies have found that these early years have proven to be a critical time in the development of a child's personality and religious identity. Furthermore, the parents of children who attend Jewish preschools are more likely to be interested in bringing Jewish rituals and celebrations into their homes. Some of these studies recommend that synagogues need to create inclusive relationships with the preschool parents and aggressively communicate what the synagogue has to offer the families.

Many of the recommendations of these recent studies are present in Beth Shalom's preschool initiative. A very important component of our program requires that all parents attend at least 50% of family and parent programs. Now that we are moving towards completing our first of the four years, we have already seen success. We exceeded our goal of the number of new families to our school. These parents have already joined other active parents and become important members of our community. The children have benefited from social gatherings at parent's homes, healthy snacks provided by the volunteer snack parents, and fundraising by our very active PTO. We are very lucky to have such a special group of parents.

Registration is now underway for September 2015. The school year 2014-2015 saw an increase in enrollment and the need to open a new class! Our initiative features benefits to enhance programs at our Keystone Star 4 school, including a large tuition incentive to families who are new to Beth Shalom. For more information, contact Early Learning Director, Eileen Weingram, at eweingram@bethsholomcongregation.org, or 215-887-3625, ext. 223.



Early Learning students learn and have fun at their annual Tu B'Shevat seder.



William Solytsiak pets Israeli Guide Dog, Dinka, during a visit from the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind.

preparing your child to navigate the world

EARLY LEARNING

At Beth Shalom Congregation



NEW! Tuition Grants for Jewish Families
Up to \$4,000 per child, per year, for families who are new to Early Learning at Beth Shalom Congregation

NEW! Mandarin Instruction
Offered in addition to Hebrew

NEW! We are a Keystone 4 Star Program
Early Learning at Beth Shalom just earned our 4th star, the highest rating awarded by the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning.

Infants to Kindergarteners • Half-day, full-day, extended day – 2 to 5 days a week
Care and learning from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Both Traditional and Montessori tracks

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

215-887-1342 ext. 223 www.bethsholomcongregation.org
eweingram@bethsholomcongregation.org 8231 Old York Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19027

Sisterhood

Patti First

patal16@verizon.net

In the Springtime, we celebrate many Jewish festivals and holidays, as well as days of remembrance. As we commemorate, reflect on, and celebrate our Jewish holidays, we bond with our people and with Israel.

In March we celebrate the festival of Purim. This holiday commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people from Haman's evil decree. It is a salute to liberty, life, love, and loyalty; we observe this holiday because Haman, who had planned the destruction of the Jews of Persia, was himself crushed.



Israel is dominant in our thoughts during the month of April. The name "April" brings to mind the saying, "April showers bring May flowers." And to Jews all over the world, April "showers" us with memories of celebrations, and loving thoughts and ties to Israel.

The eight-day holiday of Pesah recalls the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery and the birth of the Jewish nation. It is a revered family holiday where the story of the Exodus is retold annually, and each year we end our Seder with the hope "Next year in Jerusalem!"

Yom HaShoah, commemorating the death of six million Jews in the Holocaust, will be observed on April 16. One way to give meaning to Remembrance Day is to read some prose, poetry, or memoir written by victims of the Holocaust. Though we experience pain and sadness as we light candles in their memories, we feel a closeness and bond to Israel and our people.

Yom Hazikaron, on April 22, is Israel's National Remembrance Day, when the entire nation of Israel remembers their fallen soldiers. The day opens with sirens wailing and there is silence throughout the country. Flags are lowered to half-staff; many say prayers for the souls of fallen soldiers.

On April 23, we celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. We remember Chaim Weitzman's words: "Independence is never given to a people; it has to be earned; and having been earned, it has to be defended." In Israel there are spectacular parades and festivities. It is most appropriate that we honor those who dreamt, who sought, who fought for, and who created the State of Israel. Jews celebrate it here in the US as well. Israel means so much to Jews in the Diaspora, that we face the direction of Israel when saying prayers.

Lag B'Omer on May 7 is the 33rd day of the Omer and falls between Passover and Shavuot. It is celebrated with festivities. All celebrations are welcomed on this day, from small occasions like BBQs to large, meaningful celebrations like weddings, which are otherwise not allowed during the other days of the Omer.

Shavuot is on May 25, and is the time of the giving of the Torah. We remember that the Torah is not only our inheritance, but also our legacy. Through its study we strengthen the link from generation to generation. We know that this is the lifeblood of the Jewish people.

The Jews repeatedly prove that a people can be held together by ideas and words.

Israel holds a special place in the hearts and minds of Jews throughout the world. Israel means different things to different people. Even before the State of Israel was a reality, Jews all over the world prayed for a return to Zion. For the Jews who wandered in the desert after the exodus from Egypt, Israel represented the Promised Land, the Land of Milk and Honey. For the Jews who were imprisoned in Russia, Israel was viewed as a land of freedom. And to us in the US, Israel is a source of strength and pride, one of the guarantees that our children will always be able to say "Am Yisroel Chai" – "The People of Israel Live!"

