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IMPORTANT

Lessans Talmud Torah registration opens April 2!

IMPORTANT





WE'RE HERE FOR YOU HINEINI CAMPAIGN 2023-2024

THANK YOU RECEPTION

MONDAY, MAY 20

We did it! Thanks to the gererosity of hundreds of B'nai Israel members, we reached our annual Hineini fundraising goal. Supporters are invited to join us for our "Thank You" reception.

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B'NAI MITZVAH

Adam Chase Stillman April 6 | 9:00 AM

Adam Stillman, son of Debbie and Dan Stillman, grandson of Ben Mirman and Judye Yellon, Charlotte Mirman (z"l), and Anita



(z"l) and Jake (z"l) Stillman, is a seventhgrade student at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. For his mitzvah project, Adam volunteered at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light the Night event to raise funds for cancer research in memory of his beloved Bubby, who had multiple myeloma.

Blake Miles Tennen April 13 | 9:00 AM

Blake Tennen, son of Sara and Adam Tennen, grandson of Ellen and Bill Bresnick, and Elaine and Ed Tennen, is a seventh-grade student



at Julius West Middle School. For his mitzvah project, Blake raised money for St. Jude Children's Hospital by running in multiple races. He is also volunteering with the Special Olympics. He has volunteered with preschoolers with disabilities learning to play basketball and run track, and also served as a peer volunteer athlete on a soccer team for middle school athletes with disabilities.

Gavriel Hayim Schmelzer April 20 | 9:00 AM

Gavriel Schmelzer, son of Dr. Albert Schmelzer and Rabbi Tirza Covel, grandson of Robin and Robert Moel, Silvia Schmelzer, Terry



Covel (z"l), and Eugene Schmelzer (z"l), is a seventh-grade student at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. For his mitzvah project, Gavriel will provide food and meals for people in need. He volunteers at local food banks and provides dinners with B'nai Israel for local shelters.

Lewes Jethro Aplebaum

May 4 | 9:00 AM

Lewes Aplebaum, son of Lowell Aplebaum and Nina Ravick, grandson of Wendy Fanaroff, Sharyn Aplebaum



(z"l), and Baruch Aplebaum, is a seventhgrade student at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. For his *mitzvah* project, Lewes began volunteering with Friendship Circle, which supports individuals with special needs through recreational and social opportunities. Lewes plans to continue his involvement with Friendship Circle and to always help foster an inclusive community that values all individuals regardless of the challenges they face.

Ryder Aston Lenkin May 11 | 1:00 PM

Ryder Lenkin, son of Adam and Stephanie Lenkin, grandson of Ron and Wilma Lenkin, Barry Weisman and Michele Fishel, and Carol



and Doug Melamed, is a sixth-grade student at St. Andrew's Episcopal School. For his mitzvah project, Ryder will collaborate with Level the Playing Field (LPF). LPF redistributes equipment to expand access and equity within youth sports and recreation programs in under-resourced communities Ryder will work specifically with ice hockey equipment as he has been playing ice hockey for six years.

Micah Amlin May 18 | 9:00 AM

Micah Amlin, son of Don and Lauren Amlin, grandson of Bob and Susan Amlin (z"l), and Cheryl and Mark Rosenfeld (z"l), is



a seventh-grade student at Tilden Middle School. For his mitzvah project, Micah is volunteering as a peer buddy with the Open Door Sports program, working with players with disabilities to help them find success in team sports in an encouraging and inclusive environment.

Jeana Kresloff

May 18 | 9:00 AM

Jeana Kresloff, daughter of Mark and Ruth Kresloff, granddaughter of Joseph Goldstein (z"l) and Wilma Goldstein, and Marvin



Kresloff (z"l) and Zelda Kresloff, is a seventh-grade student at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. For her mitzvah project, Jeana will show her love for animals by organizing a collection drive for the local SPCA to support shelter animals. A collection box will be available at her bat mitzvah party.

2027 B'nai Mitzvah Dates to be Assigned

Applications for b'nai mitzvah dates have been sent to families with children born in 2014 who will celebrate their b'nai mitzvah in 2027.

If you have a child born in 2014 and have not received an application in the mail, please contact Allison Karasik (240-221-2507, allison@ bnaiisraelcong.org) as soon as possible.

Our scheduling team will be meeting soon and we want to make sure we include everyone.



RABBI'S MESSAGE by RABBI MITCHELL BERKOWITZ

For those who were able to join us for last month's Scholar in Residence program, you hopefully had an opportunity to enjoy the richness of Jordan Gorfinkel's Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel. One hundred of our synagogue's many volunteers received a copy of the book as a small measure of our gratitude, and many others purchased a copy directly from Gorf during his visit. The *Haggadah* includes the complete traditional text, transliteration of all Hebrew, and a modern English translation that is embedded in Gorf's illustrations that accompany each and every page. It is truly a remarkable addition to the Passover seder table (I can say this definitively because we have been using it for a few years at our *sedarim*).

Before we read about what most haggadot refer to as "The Four Sons," Gorf offers us an alternative understanding: "The Torah speaks of four types of children: one is astute, one is rebellious, one is innocent, and one cannot even put thoughts into words." On this particular page, the illustration combines the four archetypes into the silhouette of one head, demonstrating that each one of us contains these four archetypes within ourselves. The ratio of astuteness to rebelliousness might differ from one person to the next, but all of us have at some point in time embodied one of these characteristics.

During one of Gorf's presentations to the congregation, he taught us that these four archetypes are not only applicable to the Passover Haggadah, but can also be used as an interpretive device for understanding other narratives and stories, and even applied to sports team rivalries, politicians, and others. Gorf started with the schematic outline below, and then offered his own examples of how it might be used. I offer you that schematic below, and then a few examples of how I applied it. Feel free to use these at your seder table to spark conversation and discussion. You might agree with me, you might not. Some of them are made with the very understanding that the lines are blurry, and there is plenty of room for interpretation. And that, of course, is where the richness of the Passover seder can be found: in the nuanced conversations through which we debate, discuss, listen, and learn.

On behalf of my family I wish you all hag kasher v'sameach,

Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

Astute	Rebellious
Innocent	Cannot Put Thoughts Into Words









MICHAEL J. SAFRA

Senior Rabbi

MITCHELL H. BERKOWITZ

Associate Rabbi

CHERYL STONE

Assistant Rabbi

JONATHAN A. SCHNITZER

Rabbi Emeritus

JOSH C. PERLMAN

Hazzan

SARAH BOLTS

Associate Hazzan

HAL OSSMAN

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Schilit Nursery School Assistant Director

KAREN GERTON

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JOEL SHANKMAN

JAY WECHSLER

Gabbaim



NOTES by cantor josh c. perlman

As Passover approaches, I am reaching out to remind you of the significance of this sacred holiday. Passover is a time for us to reflect on the journey of our ancestors from slavery to freedom and to celebrate the blessings of our own freedom today.

During this time, as we clean our homes and remove leavened bread, let us also cleanse our hearts and minds of any negativity or burdens. Let us embrace the spirit of freedom and renewal that Passover represents.

I would like to extend a special invitation to you and your family to join me for the second night *seder* at B'nai Israel. The seder is a cherished tradition where we recount the story of the Exodus, partake in symbolic foods, and sing songs of praise and gratitude. It is a time of joy, reflection, and communal celebration. Please RSVP as soon as possible so that we may prepare accordingly for the *seder*. I am looking forward to celebrating this special holiday with all of you and hope to see you there.

In addition to the *seder*, I am thrilled to share with you an upcoming performance that promises to be truly exceptional. Handel's *Israel in Egypt* will take place on Sunday, April 14 at 4:00 PM at B'nai Israel. I urge you to consider attending this extraordinary event. Ticket prices are as follows: \$36 for general admission, a 25% group discount for groups of 8 or more, and a child/student discount with children 12 and under admitted for free and students 13+ with ID for \$10.

To purchase tickets, you can visit bachinbaltimore.org or call 410-941-9262.

Shalom, and may the people of Israel live on forever!



featuring Cantor Josh C. Perlman with a Cameo Role Baritone



Elissa Edwards soprano



Claire Galloway



Ben Ellerin composer



Josh Perlman *bass*

Sunday, April 14 | 4:00 PM B'nai Israel Congregation

With over 100 musicians on stage, experience the epic story of the Israelites exodus from Egypt. Maestro T. Herbert Dimmock leads the Bach in Baltimore Choir and Orchestra, joined by four superb soloists and the Richard Montgomery High School Madrigals, in Handel Israel in Egypt.