Sisterhood's Winter events included a Broadway trip to see "It's Only A Play" starring Matthew Broderick and Nathan Lane. Then, on December 17 we welcomed Nomi Eve, author of Henna House, the One Book, One Jewish Community novel selection. She was warmly received and everyone enjoyed her talk. In January, we stayed warm and munched on popcorn while watching the movie "Lost Luggage."

Our upcoming programs offer much to enjoy. On March 18, Sam Feinberg will present "The Joy of Music." Sam is a writer, lecturer and vocal historian dedicated to keeping interest alive in the great voices of the past. His lecture will be followed by lunch. April 18 is Sisterhood Shabbat, when our members lead the entire service followed by an elegant extended kiddush lunch. Our Lunch and Learn speaker will be Ruth Shaw. You will be enthralled by her talk. Then on April 22 we'll again travel to Broadway to see the story of how Peter became Pan. On May 20, we will hold our annual Donor Celebration Dinner honoring our generous donors. We are delighted to feature Hazzan Jeffrey and Andrea Weber in concert. Your donor contribution can be paid in many ways, making it easy for you to support Sisterhood's endeavors. We know you'll be delighted to invite your friends to this enchanted evening.

Please remember to visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop for a wonderful selection of gifts and wines. We also have Giant Supermarket gift cards!



The above audio/visual equipment is a gift from Beth Sholom Sisterhood and Elly and Joe Kamen, dedicated in loving memory of their son, Dr. Jonathan Weinberger Kamen.

Upcoming Events

March 18 - 10:00 a.m. "The Joy of Music"

April 18 - 9:15 a.m. Sisterhood Shabbat

April 22 - Broadway Trip

May 20 - Annual Donor Celebration

Men's Club

Elliot Miller

mensclub@bethsholomcongregation.org

NON-EVENT FUNDRAISER

Men's Club thanks all who participated in our Non-Event fund raiser not held on New Year's Eve. Your contributions help to support the various charities and causes that Men's Club supports.

RUMMAGE SALE

The Rummage Sale was a great event bringing out more than 60 volunteers. Our Members were there schlepping, sorting and pricing. Special thanks to Sara Koval for organizing this event that raised over \$15,000 for our congregation.

MAN OF THE YEAR DINNER

Leonard Abrams, Past President of the Men's Club received the Man of the Year Award at the FJMC- Middle Atlantic Region's annual dinner on December 7, 2014. Len was joined by family and friends as he was recognized for his contributions to our club, Beth Sholom and the Middle Atlantic Region. Michael Weingram was recognized as the Region's Ma'asim Tovim Award Honoree. He will be presented with this award at the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs International Convention in Miami Beach in July.

MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH

Men's Club hosted a brunch on Sunday, January 11, 2015, with Joseph Puder, Executive Director of Stand With Us, a pro-Israel advocacy and educational group. The topic of Mr. Puder's presentation was "Iran and its pursuit of nuclear weapons and international hegemony."

ISRAEL SHABBAT

On January 16, 2015, Men's Club presented a contribution to Rabbi Yonatan Sadoff, of Congregation Magen Avraham, our partner congregation in Omer, Israel, who spoke at Beth Sholom's Israel Shabbat. Our Men's Club and the Men's Club of Magen Avraham will be building on our partnership in the future.

MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH – Sunday, March 15th at 9:30am

Men's Club hosts Congressman Brendan Boyle. Breakfast will be served and all are invited to attend this event. Please RSVP to mensclub@bethsholomcongregation.org or call the office at 215-887-1342 ext 100 so that we can plan accordingly.

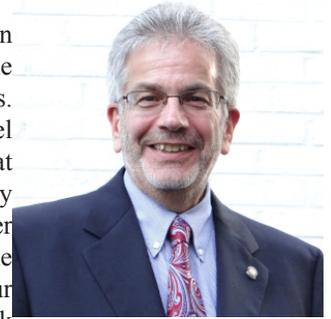
YOM HASHOAH CANDLE PACKING – Sunday, March 22nd starting at 8:30am. Join Men's Club in packing Yom Hashoah yellow candles for distribution to our congregants. Packing will take place in the Finkel-Sterling Lounge. It only takes an hour of your time to perform this great mitzvah. For additional information contact Saul Langsam at 215-635-4901.

PROJECT HOPE

Perform a mitzvah by helping pack and deliver packages of Passover food to needy families on Sunday, March 29, 2015. Contact Beth Sholom Men's Club at 215-605-1661 to volunteer.

HERB SOBEL MEMORIAL PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE

There are many Jewish families in our area who are unable to provide Passover food for their families. Every year our Herb Sobel Memorial Food Drive ensures that people in the Jewish community are able to celebrate Passover nutritiously, ritually and with pride of heritage. Kindly return our request letter, along with a check made payable to Beth Sholom Men's Club, in order to help us fulfill this important mitzvah.



EREV YOM HASHOAH – Wednesday, April 15th - Candle lighting after sundown. The world must never forget the Shoah, truly the darkest period in the history of the Jewish People. Please join with people around the world and light your Yom Hashoah candle on Wednesday evening, April 15th in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. We do this for those whose entire families and towns perished in the Shoah, and for whom no one is left to light a Yahrzeit remembrance candle. "Light a Candle, Preserve a Memory."

CLOSING DINNER – Thursday, May 7th at 6:00pm

Join us for a delicious dinner, special guest, annual election and the announcement of our Man of the Year award selectee. Look for details in your email.



Exciting News from the Visitor Center

The Beth Sholom Preservation Foundation has enjoyed the winter season to date!

We have had four area Challenge and Gifted classes visit us. The students really impressed us with their questions as well as their knowledge of Frank Lloyd Wright.



For the months of January and February, we were open by appointment only. Please email Jill Rosen at jrosen@bethsholomcongregation.org or call 215-887-1342 ext 227 for a spring visit.

We continue to welcome visitors from all around the world and had a visitor last month from Abu-Dhabi. Please keep the Visitor Center in mind when booking Board or Special Event meetings. We have many catering options available for groups and we can offer a tour to your group before or after a meeting or event.

Save the Date!

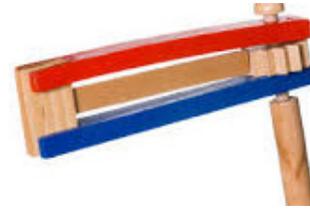
May 5, 2015

7:30 p.m.

*Dedication of the new elevator and the
Capital Campaign's recognition wall in
the Finkel-Sterling lounge.*

Invitation to follow

Purim at Beth Sholom



March 4, 2015

5:45 p.m. Ma'ariv

6:00 p.m. Adult Megillah reading in the Sisterhood Sanctuary and children's Megillah program

6:45 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Costume parade

7:15 p.m. Beth Sholom's Got Comedic Talent Night featuring Emcee Jay Leistner

7:15 p.m. Children's activities

Eugene Pohl Memorial College Program

*Attention College Students, Parents and
Grandparents of College Students*

Help us reach out!

We like to keep in touch with our college students by sending them gift packages around the Jewish holidays. Help us by giving the office your student's information. Please contact Karen Sandler at the synagogue office with any questions at 215-887-1342, ext. 101 or by email at ksandler@bethsholomcongregation.org.

KEHILLAH Purim Carnival

at Keneseth Israel 8339 Old York Road

Sunday, March 8

games, food, and prizes for all ages!

Preschool Admission
11:15 AM

General Admission
12:00 – 2:00 PM

Everyone is Welcome!

- \$10 per child (in advance) ages 2 and up;
\$15 at the door
- Free for adults

Come in Costume!

Bring a Food Donation...

of tuna fish, canned nuts, cereal, or juice for the Beth Sholom Mitzvah Food Pantry co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Fun, Fun, Fun!

- Games
- Activities
- Moon Bounce
- Face Painting
- Raffles
- Prizes
- Preschool Activities
- Music
- Entertainment
- Kosher food and hamantaschen available for purchase

To purchase tickets in advance, contact one of the participating synagogue offices:

**Beth Sholom
Congregation**
215.887.1342

**Congregation
Adath Jeshurun**
215.635.6611

**Old York Road
Temple-Beth Am**
215.886.8000

**Reform Congregation
Keneseth Israel**
215.887.8700



Beth Sholom Family News

Births

Gail & Harold Stein on the birth of their grandson, Lev Benjamin Berman

Anita & Nathan Schatz on the birth of their grandson, William Logan Wolfson

Evelyn Toll on the birth of her great grandson, Isaac Richard Toll

Eileen & Michael Weingram on the birth of their grandson, Oren Preston Cornfield

Engagements

Fern & Robert Billet on the engagement of their son Zachary, to Jennifer Samson

Esther Janoff on the engagement of her daughter, Jessica, to Matthew Zozom

Pat & Marc Landsberg on the engagement of their son, Scott, to Renee Stolyer

Renee & Rob Van Naarden on the engagement of their son, Jacob, to Courtney Ryder

Gayle & Warren Vogel on the engagement of their son, Michael, to Fernanda Loya

Marriages

Lynn Kornblau on the marriage of her son, Adam to Carolina Bencosme

David Schlesinger and Ronit Mango on their marriage

Kay Schwartz on the marriage of her grandson, Adam Rose to Rebecca Miller

Muriel Tabas Ecker on the marriage of her grandson, Justin Tabas to Katybeth Trapp

Mazal Tov!

Leonard Abrams on receiving the Man of the Year Award from the Middle Atlantic Region-FJMC

Beth Sholom Men's Club on receiving the Quality Club Award for 2013-2014 from the Middle Atlantic Region-FJMC

Lorna Adelman on the naming her great granddaughter, Sydney Mehok

Sarah & Sonny Coslov and Leslie & Art Frankel on the naming of their granddaughter, Eden Allie Coslov

Gloria Schwartz on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Ian Felzer, son of Robyn & Jordan Felzer; and on the early acceptance of her granddaughter, Jamie Schwartz, daughter of Staci & Marc Schwartz, to the University of Pennsylvania

Marsha & Saul Langsam on the Aufruf of their son, David, to Stephanie Levine

Michael Schatz on receiving his doctorate in Jewish Education from Gratz College

Jonathan Tabas on being named 2014 Surveyor of the Year by the PA Society of Land Surveyors