You won't want to miss this powerful and thrilling choral piece!

Tickets: \$36 Online & Door \$10 Student Children under 12 are free

Information & Tickets: bachinbaltimore.org 410-941-9262

*The soprano soloist is endowed in memory of Anne Hortense Pruitt Dimmock. **The alto soloist is endowed in memory of Linda D. Sadler, Given by Family & Friends. ***The bass soloist is endowed in memory of T. Herbert Dimmock, Jr.



LEADERSHIP **MESSAGE**

by DANA LANDE **VP Membership**

Thousands of people 'belong' to B'nai Israel. Like most of you, I speak about membership as 'belonging' to our synagogue. Membership is a formality, but belonging is what makes many of us feel welcome, a connected part of our special place. It pulls us together into a community, where we celebrate life's most joyous and also saddest moments in the synagogue together.

That feeling of belonging to a community was one of the most important elements of our decision to join B'nai Israel almost 20 years ago. Since I grew up moving around the US (I lived in 6 states by the age of 14), I craved the stability of a synagogue community that I could be a part of for a very long time. I wanted my children to have the rootedness that I missed, having a rabbi or cantor to call their own and a community of adults to lean on outside our family.

That's exactly what we've experienced here at B'nai. My kids have grown up with synagogue community members who became close family friends, adults of all ages who know them and make them feel loved and safe, and clergy who care about us as individuals.

My focus this year in my leadership involvement at B'nai is to help all families find their own sense of belonging. Some may find it by coming to Shabbat services and joining a friendly and comfortable place for worship. Others may find their place at daily minyan or holiday meals. Many will

find a home for their kids to learn to love Judaism in the Nursery School or Talmud Torah.

Belonging does not mean that we are all the same, and it's "more than just our shared connections or interests: it's about feeling a part of the whole" (Priya Parker). It's also a two-way street. We want our members, including new members, to both feel welcome and to find opportunities to give back, to participate, and to lead.

To help more families find their place, our new Belonging Committee is leaning into our diversity. It is focusing on engaging members who have different levels of religious observance, come from interfaith households or the LGBTQ+ community, or have family members of color. Working with the clergy and volunteers throughout the congregation, we're committed to finding ways to help every family connect to make our entire community stronger and find a way for everyone to belong.

Speaking of belonging, grab a friend and head to B'nai Israel to eniov our NEW Coffee Bar and lounge furniture!

When you enter B'nai Israel, you will notice our NEW lounge furniture and coffee bar area, generously supported by Tema and Yaron Sternberg. This area is designed for you to relax, visit, and build community right here at B'nai Israel! Please feel free to grab coffee and a seat any time.

We look forward to seeing everyone!



Welcome to the Newest **Members of Our B'nai Israel Family**

(January 5-February 21)

NEW MEMBERS

JENNIFER ROTTENBERG & JEREMY HIMMELSTEIN

FLANA & MAX KATZEN

DANIELA ROSEN & GIL DAYAN

Brukhim habaim!

The entire congregation shares our joy in welcoming you into our B'nai Israel family.

B'nai Israel STANDS WITH ISRAEL



We stand with Israel and against antisemitism:

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ WeStandWithIsrael

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ antisemitism

B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION

6301 Montrose Road Rockville, Maryland 20852 301-881-6550 www.bnaiisraelcong.org

Affiliated with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism









B'nai Israel Congregation is an accessible building.

SARA & SAMUEL J. LESSANS

ADULT LEARNING INSTITUTE

SHABBAT LEARNING

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

9:00-10:00 AM

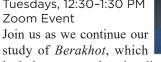
Join us on selected Saturday mornings for discussions about the weekly parsha. Interested in leading a session? Contact Wendy Fanaroff (wfanaroff@gmail.com).

April 6 - Shemini April 20 - Metzora May 4 - Achrei Mot May 18 - Emor

WEEKDAY LEARNING

Talmud on Tuesdays

with Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30 PM Zoom Event



includes a comprehensive discussion of the Shema and Amidah, the essential components of the prayer service. Newcomers are more than welcome to join us. No prior knowledge is necessary. Register at www. bnaiisraelcong.org/event/talmudtuesdays.

The Torah & Bevond: **Lunch and Learn**

with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer Mondays, April 1 and May 6 12:30 PM

In-Person & Zoom Event

Our Lunch and Learn group explores a compelling Biblical text-not only "unpacking" the more obvious meaning of the words and ideas but also how they interface with our own personal concerns and challenges. During 2023-2024, we will continue our study of excerpts from the Book of Samuel. Our focus will be on three pivotal characters: Saul, first king of ancient Israel; his son, Jonathan, caught in tragic crossfires beyond his control; and David, the boy-shepherd of many talents, who changes the trajectory of Israelite history. As our regulars will attest, our class is participatory and our conversations are lively. Newcomers are always welcome. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ lunchandlearn5784.



Voices from Israel

Perfect Enemy: Book Talk and Discussion on Israeli Society in **Today's Traumatized Times**

with Dr. Alex Sinclair Wednesday, April 10 7:15 PM

Israel is a country in trauma. That's always been the case. but all the more so after October 7th. How do we, as Israelis, respond to trauma?

How do mainstream Israelis win the war against our external enemies while also keeping in check the pressures of our extremist, messianic religious right?

These questions are the backdrop for Perfect Enemy, Alex J Sinclair's debut novel. Perfect Enemy is an exciting, suspenseful thriller, set in contemporary Israel. In this session, we'll read a few short extracts from the novel (but no spoilers!) and discuss how they shed light on Israel's core challenges in 2024 and beyond. Register at

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ voicesfromisraelapril2024.

Voices from Israel

My Childhood in Gush **Katif**

with Yoav Yaron Wednesday, May 22 7:30 PM

Yoav Yaron is a Community

Shaliach at the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien. will talk about the Jewish communities in the Gaza Strip and Gush Katif, the history of the region, and the personal story of the communities in Gush Katif from 1977-2024. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ voicesfromisraelmay2024.



The congregational shlicha program is made possible by a partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.



Off to Join the Circus

with Deborah Kalb Thursday, April 11 12:00 PM BYO Dairy Lunch 12:30-1:30 PM Program

Local author Deborah Kalb will discuss her new novel, Off to Join the Circus, about an overly enmeshed Jewish family in the D.C. suburbs, and what happens when a relative returns after 64

years. Adele ran away from

home in West Orange, New Jersey, as a teenager in 1954. The story starts in 2018, when her younger brother, Howard, is celebrating his 75th birthday with his family. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ event/hazakapril2024.

Let's Talk About the 2024 Elections

with Jonathan Salant Thursday, May 9 12:00 PM BYO Dairy Lunch 12:30-1:30 PM

Program

The 2024 election season is underway, here's what to expect next. The presidential nominees should be pretty well set, but Maryland voters will go to the polls next week to choose their nominees for the U.S. Senate and House. Here's a look at what we've learned so far and what we can expect to happen during the rest of the election year. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ event/hazakmay2024.



SARA & SAMUEL J. LESSANS ADULT LEARNING INSTITUTE

L.I.F.E. LECTURE

After 1177 BCE: The Survival of Civilizations

with Eric Cline Sunday, May 19 7:30 PM



In the years after 1177 B.C.E., many of the Late Bronze Age civilizations of the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean lay in ruins, undone by invasion, revolt, natural disasters, famine, and the demise of international trade. An interconnected world that had boasted major empires and societies, relative peace, robust commerce, and monumental architecture was lost. After 1177 B.C.E. will trace the compelling story of what happened during the next four centuries across the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean world. It is a story of resilience, transformation, and success, as well as failures, in an age of chaos and reconfiguration.

Cosponsored by the Biblical Archaeology Forum and the Biblical Archaeology Society of Northern Virginia. Admission is free for all members of B'nai Israel Congregation. Admission for others is \$5, which goes to support archaeology scholarships through BAF/BASONOVA.

Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ lifelecturemay 2024.

Please check the website for the latest updates regarding these events.

To REGISTER or for more information on any of our learning opportunities, go to www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ adulteducation.

QUESTIONS? Contact Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz (301-816-5575, mhberkowitz@bnaiisraelcong.org).

Bagels & Banter: Fighting Antisemitism in K-12 Schools - A Grassroots Perspective

Sunday, April 28 10:00 AM Brunch 10:30 AM Speakers All are welcome!