Jean & Brian Weitz on the naming of their daughter, Ida Rae Weitz

Michael Weingram on being named the Ma'asim Tovim Honoree for the region by the Middle Atlantic Region-FJMC

In Recent Memoriam

JENNY BRUSKOFF
mother of Gail Bernstein

SAMUEL COHAN

LILLIAN DEVINS

MOLLIE LANKIN

mother of Bob Lankin

HYMAN KIRSCH

father of Nina Samlin

FLORENCE LEISTNER

mother of Jay Leistner

MANUEL MARCUS

husband of Ilene Marcus

LEONARD MARKOWITZ

RUTH RAPPAPORT

mother of Marla Wolfson

DAVID SCHAFFER

father of Robin Kushner

FRANK SNYDER

father of Bob Snyder

SHIRLEY WASSER

mother of Joan Heller

JANET WEISS

mother of Lisa Weiss-Shore



John Samples

MONEY + POLITICS: Does Money Make Policy?

The Bernard Wolfman Civil Discourse Forum

Returns on April 8th



Craig Holman

The Bernard Wolfman Civil Discourse Forum returns to Beth Sholom Congregation for its third year, on Wednesday, April 8th at 7:30 p.m. This year's topic is *Money + Politics: Does Money Make Policy?* This free public forum, memorializing past Beth Sholom member and renowned legal ethics scholar Bernard Wolfman, will model civil discourse by bringing together two experts with opposing opinions to discuss their views and offer participants meaningful ways to engage.

This year, we will examine whether how we fund—and who funds—politics is fundamental to how we develop policy about key issues, such as gun control, immigration, the environment, education and more. The speakers will discuss—not debate—whether regulation of political funding protects us or threatens our liberty.

This year's distinguished experts join us from Washington, DC. Craig Holman, Ph.D., who serves as the Capital Hill lobbyist on campaign finance and governmental ethics for [Public Citizen](#), will speak in support of campaign finance reform. Dr. Holman helped draft and promote the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act (federal lobbying and ethics reform legislation), which was signed into law in 2007.

John Samples, Ph.D., is vice president and publisher of the [Cato Institute](#), and director of Cato's Center for Representative Government, which studies campaign finance regulation, delegation of legislative authority, term limits and public opinion. Dr. Samples is a leading skeptic of the propriety and value of most campaign finance regulation.

Chris Satullo, vice president of news and civic dialogue at WHY? and co-founder and co-director of the University of Pennsylvania's Penn Project for Civic Engagement, will moderate.

The forum takes place each year during Pesach, to symbolize its celebration of freedom of (respectful) speech and political activism.

The forum is open to the public and requires pre-registration at www.CivilDiscourseProject.org. If you cannot register online, call the synagogue office at 215.887.1342. Join the conversation on Twitter, @civildiscourse1 and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bernardwolfmanpublicpolicyforum.

**IF YOU THINK
JEWISH DAY SCHOOL
ISN'T THE RIGHT FIT,
YOU DON'T KNOW JACK.**



We're an inclusive Jewish day school with a broader worldview. So we welcome students from all facets of observance. We offer an amazing middle school and incredible high school...where

GET TO KNOW JACK. everyone fits. Our kids are baseball players, history buffs, fashion reporters, mathletes, rising stars. And we encourage all of them to choose their own path. There's a place for your family here. Come love where you learn.

Come to an Open House or schedule a personal tour:

October 22, January 13, February 25: 9:30-noon
November 12: 6:00-8:00 pm

Visit our website for all admission events.



Accredited by Pennsylvania Association for Independent Schools
& Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

©2014 JBHA

272 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

610-922-2350 | admissions@jbha.org | jbha.org

Golden Years at Beth Sholom

If you are 55 and over, stop by a Golden Years program for lunch and entertainment. New this year:

- All new programs
- New lower pricing for programs - \$10 for Golden Years members, \$12 for non-members
- New thought-provoking movies – open to members and non-members alike (\$2 for non-members)

Make sure to include your friends so they don't miss these wonderful programs!

Mondays, 12:30 – 2:30 pm

March 16 Linda Kenyon as Babe Didrikson Zaharias

April 20 Rabbi Andrea Merow

May 18 Irene Reiter discussing Charlotte Salomon

Also don't miss our movies on Mondays from 1:30 – 3:30 pm:

March 30, 2015

Blessed is the Match: The life and death of Hannah Senesh

June 1, 2015

The Jewish Cardinal: This drama details the true story of Jean-Marie Lustiger, the son of Polish-Jewish immigrants, who became a leader in the Catholic Church. Amid controversy, Lustiger doesn't waver from his Jewish identity, even as he is ordained Archbishop of Paris.

Golden Years & AARP 55 Alive Mature Driving Course



Two-Day Course

Did you know that taking the 55 Alive Mature Driving Course given by AARP could save you up to 10% on your automobile insurance? Sign up for 55 Alive, sponsored by Golden Years at Beth Sholom.

AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE
TUESDAY MAY 26 FROM 5:30 – 9:00 PM
AND
THURSDAY, MAY 28 FROM 5:30 – 9:00 PM

Golden Years at Beth Sholom
8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027

Burt Eisenberg will be conducting this two-day course. If interested, please call Burt directly at 215-572-7712.

The cost is \$12 per person for members of AARP and \$14 per person for nonmembers.

Checks are to be made out to AARP and brought to the first class.



Trees for Israel

As a memorial to their classmate and friend, Miriam Norris, the Confirmation Class of 1997 planted trees in the Cheres Forest in Israel. The donation of 200 trees has grown to over 5,000 trees.

Donations to JNF fund a wide arrange of land and water development activities that help Israel. Trees may be purchased by phone at 800-542-8733. Just designate The Miriam Norris Memorial Woodland.

You can also send \$18 per tree to the office at Beth Sholom Congregation or to Jeannette Norris, 236 Barclay Circle, Cheltenham, PA 19012. Checks should be made payable to Jewish National Fund (contributions are tax deductible).

Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah!

Hannah Koval

March 14, 2015

Daughter of Sara and Howard Koval

Hannah is a seventh grade student at Cedarbrook Middle School where her favorite subjects are Latin and math. She's an honor student, involved in Problem Solving and Reading Olympics. She plays soccer in the fall, softball in the spring and is an avid swimmer and biker. Hannah is also very fond of acting. Every summer, she attends Camp Ramah in the Poconos, which she loves! During the year, she attends Jewish Teen Collaborative and you'll find Hannah at Beth Sholom on most Shabbatot. She enjoys volunteering at JRA and the Beth Sholom Rummage Sale. Hannah has two sisters, Sophie and Maya, and her grandparents are Barbara and Dr. Harold Lefton (z"l) and Barbara and Arthur Koval.



Dennis Fleysh

April 19, 2015

Son of Marina Shteyn and Vadim Fleysh

Dennis is a seventh grade student at MaST Community Charter School, where his favorite subjects are Social Studies and Science. He enjoys participating on the tennis, basketball and swim teams, and plays drums and saxophone in the middle school band. Dennis' hobbies include reading, playing Xbox and hanging out with friends. He volunteers at JRA and attends the Jewish Teen Collaborative during the school year. In the summer, he attends 76ers Basketball Camp. Dennis has a sister, Natalie, and his grandparents are Nina (z"l) and Leon Fleysh, Lilia Shteyn and Simon Vayn and Leonid Stein (z"l).



Matan Dolev

April 25, 2015

Son of Jennifer Groen and Ami Dolev

Matan is a seventh grade student at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, where he loves every subject! Matan is on the soccer and basketball teams at school, and he likes to teach and play both sports with younger children. He is also on the sports debate team. Matan is also involved with the Friendship Circle MVP program. In the summer, Matan attends Camp Ramah in the Poconos, and can't wait to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah at Beth Sholom with his friends and family from Israel. He has one brother, Shefa, and one sister, Lia. His grandparents are Bernice and Marcel Groen and Aliza and Eliyahu Gerby.



Sarah Neulight

May 2, 2015

Daughter of Ellen Rubin Neulight and Charles Neulight

Sarah is a seventh grade student at Cedarbrook Middle School where her favorite subjects are math and science. She's a straight A honor student involved in track and orchestra, where she plays violin. She enjoys horseback riding, and spending time with animals and friends. For the past two summers, Sarah has attended Camp Ramah in the Poconos, and before that, she attended Ramah Day Camp. During the year, she attends Jewish Teen Collaborative and volunteers at JRA. Sarah has a brother, Jacob, and a sister, Julia and her grandparents are Marilyn and Robert Rubin and Andrea and Richard Neulight.

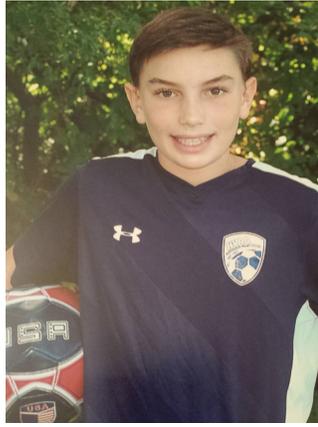


Itay Goldfarb

May 16, 2015

Son of Marina and Igor Goldfarb

Itay is a seventh grade student at Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, where his favorite subjects are Hebrew and Spanish. Itay is on the basketball and frisbee teams at school, and he also loves Jewish cooking. His hobbies include soccer, skiing, and tae kwon do, and he is on the travel basketball team in Lower Moreland township. He also likes working with technology and loves listening to music. Itay volunteers at JRA, the Friendship Circle Philadelphia for Mitzvah Volunteer program and Friends of the IDF, which was his Mitzvah project. In the summer Itay attends Camp Ramah in the Poconos, and attended Ramah Day Camp. He has one sister, Liat. His grandparents are Yuri (z"l) and Maria Fedyushn (z"l) and Raisa and Isaac Goldfarb.



Gavin Herzig

May 30, 2015

Son of Heather Shay-Herzig and Jack Herzig

Gavin is a seventh grade student at Abington Junior High School, where he likes all of his honors classes. He is in the History Club and Science Club, and is part of Math Olympiad at school. He takes fencing classes after school. His favorite hobbies are reading and playing video games, and he attends the Jewish Teen Collaborative. Gavin has a sister, Marissa, and his grandparents are Robert (z"l) and Elaine Shay and Adam and Anne Herzig.