Antisemitic incidents rose by a sobering 261% in Montgomery County from 2021 to 2022. Moreover, although about 10% of Montgomery County is Jewish, 61% of hate bias incidents in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) from July 2022 to November 2023 involved antisemitism. The data is indisputable: antisemitism is rife locally in K-12 schools.

Our two speakers are local leaders in the fight to end antisemitism in K-12 education. Rebecca Schgallis, founder of the Northern-Virginia-based



advocacy organization United Against Antisemitism, is also the Senior Education Strategist for the CAMERA Education Institute, whose mission is to confront antisemitism and anti-Zionism in American education.

Nicole Kashtan founded the Montgomery County Jewish Parents Coalition (MoCo JPC) to combat rising antisemitism in MCPS and celebrate the



Jewish and Israeli heritage of Montgomery County. They will discuss the reasons for rising antisemitism in the public schools, strategies their organizations are using to reverse the trend, and opportunities for community involvement.

To join us for this free event, which includes a Kosher-for-Passover breakfast, please register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/bagelsandbanterApril2024.

Cosponsored by Sisterhood, Men's Club, and the Committee Against Antisemitism. Contact Anne Rubinovitz (arubinovitz@gmail.com) or Gail Silberglied (gailrav@yahoo.com) for more information.

Guiding the Next Generation: JNF-USA Green Horizons Program

Thursday, May 2 6:00 PM Mediterranean Dinner





Ido Reichman-Eisikovits will speak about the current ground operations in Gaza, sharing firsthand the account of the courage of the men and women of the IDF, and will provide insight on the emotional toll the war has taken on Israel's society and what "tomorrow" holds. Ido is a proud Zionist Educator serving as VP of Green Horizons, a Jewish National Fund-USA affiliate working closely with thousands of youth guiding and teaching the next generation about Israel's rich history of Zionist values. A proud Major in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Reserves, Ido formerly served as an IDF-appointed advisor to Peru's military, as Vice Chairman of the National Union of Israeli Students, and as the CEO of advertising agency Alhon Holdings.

Green Horizons offers outdoor, educational activities to Israeli youth in grades 5–12. This transformative



program takes participants on hiking and camping trips throughout the country, with the goal of building interpersonal and leadership skills and fostering a strong connection to the land of Israel. Separated from their smartphones, television and computers and immersed in nature, Green Horizons participants learn about Israel's history, geography, and culture through various activities. The program emphasizes the importance of social participation, tolerance and personal responsibility, using group dynamics to help the youngsters acquire essential values and skills.

There is no charge to attend. Please register by Sunday, April 21 at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/jnfdinnermay2024.

The Mediterranean Dinner is sponsored by Rita and Chet Stein. This event is cosponsored by Men's Club and Sisterhood.

PASSOVER at B'nai Israel

Monday evening, April 22 through Tuesday evening, April 30. The Rabbinical Assembly Pesah Guide is available on our website at www. bnaiisraelcong.org/pesah. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact Rachel Hyman (301-816-5562, rachel@bnaiisraelcong.org).



WORKSHOPS

Passover Workshop: Kashering 101

with Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz Tuesday, April 9 7:45-9:00 PM The celebration of Passover does not begin on



seder night. Rather, our "celebration" begins when we start cleaning, koshering, and preparing our homes to be free of hametz. It is too easy for this to feel like a chore and a burden. Join Rabbi Berkowitz to consider how cleaning, koshering, and preparing our homes for Passover could be a spiritually meaningful experience (and not too heavy a lift)! Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/passoverworkshopapril9.

Passover Workshop: Making Order in the Seder

with Chana Kupetz of Hadar Sunday, April 14 10:30 AM-12:00 PM The Maggid is the central



part of the Seder, but it is long, and can be confusing! Join us as we learn more about the different parts of Maggid and how certain themes help weave it together. We will share ideas and insights for an engaging and meaningful seder using Hadar's Maggid Map. The session is designed for anyone leading a seder this year as well as for those who aren't, but want to engage more deeply as participants! Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/passoverworkshop2.

PREPARING

Mekhirat Hametz—Selling of Hametz

If one cannot completely remove all hametz from the home during Pesah, Jewish law provides for the conditional sale of hametz to a non-Jew during Pesah. Upon the conclusion of Pesah, the hametz reverts to its original owner.

It is customary to make a contribution for ma'ot hittin, providing Pesah food for the needy, when selling hametz. To appoint Rabbi Berkowitz as your agent to sell your hametz, go to www.bnaiisraelcong.org/pesah by Sunday, April 21. Hametz will revert to its original owner at the conclusion of Pesah on Tuesday evening, April 30.

B'dikat Hametz—The Search for Hametz, and Biur Hametz—Burning Hametz

The search for leavened bread takes place on Sunday evening, April 21, after sunset. Members of the family, equipped with a lighted candle, go from room to room gathering crumbs of bread to ensure that the house has been cleansed of all hametz. Many families have a custom of hiding pieces of bread in order to guarantee that something may be found.

Special b'dikat hametz sets (including a feather, spoon, candle, and instructions) are available from the Sisterhood Judaica Shop. The last time to eat hametz is 10:50 AM on Monday, April 22. Hametz must be destroyed before 11:59 AM.

Siyyum Bekhorot—Siyyum for the First Born

On Monday, April 22, all first-borns are urged to join the Siyyum Bekhorot following the 7:15 AM *minyan*. This observance reminds us that when the first-born of Egypt were slain during the Tenth Plague, the Israelite first-born were saved. In appreciation for this redemption, it is incumbent upon first-born Jewish males to fast on the day before Pesah. This responsibility is nullified when one celebrates the completion of text study.

At the *siyyum*, Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer will share reflections on what our tradition teaches us about *shalom*, peace. This celebration of learning nullifies the obligation for first-borns to fast on the eve of Passover. We will conclude the *siyyum* with a *Seudat Mitzvah*, a celebratory meal provided through the generosity of Lisa and Alan Isenberg.

Passover Hospitality

Do you have extra seats available at your seder table? Are you (or is someone you know) looking for a seder? If so, please contact Rabbi Berkowitz's office (301-816-5575). We will make every effort to arrange hospitality.

PASSOVER at B'nai Israel

PROGRAMMING

Project Hope: Passover Package Delivery

Sunday, April 14 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Help us deliver Passover packages to senior residents in the Rockville and Leisure World areas. The program chair will be handing out the packages and names and addresses of recipients in the B'nai Israel parking lot in the morning. In the past, volunteers have delivered 5 to 7 packages. We ask that all deliveries be done before noon that day.

Matzah Brei Mania (Grades K-6)

Tuesday, April 23 10:30 AM

What would Pesach be without matzah brei? Join us in the kitchen to crumble, mix and fry the *matzahs*. After we eat our yummy creations, join us for a short youth service.

Pesah Pizza Party for Kiddush

Wednesday, April 24 12:00 PM

Join us during *kiddush* for this annual tradition for the whole congregation. Make your own matzah pizza with your favorite toppings.

Passover Flowers

Enhance your holiday table or send flowers to a family member or friend. A beautiful flower arrangement always complements a holiday table. Let B'nai Israel Sisterhood do the legwork so you have less to think of during your holiday preparations.

\$70 for local delivery; \$75 for out-of-area delivery

Place your order before Sunday, April 14. Arrangements will arrive in time for the first seder.

Order online at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/form/ passoverflowerorders2024.

Second Night Congregational Seder

with Cantor Josh Perlman Tuesday, April 23 6:30 PM

Celebrate our freedom with your B'nai Israel family at this congregational seder, led by Cantor Josh C.



Perlman. A traditional, lively, and song-filled seder will include a delicious meal and the greatest humor of our very own Cantor Josh.

Early Bird Pricing (until April 6)

Adult Member \$55 Adult Nonmember \$75 Children (ages 2-17) \$18 Children under 2 years are free of charge.

Regular Pricing (April 7-14)

Adult Member \$60 Adult Nonmember \$80 Children (ages 2-17) \$20 Children under 2 years are free of charge

Registration closes Sunday, April 14 at midnight.

Manischewitz wine and grape juice will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own unopened bottle of Kosher for Passover wine.

Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/congregationalseder2024.



Mekhirat Hametz

Selling of *Hametz*

If one cannot completely remove all hametz from the home during Passover, Jewish law provides for the conditional sale of hametz to a non-Jew during Passover. Upon the conclusion of Passover, the hametz reverts to its original owner.

It is customary to make a contribution for *ma'ot hittin*, providing food for the needy, when selling *hametz*. Contributions should be made payable to the B'nai Israel Congregation Tzedakah and Welfare Fund.

Please return the form by Sunday, April 21 in order to sell your hametz. Hametz will revert to its original owner at the conclusion of Passover on Tuesday evening, April 30.

Register online at <u>www.bnaiisraelcong.</u> <u>org/pesah</u> or use the form below.

Mekhirat Hametz

I hereby authorize Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz as my agent to sell all *hametz* in my possession for the duration of Passover 5784.

Name

Address

For questions, please contact Allison (240-221-2507, allison@bnaiisraelcong.org).

PASSOVER at B'nai Israel

SERVICE TIMES & CANDLELIGHTING

MONDAY, APRIL 22

7:15 AM Morning Service and Siyyum Bekhorot 10:50 AM Stop Consuming Hametz Burn Hametz by 11:59 AM First Niaht 7:36 PM Candlelighting

TUESDAY, APRIL 23 First Day of Pesah

9:15 AM Festival Service 10:30 AM Matzah Brei Mania and Youth Service 12:30 PM Minha 6:30 PM Second Night Community Seder with Cantor Josh Perlman Light candles after 8:23 PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Second Day of Pesah 9:15 AM Festival Service 10:30 AM Tots Program and Family Minyan (Grades K-6) 12:00 PM Pesah Pizza Party during Congregational Kiddush 8:00 PM Festival Ma'ariv

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Erev Yom Tov 7:42 PM Candlelighting 8:00 PM Festival Ma'ariv

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Seventh Day of Pesah 9:00 AM Festival Service 10:30 AM Youth Service 12:30 PM Minha 8:00 PM Festival Ma'ariv Light candles after 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Eighth Day of Pesah 9:00 AM Festival Service with Yizkor Prayers (11:00 AM) 10:45 AM Tots-6th Grade Visit to Cohen-Rosen House 10:45 AM Teen Candy Seder 12:30 PM Minha 8:00 PM Ma'ariv The festival ends at 8:31 PM

Office Hours

The synagogue offices will close at 12:00 PM on Monday, April 22 and remain closed on Tuesday, April 23 and Wednesday, April 24.

The synagogue offices be closed on Monday, April 29 and Tuesday, April 30. for the conclusion of Pesah.

FREE Large Print Haggadahs for the Visually Impaired and **Reading Disabled**

The JBI Library can help you or a loved one fully enjoy the Passover

Order your free Haggadah at 800-433-1531 or www.jbilibrary.org.



April 7:19 PM/8:05 PM 5/6 12/13 7:26 PM/8:13 PM 19/20 7:33 PM/8:20 PM 22 7:36 PM 23 after 8:23 PM 26/27 7:40 PM/8:28 PM 28 7:42 PM 29 after 8:30 PM

7:47 PM/8:35 PM 3/410/11 7:53 PM/8:42 PM 17/18 8:00 PM/8:49 PM

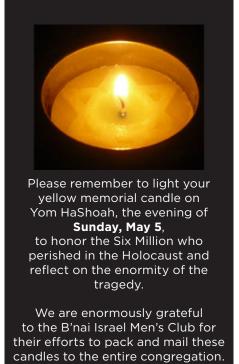


Community-wide Virtual Yom Ha'Shoah **Commemoration Sunday,** 2:00 PM (Virtual Event) with Survivor Peter Gorog, Keynote Speaker

Dor L'Dor, Intergenerational program for teens and their families and educators to meet with and hear local Holocaust survivors share their living testimonies.

Unto Every Person There is a Name (virtual), the annual reading of Shoah victims' names co-sponsored by B'nai B'rith International and the JCRC.

To register, go to www.jcouncil.org/ events/2024-holocaust-commemoration The virtual link will be emailed upon registration submission.



May



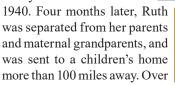
Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

The Story of Ruth Luftman nee Hamburger, Mother of Our Member Eric Luftman

Sunday, May 5 7:30 PM

Ruth Hamburger was 10 years old when she was deported with her family from Nazi Germany to a concentration camp in Vichy France in October





the next 18 months (February 1941–August 1942), Ruth corresponded with her parents through weekly letters, sharing their experiences with each other, until the correspondence halted abruptly. Years later, Ruth learned that her parents were murdered in Auschwitz.

In 2016, Eric started researching his mother's story,transcribing and translating 68 letters his mother had kept throughout her survival of the Holocaust. Along the way he befriended Hans-Georg Schmitz, a retired German minister who, with others in his community, was organizing a memorial event for the Jews of his area and helped in the translation of some of the letters.

Through the letters, Eric gains valuable insight on the lives of his family under the Vichy regime, and their dedication to their only child, Ruth.

Register at <u>www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/</u> yomhashoahcommemoration2024.

Yom HaZikaron

Israeli Memorial Day

Yom HaZikaron C o m m u n i t y Ceremony

Sunday, May 12 7:15 PM

Honor the memory of the brave people who

fell while protecting the State of Israel, and remember the victims of senseless terror attacks, during our solemn Yom HaZikaron ceremony. Join us in paying tribute to these heroes in a moving ceremony followed by the evening minyan.

Additionally, we invite you to participate in our Yom HaZikaron Memory Kits initiative, offering engaging homebased activities designed to deepen our understanding of the October 7 attacks victims. All revenues will be donated. Stay tuned for more details on this meaningful project.

Register at <u>www.bnaiisraelcong.org/</u> <u>event/yomhazikaron2024</u>.

Yom HaAtzmaut

Israeli Independence Day

Yom HaAtzmaut Festival

Monday, May 13 5:45 PM-9:00 PM

Experience the vibrant spirit of Israeli resilience and Jewish peoplehood at our congregational Yom HaAtzmaut festival! Join us for an evening of activities for all ages—from tots to adults. Indulge in an Israeli style dinner as we come together to honor Israel and the Jewish people.

5:45-6:30 PM

Family activities revolving around the theme of hope—kite making, poppy flower decorating and other ways of showing solidarity with the people of Israel.

6:30-7:30 PM

Congregational Yom HaAtzmaut Dinner, will include a ceremonial moment of transitioning from Yom HaZikaron to Yom HaAtzmaut. Registration for the dinner is due by Friday, May 10.

7:30-9:00 PM

Congregational Yom HaAtzmaut program, focusing on Israeli bravery and Jewish pride.

Register at <u>www.bnaiisraelcong.org/</u> event/YomHaAtzmaut2024.

11

B'NAI ISRAEL SCROLL APRIL/MAY 2024

WORSHIP



SUNDAY 9:00 AM | 8:00 PM **MONDAY-THURSDAY** 7:15 AM | 8:00 PM **FRIDAY** 7:15 AM | 6:15 PM **SATURDAY** 9:00 AM | 12:30 PM

*Please note: Minyan times vary on holidays.

Singing Circle Potluck Fridays, April 12 and May 17

7:15-9:00 PM Celebrate Shabbat with a community of song! Join us for a potluck Shabbat dinner



followed by soulful singing led by Cantor Sarah Bolts.

All attendees are expected to contribute a vegetarian (parve or dairy) dish for the potluck dinner. Register for April 12: www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/singingcirclepotluckapril2024. Register for May 17: www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/singingcirclepotluckmay2024.

Conscious Connections Contemplative Shabbat





Experience a different approach to Shabbat morning prayers. Led by Rabbi Cheryl Stone, we will explore an intentional path to enhance your prayer service with a mixture of song, meditation, and discussion. Mindfulness Meditation helps us to connect to our Jewish values, creating greater perception in our minds for a connection to the Divine. Adults of all ages are welcome.



Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, April 26 6:15 PM

Welcome Shabbat with spirited song and prayer outdoors (weather permitting) in the Hurwitz-Guritzky Meditation Garden. This service is also accessible via Zoom.



Israel Shabbat Celebration

Saturday, May 11 at 9:00 AM

Join us in commemorating a significant milestone as Uriel Lin, our congregational *Shlicha*, celebrates her adult *bat mitzvah*, marking the culmination of two transformative years of *shlichut* at B'nai Israel Congregation. Share in the joyous ceremony as Uriel reflects on her journey with our community. Following services, from 12:30–2:00 PM, take part in adult or family Israel-themed activities, inspired by the themes of hope and dreams.



Calling all Allies: Come and Be Counted





Dinner (Reservations due by June 4) 8:00 PM Presentation & Discussion Nearly everyone will have experience of being the "other" in some situation during their lifetime. Whether they realize it or not is completely up to us. Our communities are only as strong as the weakest relationships among us. As we progress through our lives, it is impossible to know what our futures will bring. However, one thing is for certain. At some point, we will all be that person in need of an empathetic soul to intervene and provide support. But will you show up when the moment arises?