Shmirah Program

Dear Fellow Congregants,

On behalf of our Shul Buddies Program, we would like to organize a Shmirah program for our congregants. Judaism offers many beautiful rituals to help us process life-cycle events. Shmirah is a *chesed shel emet*, an act of loving kindness, which is the final act of compassion toward our departed fellow Jew. It is of great comfort and support to the family of the deceased. In Jewish tradition, volunteer Shomrim watch over the deceased from the time of death until they are buried, because the *Neshama* (soul) is believed to be present until the time of burial. Judaism teaches us that during this time, the deceased is on a journey and needs the companionship of others during this momentous transition. It is our belief that the human body is like the Sefer Torah and should be treated with the utmost respect. Thus, the Shmirah is nearby as a guard, a protector or a watcher.

Shmirah sends out the message that even after death we remain connected to *Klal Yisrael* - the Jewish community - and we will be taken care of when we can no longer take care of ourselves.

People providing Shmirah stay in the building where the deceased rests. Shifts are generally several hours in length and can be done in pairs at the Jewish funeral homes. One does not typically see the deceased, but you will be sitting in the same room. Volunteers sign up for a time slot and share this mitzvah with others. During each shift, you read Psalms or other meaningful readings out loud. One may also simply be present and keep the deceased in your thoughts.

If you would like to volunteer for this honor, please notify the synagogue office and we will contact you to discuss it in more detail.

Thank you on behalf of the Shul Buddies Committee.

*Congratulations to our 5775
Confirmation Families*



*Shavuot and Confirmation
Monday, May 25, 2015 at 9:15 a.m.*

Jake Ferman

Son of Risa and Michael Ferman

Noam Glanzberg-Krainin

*Son of Rabbis Deborah and
David Glanzberg-Krainin*

Jordana Goldstein

*Daughter of Robbi Ziv-Goldstein and
Ken Goldstein*

Stefanie Love

Daughter of Sheryl and Marc Love

Mattan Manstein

*Son of Susanna and
Dr. Mark (Rick) Manstein*

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 Lorna Adelman Benjamin Barg
 Lorna Adelman Diana Harris
 Lorna Adelman Gilbert R. Adelman
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 Bernice Adoni Leon Adoni
 Elaine Baran George Winicoff
 Gail Barg Max Barg
 Gail Barg Sonya Barg
 Joseph M. Barg Max Barg
 Barbara Barkon Rose Barkon
 Barbara Barkon Rae Dreidink
 Theodora Benn Mildren Benn
 Linda Berger Charlotte Wolfson
 Sara Berger Harry Berk
 Maurice Berry Barbara Berry
 Stephan Bieber Lilo B Bieber
 Steven Blechman Herbert Blechman
 Janice Bloek Marilyn Neidenberg
 Doris Blum Joe Perkin
 Cynthia Blynn Rose Bakan
 Linda Bojman Milton Balzer
 Jill Borden Horace Borden
 Jill Borden Doris Neuman Borden
 Jay Bornstein Joshua Bornstein
 Jay Bornstein Leon Krefetz
 Marcia Boswick Nathan Exmore
 Sheila Brecher Olga Notas
 Arlene Sobel Brest Clara Goldberg
 Arlene Sobel Brest Hope Hersh
 Harriet Brooks Frieda Kapp
 Rabbi Steven Brown Clara Brown
 Larry Buchsbaum Joseph Buchsbaum
 Rosalyn Buchsbaum Clara Lillian Zwerdling
 Rosalyn Buchsbaum Henry Zwerdling
 Mildred F. Citron Benjamin Friesel
 Judith Cohen Sylvia Silver
 Ian Comisky Marvin Comisky
 Monte Croll Ralph Crollick
 Sylvia Croll Lena Goldstein
 Sylvia Croll Ruth Whitman
 Dianne Cutler Rose Silkowitz
 Harvey Cutler Sylvia Cutler
 Larry Cutler Benjamin Cutler
 Stanley Daniel Alphonse Haase
 Stanley Daniel Anni Daniel
 Stanley Daniel Meriam Lillian Love
 Stanley Daniel Julius Daniel
 Stanley Daniel Irwin Daniel
 Stanley Daniel Hannah Kramer
 Bertha Dash Joshua Landow
 Melvin Davis William Davis
 Roger Davis Philip Davis
 Stephen Denkin Morris Denkin