Be the ally someone needs and create the space for others to live their lives joyfully and with dignity. For more information and to register go to: www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/prideshabbatjune2024.

YOUTH & FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES

Gold Kippah Honor Society & Shabbuddies

Weekly, 9:45-10:15 AM

B'nai Israel's Gold Kippah Honor Society recognizes students for their proficiency in various prayers. Older students will be matched with a younger "buddy" to mentor. The goal of Shabbuddies is to build stronger *tefillah* skills while fostering friendships across grades and promote a more integrated community.

Children will earn "Shabbat Bucks" for attending Gold Kippah and Family Minyan, and will be able to exchange them for fun prizes on Birthday Shabbatot.

Family Minyan

Weekly, 10:15-11:30 AM

Family Minyan includes spirited prayer, an engaging Torah reading, and lively conversation about the weekly Torah portion. There is no better way to prepare your child for their *bar mitzvah* or *bat mitzvah*, and build community connections than regular Shabbat attendance. This service is led by clergy and staff, including Rabbi Berkowitz and Rabbi Stone.

Tot Shabbat

(Ages 5 and under with a parent) Weekly, 10:45-11:30 AM

Designed for the youngest members of our congregational family, Tot Shabbat meets weekly to sing, learn, and pray together with Tot Shabbat leaders, Morah Juliann Goldman and Lily Pollack, Youth Coordinator.

Teen Minyan

April 6, 20, May 4, 18 10:30-11:30 AM

These services are for the post-b'nai mitzvah teens of B'nai Israel. Our teens help to organize the service and lead it, often including tefillah and discussion, with support from staff and clergy.

Birthday Shabbat

April 6 and May 4

Celebrate each month's birthdays at the end of Youth and Family services with songs and treats!

Save the Date

ANNUAL Meeting

Monday, May 20 7:15 PM

Join us to hear the Annual Report on the State of the Congregation and to elect the Slate of Officers and Governors for 2024–2025.

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

OFFICIAL 2024 SLATE OF OFFICERS & BOARD OF GOVERNORS

OFFICERS

President Jeff Fredman (term ending 6/30/25) President-Elect Dina Cohen Gruber VP Administration Jessica Lieberman VP Development Dana Lande VP Membership Jeff Sussman VP Religious Affairs Haidee Bernstein VP Youth and Education Marcie Peters Secretary Jill Furman Treasurer Madeline Pellish

TO SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM

Assistant Treasurer Ben Willcher

Barbara Bushman Marc Gold Debra King Andra Metz Adam Odesser Seth Shapiro Debbie Stillman

TO SERVE A ONE-YEAR TERM

Tyler Carlin Jason Froehlich Adam Possner

TO SERVE AS TRUSTEE

Joel Meisel



We did it! Due to the generosity of the B'nai Israel community, our critical Hineini Annual Campaign has met its goal. Now, let's celebrate!

To honor this commitment to our community, all supporters of our 2023-2024 Hineini Annual Campaign are invited to a special event:

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR

THANK YOU RECEPTION Monday, May 20 5:45 PM

Preceding the B'nai Israel Annual Meeting at 7:15 PM

Register now at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/hineini.





Photos from our 2023 Hineini Thank You Event—we can wait to see you for our 2024 celebration!

There is still time to participate in the Hineini Annual Campaign if you have not yet done so. Donate today at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/hineini.

There is no minimum to participate and every gift is meaningful.

Thank you!

Susan focus

Susan and Rob Loewy, 2023-24 Hineini Campaign Chairs

gssica Lieberman

Jessica Lieberman, VP Development



EARLY CHILDHOOD

by RENEE LESSANS **Program Support Specialist**

Our Discovery Room is a perfect example of play-based learning. As children enter the room, they immediately see opportunities to explore the many offerings of materials set out with STEM intentions in mind. The children choose where they wish to start.

Will it be a sensory experience where they can manipulate materials such as sand and water, seeing how they flow through funnels, clear tubes and sieves? Do they want to explore the effect of gravity and wind on a variety of materials in the wind tunnel? Are they interested in how objects move, manipulating the many parts of ramps to effect velocity? Will they explore the properties of light using transparent and opaque objects at the overhead projector or see the movement of the light and shadows using flashlights in our little dark corner? Are they interested in the balance scales, magnetic items, gears, musical instruments or natural objects under the magnifying glass?



As the children move around the room exploring, they talk about their work and weave stories into their play. Their friends join in the conversations, bringing additional experiences and knowledge and creating shared learning. Their teachers are there to wonder with the children, raising questions that elevate the thinking. And through this joyful fun, learning happens!



Glenda Koby, our dynamic twos teacher and leader of our Fours Discovery Room guided learning sessions explained, "The children create hypotheses and stories around their investigations. This time is interactive, creative, collaborative, selfdirected, social and abounds with language development. The water table is the number one attraction. One day the children used pipettes at the water table to put water inside the pretend sharks. They explained that they were giving the sharks blue medicine but they had to wear special gloves so that the sharks cannot bite them." Through this scenario, the children are using what they already know, applying it to the scene, and, becoming aquarium veterinarians.



Our four-year-old students also spend some of their time in the Discovery Room taking part in guided learning sessions. What have they been investigating? The first half of the year they explored building concepts such as balance and stability while learning about and creating structures and bridges. Currently, they are studying ramps and the effect of height, friction, shape and weight on speed. Through trial and error, they are becoming informed architects.



The children's play becomes their work. It is fun and engaging as well as a very important part of their school experience. They are learning to be inquisitive, discovering new information and drawing conclusions, testing their theories, learning about how things work, designing and creating, categorizing, measuring, and thinking independently. Perfectly stated to demonstrate the interest these materials bring Rory, in our two-year-old class, told his teachers, "This is a cool activity!"







YOUTH & **EDUCATION**

by RABBI CHERYL STONE Assistant Rabbi/ Chief Education Officer

"The Exodus from Egypt occurs in every human being, in every era, in every year, and in every day."

-Reb Nachman of Breslov

We know that at Passover, every one of us, no matter our age is instructed to see ourselves as having left Egypt. In the Torah, this injunction is repeated throughout as well as in the Haggadah we recite. But what is the value of this?

Pesach is the time to see where we are being constricted and what are the self-imposed limitations and fears that hold us back. Egypt, in the Torah, is called Mitzrayim, the narrow place. This is more than a geographic location, it is also an attitude, a mindset.

The barriers we create in our minds. whether rooted in past experiences or uncertainties about the future, can hinder our personal growth and potential. It is essential to recognize that the power to overcome these obstacles lies within us. Passover reminds us that change begins with a conscious effort to break free from our bonds and the constraints we place on ourselves to embrace a mindset of resilience and continuous improvement.

The lessons that we cultivate during this annual introspection are to be carried with us throughout the year. Our Jewish tradition reminds us that we are designed

not to succumb to our limitations but to uplift ourselves spiritually. Through rituals, prayers, and moral teachings, our tradition encourages us to cultivate qualities such as compassion, justice, and kindness, fostering an environment where personal growth and societal betterment go hand in hand.

By internalizing these values, we are inspired to strive for a better world not only for ourselves but for future generations. Recalling our exodus from Egypt serves as a source of strength, reminding us of our potential to transcend limitations, mitzrayim, those places that constrain us. It is through our diligent efforts of introspection and growth that we are striving to actively contribute to the creation of a more compassionate and harmonious world.





Register by Yom HaAtzmaut (May 14) to be entered to win a round-trip ticket to Israel!

Two more lucky winners will receive a \$250 discount off of Lessans Talmud Torah tuition *restrictions apply

For details, visit

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/talmudtorahraffle













YOUTH EXPERIENCES by LILY POLLACK

Youth Coordinator

As most of you know, 1

As most of you know, I grew up here at B'nai Israel. Being a member of this community opened so many doors in my Jewish education. One of the most exciting opportunities was my gap-year in Israel, Nativ.

I spent the first four months living right in the heart of Jerusalem, just a 15-minute walk from the Machane Yehudah shuk. In the second semester I was living up north in Teveria (Tiberias), right next the Rambam's gravesite. I participated in tiyyulim (hiking trips...not my favorite), university-level classes at Hebrew University, High Holy Days and Hannukah in Jerusalem, seminars on modern Israel, and volunteering at a daycare and an after-school center for children with developmental delays. I was also able to explore the country and visited Netanya, Akko, Caesarea, Haifa, Tzfat, Eilat, Beersheva, Ra'anana, as well as a few kibbutzim. All of that in just a few months because, unfortunately, my gap-year was cut short in March 2020 due to the pandemic. I was so lucky to experience so many different sides of Israel during my time there and I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Part of my role as Youth Coordinator is to facilitate our generous scholarship program. I feel so passionately about our scholarship program at B'nai Israel because without it I would not have been able to have this amazing experience of a gap-year on Nativ. I know that summer is right around the corner and many of you are finalizing plans for

your children, teens, and college students to go on various trips. We have scholarship funds available to all B'nai Israel families, regardless of need, for Israel semester and summer trips, Camp Ramah programs, Jewish leadership experiences, and many Jewish summer trips. If you have questions about our scholarship opportunities or want to learn more about which program might be right for you, please send me an email (lilyp@bnaiisraelcong.org) or call me in my office (240-221-2515). I am always happy to chat about scholarships and more!

To apply for a scholarship go to: https:// forms.office.com/r/HJfvanZHSd.

Youth Department EVENTS

APRIL

7 - Bonim Zoo Trip

14 - Machar Cake Boss Competition

14 - Gesher Laser Tag at Shadowland

30 - Teen Candy Seder

MAY

5 - Bonim Field Day

19 - Machar Adventure Park

31 - Gesher Shabbat Dinner

JUNE

2 - Bonim & Machar Pizza and Ice Cream Party

9 - Gesher & Teens King's Dominion Day

For more information, visit <u>www.</u> <u>bnaiisraelcong.org/youthprograms</u>.

B'nai Israel College Connection

If you are a college student or the parent of one, sign up for College Connection today.

Packages have included Starbucks gift cards, holiday gifts, candy, and more.

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ collegeconnection

Sign ups for Passover packages are due by April 14.

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/youthprograms



The new and expanding

B'NAI ISRAEL JUDAICA MUSEUM

is actively soliciting fine antique/ vintage Judaica for its collection. If you have any items you would like to donate or would consider lending to B'nai Israel for display, please contact Randy Sager, Fine Arts Chairperson (randysager@gmail.com).



In Search of B'nai Israel Historic Photos!

B'nai Israel will be celebrating 100 years before too long. The Fine Arts Committee is working to display the history of B'nai Israel, and would love to copy (and return the originals) old photos that you may have.

Confirmation Photos

Looking for years prior to 1954 Looking for 1958, 1959, 1964, 1970, 1972–1982, 1994–2001

Please contact Randy Sager (randysager@gmail.com).



ISRAEL CORNER
by Uriel Lin
Congregational Shlicha

TL; DR: Come celebrate my adult *bat mitzvah* with me, on May 11, Israel Shabbat.

When I turned twelve, my grandfather Yehoshua suggested teaching me how to read the Torah and celebrating my bat mitzvah at Adat Shalom Emanuel, the Conservative/Masorti synagogue he attended where he was the shaliach tzibur (prayer leader). As a secular Israeli from the moshavim movement, the concept of celebrating my bat mitzvah in a synagogue seemed uncomfortable, and reading the Torah seemed to me like a role reserved for boys only. I politely declined the offer, and we never talked about it again. A few years later, he passed away.



Yehoshua and I had a special bond. My biological grandfather Uriel (after whom I'm named) passed away three years before I was born. Yehoshua, my grandmother's partner, had been my grandfather since I was born. And I couldn't ask for anyone better — with his corny jokes and humor, the way he added *ruach* to every holiday by organizing family quizzes after each meal, and how he was always there for me while growing up. He was a teacher, a *ba'al koreh* (Torah reader), and an actor. He was the one who introduced me to *kiddush* and the Jewish tradition.

I always felt like he left my world too soon. Before I could share with him my exploration of the Jewish tradition, and before I could fully realize his contribution to my inner world.

Working in a Conservative synagogue felt like a way of paying tribute to him. In a way, I felt like I was sharing with him my exploration, by diving into the rich world of Conservative Judaism, seeing values he endorsed such as equality, open-mindedness, and deep respect for tradition, standing as the core pillars of the movement.

During my two years here, I was also fortunate to develop a close relationship with Cantor Josh, who reminds me a lot of my grandfather Yehoshua. Both share the same name, but also the same devotion to their communities, and the same quirky humor. When I mumbled something about maybe reading some Torah to celebrate my journey with the community, Cantor Josh encouraged me to pursue an adult *bat mitzvah*. We have been meeting every week for the past 6 months to prepare.

My bat mitzvah will take place on May 11, amid Israel's National Days. It is a tribute to my grandfather, but it also marks my 2 years journey in our community. I reflect on my first days here, feeling completely lost in the prayers, trying to grasp the gaps between what I knew about Jewish religious practice, and what I saw here. Today, I feel like an ambassador of the community to my family and friends back home. My fellow shlichim like to joke around and say that I turned most religious, bursting into spontaneous recitations of prayers and blessings from time to time. What can I say...it's catchy!

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for this transformative journey. I gained an empowering base for my Jewish identity, and this community has turned into a second home for me. I would like to invite you all to celebrate this journey with me at my *bat mitzvah*, which will take place on Saturday, May 11. You all are my family here, and it would be an honor to be surrounded by all of you as I near the end of this journey on *shlichut*, discovering the power of the Jewish world.

I hope to see you all there!



Voices from Israel

Perfect Enemy: Book Talk and Discussion on Israeli Society in Today's Traumatized Times

with Dr. Alex Sinclair Wednesday, April 10 7:15 PM

In this 4-sessions series, we will explore different voices and perspectives from various segments of Israeli society in light of the ongoing situation in Israel. See page 6 for details.

Voices from Israel My Childhood in Gush Katif

with Yoav Yaron Wednesday, May 22 7:30 PM See page 6 for details.

Young Adults Mimouna Celebration

Wednesday, May 1 7:00 PM

Learn how to make *moufleta* and *sfenj* and get to know this special holiday, celebrated by Sephardi communities around the world. Open to young adults ages 21–37. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/youngadultsmimouna2024.

Weekly Updates from Our Congregational Shlicha, Uriel Lin

Uriel is sharing her thoughts and feelings with the congregation weekly. To view her messages, go to www.bnaiisraelcong.org/urielupdates.

To sign up for our Israel Affairs listserve and receive these weekly reflections in your inbox, go to: www.bnaiisraelcong.org/westandwithisrael.



The congregational shlicha program is made possible by a partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.



BLUMBERG-ZALIS FAMILY LIBRARY by JILL GENDELMAN Librarian

It's Passover already! The year is flying by too quickly! We have great Passover resources for planning a seder, choosing an age-appropriate Haggadah, or finding new recipes in our numerous Passover cookbooks, or just a fun fictional Passover storybook or chapter book. Below is a list of just a few of the nearly 700 Passover resources available in your B'nai Israel Blumberg-Zalis Library. To find information, use our online catalog at bnaiisrael.library.site. Use the KEYWORD search. You only need to enter one word, but be sure to spell it correctly, if a word has multiple spellings, enter each separately (e.g., Pesach, Passover). Other search keywords for Passover include: Seder, Afikomen, and holidays.

Following Passover in early May we will observe Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) followed by Yom Hazikaron (memorial day for the fallen soldiers of the wars of Israel and victims of actions of terrorism) and Yom HaAtzmaut commemorating the Israeli Declaration of Independence on May 14, 1948. If you would like to learn more about these events, check out the catalog (KEYWORDS: war, independence, 1948, Shoah, holocaust, Independence, soldiers, etc.) or stop in during library hours.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, April 2 11:00 AM-12:00 PM The Book of Lost Names Inspired by an astonishing true story from World War



II, a young woman with a talent for forgery helps hundreds of Jewish children flee the Nazis in this "sweeping and magnificent" historical novel.