Diane Driban Samuel Cohen
 Michael Driban Samuel Driban
 Michael Driban Sophie Driban
 Michael Driban Hymen Driban
 Michael Driban Gertrude Driban
 Muriel Tabas Ecker Leonard Ecker
 Muriel Tabas Ecker Ida Salidor
 Muriel Tabas Ecker Edward Tabas
 Brenda Edelman Nathan Kushner
 Rachelle Ehrlich Jacob Litwaek
 Hedvah Elefritz Rabbi Mortimer J. Cohen
 Adrienne Epstein Lillian N. Slubin
 Paula Epstein Abe Epstein
 Paula Epstein Johanna Goldberg
 Paula Epstein Joseph W. Goldberg
 Pnina Feiner Sara Adler
 Harriet Feinstein Myer Stadlin
 Harriet Feinstein Irene Cleff
 Rose Feith & Family Dalek Feith
 Myrna Felt Jules Forstein
 Eileen Finkelstein Sidney Shlak
 Eileen Finkelstein Yetta Berger
 Eileen Finkelstein Cecil Fischer
 Eileen Finkelstein Rose Silverstein
 Eileen Finkelstein Jacob Silverstein
 Eileen Finkelstein Lou Salaman
 Eileen Finkelstein Rabbi Maxwell Silverstein
 Eileen Finkelstein Morris Salaman
 Eileen Finkelstein Clara Raider
 Eileen Finkelstein Norman Sheelster
 Eileen Finkelstein Kate Eintraub
 Patti First Mary B. Radis
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 Joy Fish Joseph M. Fish
 Joy Fish Theodore A. Tenor
 Mr. & Mrs. Karl Fishman Howard Fishman
 Selma Fleigelman Stanley Fleigelman
 William Forman Beatrice Berke
 William Forman Max Forman
 William Forman Esther Hirshenhorn
 Mildred Frankel Molly Frankel
 Lawrence Freedman Daniel Freedman
 Lawrence Freedman Florence Freedman
 Jay Friedberg Milton Friedberg
 Helene Geiss Abraham Moskowitz
 Helene Geiss May Geiss
 Randi Lipton Gelman Solomon Lipton
 Randi Lipton Gelman Isadore Petroff
 Larry Gershman Edythe Gershman
 Belinda Glijansky Tibor Matyas-Schmidt
 Alex Glijansky Ghenea Reuchman de Glijansky
 Norman Glassman Benjamin Glassman
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 Lewis Gold Lillian (Sis) Gold
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 Fred Goldstein Morris Goldstein
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 Davida Harlem Bernice Shirley Padawer
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 Marcia Labovitz Louis Labovitz
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 Ada Landes Tillie Landes
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 Sora Landes Azriel Eisenberg
 Sora Landes Estelle Perl
 Sora Landes Rose Eisenberg
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 Ruth Layman Bella Apatoff
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 Gail Rosen..... Linda Hamberg Holtz
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 Harvey Rosen..... Ethyl Rosen
 Rochelle Rosen..... Ida Rosen
 Rochelle Rosen..... Ann Schwartz
 David Rosenberg..... Pearl Cohen Rosenberg
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 Berton Zaslow..... David Zaslow

Jerome Zaslow..... Ida Jaffe Zaslow
 Jerome Zaslow..... Anne Zaslow
 Betty Zinman..... Samuel Freeman
 Helaine Zlotnick..... Cantor Israel Dubner

BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION

ENGLISH DATE ON LEFT - HEBREW DATE ON RIGHT

March 2015

Adar 5775 - Nisan 5775

March 2015

April 2015

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31											

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY					
Mar 1	Adar 10	2	11	3	12	4	13	5	14	6	15	7	16				
9:00am Packed Misoach Manot 7:00pm Minyan at AJ	7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	AIPAC Policy Conference 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy 7:30pm Finance Committee	Erev Purim - 10:00am Sisterhood Board 5:45pm Maariv 6:00pm Megillah and Dinner 7:00pm Parade & Shtetl	Purim - 7:00am Megillah Reading 10:00am Early Learning Celebration 7:30pm Religious Committee	Shushan Purim - 5:39pm Candle lighting - 8:00pm Service with Speaker	KI Tisa - 9:15am Shabbat Service 10:45am Family Shabbat 5:30pm Minhah 10:45pm Tol Shabbat	8	17	9	18	10	19	20	21	22	23
DST Begins 11:15am Preschool Purim Carnival at KI 12:00pm Community Purim Carnival at KI 7:00pm Minyan at AJ	7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	Confirmation Trip 10:00am Sisterhood General Meeting "The Joy of Music"	9:00am Cook for a Friend 7:30pm Executive Committee	6:00pm Neshamah Service 6:47pm Candle lighting - 7:00pm Shabbat Dinner	Shabbat Parah - Vayakhel-Pekudei - 9:15am Bat Mitzvah Hannah Koval 6:30pm Minhah	15	24	16	25	17	26	18	19	20	21
9:30am Men's Club Brunch w/ Congressman Brendon Boyle 1:30pm Sisterhood Bingo 7:00pm Minyan at AJ	12:30pm Golden Years Luncheonw Linda Kenyan 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	7:30pm Men's Club Board 7:30pm Social Action/Mitzvat B'yahad Committee	7:30pm Men's Club Board 7:30pm Social Action/Mitzvat B'yahad Committee	6:54pm Candle lighting - 8:00pm Service led by Bogdanoff Grandchildren with Chorale	Rosh Hodesh Nisan, Shab Hehodesh, Vayikra 9:15am Congregational Service 10:00am The Shabbat Experience 6:45pm Minhah	22	31	22	30	23	24	25	26	27	28
No Religious School or JTC 8:30am Yom Hashoah Candle Paeking 7:00pm Minyan at AJ	7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	7:30pm Education Advisory	7:30pm Education Advisory	10:00am Early Learning Shabbat 6:00pm Come As You Are 7:01pm Candle lighting -	Shabbat HaGadol - Tzav - 9:15am Shabbat Service 6:45pm Minhah	29	9	30	10	31	11	12	13	14	15
9:00am Religious School Pesah Fair 7:00pm Minyan at AJ	1:30pm Golden Years Movie "Blessed is the Match" 7:30pm Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm Israeli Dancing 7:30pm Ways & Means Committee	No Religious School/In-service 8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy 9:00am Poreieman Seder	Apr 1														