BOMBSHELL

Monday Night at the Movies

7:00 PM Bombshell: The Hedy

Lamarr Story

(1 hr. 30 min.; English)

Fleeing to America after escaping her Nazi sympathizer husband, Hedy Lamarr then conquered Hollywood. Known as 'the most beautiful woman in the world', she was infamous for her marriages and affairs with everyone from Spencer Tracy to JFK. This film rediscovers her, not only as an actress, but as the brilliant mind who coinvented 1940's wireless technology.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Adults

April 8

The Laws of Pesach by Rabbi Avrohom Blumenkrantz

Creating Lively Passover Seders by David Arnow

From Ancient Egypt to Modern Israel: The 3,000-year Journey of the Jewish People StandWithUs Passover Haggadah

Preparing your heart for Passover: A Guide for Spiritual Readiness by Kerry M. Olitzky Passover: The Family Guide to Spiritual Celebration by Ron Wolfson

The Complete Passover Cookbook by Frances R. AvRutick

Teens/Tweens

Out of Egypt : An Illustrated Adaption of the Book of Exodus

Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel by Jordan B. Gorfinkel

The Passover Passage by Susan Atlas Matzah Meals: A Passover Cookbook for Kids by Judy Tabs & Barbara Steinberg Let My Children Cook!: A Passover Cookbook for Kids by Tamar Ansh

Children

Let My People Go! by Tilda Balsley Rebecca's Passover by Adele Geras Going on a Hametz Hunt by Jacqueline Jules Kayla and Kugel's Almost Perfect Passover by Ann D. Koffsky

Richard Codor's Joyous Haggadah The Baseball Haggadah: A Festival of Freedom and Springtime in 15 Innings by Rabbi Sharon G. Forman Need help finding the right materials for you and your family, feel free to stop in during library hours or send me an email at bnailibrary@bnaiisraelcong.org and I will happily meet you here at a time that works for you. Already made your selections online, send me an email and I will leave them for you on the table, in the foyer, outside the guard's desk for you.

LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday 9:00 AM-12:30 PM Monday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Tuesday 11:00 AM-6:30 PM By appointment Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Send an email to: bnailibrary@bnaiisraelcong.org

To access our on-line catalog: https://bnaiisrael.library.site/

The Blumberg-Zalis Family Library was awarded the **Advanced Accreditation Degree** by the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) in June 2014* and again in June 2019*.

*This award is for a five-year time period.

UPCOMING SCROLL SCHEDULE 2024

Shavuot Issue (mid-May through June) Received by May 15

Summer Issue July and August Received by July 1

High Holiday Issue September and October Received by September 9

Fall Issue November Received by November 1

You can always visit www.bnaiisraelcong.org/calendar for a full listing of upcoming events.

SOCIAL ACTION

The Jewish Federation's Sara & Samuel J. Lessans

Good Deeds Week

April 7 - 14, 2024

(1)

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington Good Deeds Week is April 7-14. B'nai Israel has planned the following opportunities to be involved:

Dinner for Interfaith Works Women's Shelter

Sunday, April 7 5:30 PM

B'nai Israel will be providing dinner to the residents of the Interfaith Works Women's Shelter at Taft Court. We need your help in supplying various parts of the meal. The items can be purchased or prepared in your home. They should serve 6–8 people and be in disposable pans. There will be various opportunities for drop off of your items. For more information, contact Signe Wetrogan, Randi Poli, or Wayne Berman.

Project Hope: Passover Package Delivery

Sunday, April 14 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

This year, as part of Good Deeds Week, we will again be participating with JSSA in their Project Hope delivery of Passover Packages to seniors in the Rockville area. We will be delivering packages on Sunday, April 14. As in years past, we will be distributing the packages and names and addresses of recipients in the parking lot of B'nai Israel between 9:15 and 9:45 AM. JSSA has asked that the packages be delivered by noon that day. We expect that each volunteer would have 5–7 packages to deliver. For more information, contact Signe Wetrogan (signe0420@verizon.net) or Randi Poli (randipoli@gmail.com).

Lunch for Interfaith Works Women's Shelter

Sunday, May 5

11:30 AM

B'nai Israel will be providing lunch to the residents of the Interfaith Works Women's Shelter at Crabbs Branch. For more information, contact Signe Wetrogan, Randi Poli, or Wayne Berman.

Support B'nai Israel's

PROJECT MANNA

Urgently Needed Food Items

(though we take all nonperishable food items)

- Instant Oatmeal Packets (Original Flavor)
- Brown Rice
- Whole Grain Pasta
- Tuna/Salmon/Chicken (in Water)
- Dry/Canned Beans (Low Sodium)
- Natural Nut Butters
- Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium)
- Canned Fruit (in Juice)
- Fruit Cups
- Shelf-stable Individual Milk Boxes
- Cooking Oils & Spices



Thank you for your commitment to this life-giving mitzvah!

All food items will be directed to the Manna Food Center.



703-J-CARING

A partnership between The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, JSSA, and our network of human service organizations.

When you feel overwhelmed or uncertain about your options for support, there is help.

With one call to (703) J-CARING (703-522-7464), you will be connected to the resources and support services you need from our robust network of human service organizations.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT LINE

A resource coordinator provides referrals to community resources to help you access the support you need, when you need it.

COMMUNITY CARE NAVIGATION

When you need more hands-on support accessing resources, a care navigator will work with you to assess your needs, create a care plan, and help you implement it.

All calls are confidential.

Resource and Navigation services are free to those needing support.

Visit jcaring.org for a full list of available resources provided by the 703-J-CARING Support Line Partner Network.

Support is available Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM.

SISTERHOOD



Bagels & Banter: Fighting Antisemitism in K-12 Schools -A Grassroots Perspective

Sunday, April 28 10:00 AM Brunch 10:30 AM Speakers All are welcome! See page 7 for details.



Ladies Game Day

Thursday, May 2 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

All are welcome to come play Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bridge, or any other game you wish. Cost is \$36 per person, which includes a dairy lunch. Please register by April 25 at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ladiesgameday2024. Contact Sue Edwards (301-984-6329, suzied25@gmail.com) or Beverly Markowitz (301-254-2950, beverly. markowitz@yahoo.com).

Third Grade Haggigat HaSiddur

Friday, May 3

Sisterhood is proud to participate in this celebration through the Gabbai Debby Cohen Sisterhood Education Fund, generously supported by Irwin Cohen.

Meals on Wheels

Sisterhood volunteers deliver kosher Meals on Wheels every Friday morning. To become involved, contact Alice Harris (alicemetrobug@gmail.com) or Diane Boehr (dboehr@comcast.net).

B'nai Israel Crafting Club

Come together with other like-minded individuals for a morning of crafting and schmoozing. Bring whatever project you are currently working on (knitting, crocheting, needlepointing, drawing, scrapbooking, origami, or other creative technique). There will also be an opportunity to participate in a knit/crochet blanket project for charity (all materials provided). We will meet in the library, which has comfy chairs and ample table space, from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Our upcoming meeting dates are April 11, and May 9. For more info and to RSVP contact Melissa Menschik (mblochmen@ gmail.com). For planning purposes, please register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/ craftingclub2024.

Mah Jongg and Canasta Classes

We are collecting names of people who want to learn how to play Mah Jongg and/or Canasta. We are also collecting the names of those willing to teach. The plan is, for a nominal fee, to match a group of 4 students with an instructor. Meeting times would be flexible, based on the requirements of the group. If interested, contact Sue Edwards (suzied25@gmail.com) or Beverly Markowitz (beverly.markowitz@yahoo.com).

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Mondays from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM (when the building is open). Questions? Contact Sue Edwards (<u>suzied25@gmail.com</u>) or Beverly Markowitz (<u>beverly.markowitz@yahoo.com</u>).

Washington Jewish Week

Subscribe or renew through Sisterhood. Washington Jewish Week subscriptions are \$55 for one year and \$100 for two years (for seniors 55+, \$42 and \$76). Contact Cheryl Rod for more information (cherylrod234@gmail.com).



"Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh"

Our 2023-2024 Campaign



All of the people of Israel are responsible for one another

At this time, we are all committed to the support of Israel and to be responsible for one another. We know it is a very difficult time for all of us, and there is an even greater need to support Torah Fund. With your donations you educate students at the five Conservative/Masorti global institutions of learning. We know that our own clergy (Rabbis Safra, Berkowitz, Stone, and Schnitzer (and Simon, z"l) as well as Sharon Safra, have all benefitted from those donations in the past at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and the Zeigler School in Los Angeles.

Please plan to support the Torah Fund in this year's campaign. If you have already donated, we thank you! To donate online visit: "inspired.jtsa.edu/torahfund" or send a check made out to "Torah Fund" to Sue Taffet, 14402 Nadine Drive, Rockville MD 20853.

Cards for all occasions can still be purchased for only \$5 each. Contact Sue Taffet.



THANK YOU for your continued support!

MEN'S CLUB

Service to B'nai Israel & Community

Strengthening Jewish Values

The last Pew Research Center study of American Jews found that 62% attended a Passover seder-more than any other Jewish practice or activity.

So let's start off by wishing our members and the entire congregation a Happy Passover.