MORNING SERVICES (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
SATURDAY: 9:15 AM / SUNDAY 9 AM
MONDAY & THURSDAY 7:20 AM
TUES, WED & FRI 7:30 AM

EVENING SERVICES (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
SAT: SUNSET / SUN: 7 PM AT BSC OR AJ
FRIDAY: 8 PM WEEKS 1 & 3 / 6 PM WEEKS 2 & 4 / 5TH WEEK AS NOTED

BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION

ENGLISH DATE ON LEFT - HEBREW DATE ON RIGHT

April 2015
Nisan 5775 - Iyar 5775

April 2015							May 2015						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 29 Nisan 9	30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	12
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	12
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	12
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	12

MORNING SERVICES (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
 SATURDAY: 9:15 AM / SUNDAY 9 AM
 MONDAY & THURSDAY 7:20 AM
 TUES, WED & FRI 7:30 AM

EVENING SERVICES (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
 SAT: SUNSET / SUN: 7 PM AT BSC OR AJ
 FRIDAY: 8 PM WEEKS 1 & 3 / 6 PM WEEKS 2 & 4 / 5TH WEEK AS NOTED

BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION

ENGLISH DATE ON LEFT - HEBREW DATE ON RIGHT

May 2015

Iyar 5775 - Sivan 5775

May 2015

June 2015

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 26 Iyar 7	8	28	9	30	May 1	2
29th day of the Omer - Pesah, Shi'ni - 7:00pm. Minyan (AJ)	30th day of the Omer - 7:30pm. Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm. Israeli Dancing	31st day of the Omer - 8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy 7:00pm Dedication of Elevator & Donor Recognition Board	32nd day of the Omer - 10:00am Sisterhood Board	33rd day Omer-Lag B'Omer - 10:00am Early Learning Celebration 2:00pm Blood Drive 6:00pm Men's Club Closing Dinner	34th day of the Omer - 6:00pm The Shabbat Experience with Neshamah Band 7:44pm Candle lighting -	35th day of the Omer. Emor - 9:15am Shabbat Service 10:45am. Tot Shabbat 11:45am Preschool with Rabbis 7:30pm. Minnah
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
36th Day of the Omer Mother's Day No Religious School or JTC 1:30am. 36th day of the Omer - 7:00pm. Minyan (AJ)	37th day of the Omer - 7:30pm. Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm. Israeli Dancing 7:30pm. Ways & Means Committee	38th day of the Omer - 8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy	39th day of the Omer -	40th day of the Omer - 9:00am Cook for a Friend 7:30pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Social Action/Mitzvot Byahad Comm.	41st day of the Omer - 7:50pm Candle lighting - 8:00pm Service with Chorale	42nd Omer. Behar-Behekukal - 9:15am Bar Mitzvah Ilay Goldfarb 10:45am Family Shabbat 7:30pm. Minnah
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
43rd Omer/Yom Yerusshalayim - Last Day Religious School 4:00pm Sponsors Pre-Event Honoring Hazzen Weber 7:00pm. Minyan (AJ)	44th day of the Omer - 12:30pm Golden Years Luncheon with Irene Reiler 7:30pm. Chorale Rehearsal 7:30pm. Israeli Dancing	45th Omer/Rosh Hodesh - 7:10am Minyan 8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy 11:00am. Cook for a Friend 7:30pm. Board of Directors	46th day of the Omer - 6:00pm Sisterhood Donor Celebration with Andrea & Cantor Weber	47th day of the Omer - 7:30pm Men's Club Board Installation	48th day of the Omer - 6:00pm. Come As You Are 7:57pm. Candle lighting -	49th day Omer. Bemidbar - Tekkun L'eyl Shavuot - 9:15am Adult Bar Mitzvah. Philip Balderston 7:45pm. Minnah
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Shavuot I 7:00pm. Minyan (AJ)	Memorial Day / Shavuot II Offices & School Closed 7:00am Early Service 9:15am. Yizkor & Confirmation.	8:30am Adult Ed with Clergy 5:30pm Golden Years 55 Alive Driving	7:30pm Education Advisory	5:30pm Golden Years 55 Alive Driving	Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? program 10:00am Early Learning Shabbat 6:00pm. Come As You Are 8:03pm. Candle lighting -	Naso - 9:15am Bar Mitzvah Gavin Herzig 7:45pm. Minnah
31	Jun 1	2	3	4	5	6
3:00pm Concert Honoring Cantor Weber 7:00pm. Minyan (AJ)						

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MONDAY & THURSDAY 7:20 AM
TUES, WED & FRI 7:30 AM

EVENING SERVICES (EXCEPT AS NOTED)
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