On Sunday April 28, the Men's Club and Sisterhood will hold a Kosher for Passover breakfast to discuss Fighting Antisemitism in K-12 Schools. Please register online at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ event/bagelsandbanterapril2024.

Before Passover begins, you should receive a yellow candle in the mail to light to commemorate Yom Hashoah, the evening of Sunday, May 5. The Men's Club is unique in that we send a candle free of charge to every B'nai Israel family, which won us a Torch Award last year from the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs.

Thanks to the Men's Club volunteers, led by Rob Loewy, who packaged and mailed out the candles to our congregants. If you want to support our effort, we enclosed a fundraising envelope.

Our annual Jewish National Fund-USA dinner takes place on Thursday, May 2, through the generosity of Chet and Rita Stein.

The guest speaker will be Ido Reichman-Eisikovits, a major in the Israeli Defense Forces reserves, who will discuss the situation in the Middle East and share first-hand accounts of the men and women who were on the front lines against Hamas, designated as a terrorist group by the U.S.

He is vice president of Green Horizons, which takes Israeli youngsters in grades 5-12 on hiking and camping trips to build relationships leadership skills and a deep connection to the land of Israel.





Jonathan Salant & Alan Isenberg **Men's Club Co-Presidents**

Also coming up is our annual Day at Nationals Park on Sunday, May 5, when the Nationals take on the Toronto Blue Jays starting at 1:35 PM. You can find the details and registration form at www. bnaiisraelcong.org/mensclubprograms.

The Men's Club will pick up half the cost of the tickets so they will cost you just \$35 apiece and they include a \$25 food and beverage credit. A reminder that under synagogue policy, participants should only eat dairy, pareve, or kosher foods at B'naisponsored events.



World Wide Wrap on February 11



Trip to the Smithsonial Museum of American History led by Sylvia Rosenthal

SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP

Pesah begins on April 22, will you be ready?

Your Sisterhood Judaica Shop has many wonderful items to make your Pesach a special one. There are lovely seder plates and matzah plates and holders. We have matzah covers and afikoman bags, aprons, towels, potholders and drying mats. Kiddush cups, Elijah and Miriam cups and lots and lots of FROGS.

Come in and shop with us and support B'nai Israel and Sisterhood.



SHOP HOURS

Monday-Friday 10:00 AM-12:30 PM **Tuesday afternoon** 4:30-6:15 PM **Sunday**

10:00 AM-12:45 PM Please Note: We will be closed from April 21-30.

For personalized kippot and benchers, contact Suzy Levy (301)460-9636

For questions call the shop (301)770-7577 or send an email bnaijudaica@gmail.com.

FOR ALL YOUR **JUDAICA NEEDS**

IN SYMPATHY

זכרונם לברכה

B'nai Israel Congregation mourns the loss of our beloved member:

LORRAINE ROSE

B'nai Israel Congregation extends sympathies to our members in mourning:

Sarah Adams on the loss of her father. William "Bill" Adams.

Gabrielle Annes on the loss of her father, Dr. Lawrence Annes.

Dr. Wesley Citron on the loss of his father, **Dr. Albert Citron**.

Mona Levine on the loss of her mother. **Beatrice Friedlander**.

Nan Gootenberg on the loss of her mother, Florence Gootenberg.

Bram Hass on the loss of his brother, Bob Hass.

Ariel Lavinbuk on the loss of his mother, Elda Lavinbuk.

Gail Ravnitzky Silverglied on the loss of her father, Gerald Ravnitzky.

Richard Rose on the loss of his wife. **Lorraine Rose**.

Annette and Bernard Forseter on the loss of their brother-in-law, **David Silber**.

Lois Rochkind Wishnia on the loss of her brother, Marvin Smith.

SUNDAY OPEN HOURS B'NAI ISRAEL CEMETERY AT OXON HILL

April 7 & May 5 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Our cemetery at Oxon Hill is open for visitors on the first Sunday of each month. No appointment is necessary.

> For inquiries or special requests please contact Rebecca Shein (240-678-2916, rshein@bnaiisraelcong.org).

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose... ...a time to be born, and a time to die..."

B'NAI ISRAEL CEMETERIES

B'nai Israel Congregation maintains three attractive cemetery locations.

B'nai Israel Historic Cemetery Oxon Hill, Maryland

Judean Memorial Gardens Olney, Maryland

Garden of Remembrance Memorial Park Clarksburg, Maryland

For information, please contact our executive director, Hal Ossman at the synagogue office (301-816-5563, hossman@bnaiisraelcong.org).

Opportunities to Memorialize & Honor Your Loved Ones

Our beautiful Synagogue provides many meaningful opportunities to arrange dedications in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Memorial plaques, endowments, scholarships, capital gifts, fine arts, and educational programs are among the possibilities available at B'nai Israel Congregation.

For further information, please contact Allison Karasik (240-221-2507, allison@bnaiisraelcong.org).

MAZAL TOV



April Anniversaries

Jay Gruber and Dina Cohen Gruber – 2 Andy and Barbara Halpern – 2 Adam and Marci Possner – 2 Ron Salz and Gabrielle Annes – 2 Bruce and Tammi Shapiro – 2 Jay and Lynn Katzen – 3 Howard and Dorothy Pedolsky – 3 Matt and Alison Glaser – 4 Stuart and Beverly Greenfeig – 4 Steve and Christina Hersh – 4 Jordan and Laurie Goldstein – 5 Steven and Marla Rice – 5 David and Stacey Shapiro - 5 Wayne and Francine Benjamin – 7 Norman and Nadine Greenbaum – 7 Andrew and Ruth Ritwo – 7 Russell and Randi Rothenberg – 7 Wayne and Amy Mircoff – 9 Eric and Rachel Edelman – 12 Jerry and Nancy Reed – 13 Evan Tuch and Jesse Lichstein – 13 Ilan Merdler and Rona Merdler-Rabinowicz – 15 Jay and Linda Weiss – 15 Stephen Moss and Sharon Seidel Moss – 16 Mark and Leslie Berlin – 17 Frank Dana and Karen Bleeg – 17 David and Karen Grossberg – 17 Adam and Emily Odesser - 17 Ira and Karen Selss – 17 Steve and Robyn Lustig – 20 Philip and Amy Kaplan – 21 Ira and Phyllis Lieberman – 22 Douglas and Marisa Schatz – 22 David and Merle Hershfield - 28 Jeffrey and Rebecca Stallone - 30

May Anniversaries

Joel and Melinda Schenk - 1 Joseph and Andrea Yaffe – 1 Stephen and Melissa Azia – 3 Michael Kurman and Patricia Hoff – 3 Eyal Ruff and Vivian Katz Ruff – 3 Andrew and Jill Klein – 4 Matthew and Rebecca Katz – 5 Brian and Hillary Gruber – 9 Richard and Stephanie Hart – 9 Joel and Susan Cohen – 10 Ed Goldstein and Melanie Flamenbaum – 10 Mark and Tamara Gorodetzky - 13 Zvulun Zvuluni and Zohar Forte-Zvuluni – 15 Erin and John Musok – 16

Marc and Judy Eller – 17 Eric and Nancy Markus – 17 Alan and Agnes Leshner – 18 Scott and Melanie Binder – 19 Gary and Susan Tabach – 19 Charles and Barbara Friedman – 20 Eddie and Irene Kaplan – 20 Howard and Judy Kramer - 20 Steve and Sheryl Krauthamer – 20 Rob and Susan Loewy – 20 Elliott Stern and Tania Condarco – 20 Wayne and Nancy Eig – 21 Larry and Becky Evans – 21 Allan and Susan Goodman – 22 Eric and Karen Koenick – 22 Mike and Janet Strauss – 22 Frank and Joanne Crantz – 23 Max and Elana Katzen – 23 Brian and Jamie Blicher – 25 Sam and Stephanie Silverstein – 23 Dan and Debbie Stillman – 23 Allen and Debra Diewald - 24 Benson and Erin Goldstein – 24 Brian and Jacqueline Zelenko – 24 Rami and Melanie Kandel – 25 Philip and Abby Rogers – 25 Jonathan Shafner and Dana Zatman – 25 Adam and Lauren Sherman – 25 Charles and Debra Spitulnik – 25 Julian Werfel and Margaret Dayhoff-Brannigan – 25 Jamie and Marjorie Cohen – 26 Alan and Myah Falk – 26 Sheldon and Lynn Kraus – 26 Bradley and Lisa Sachar – 26 Don and Lauren Amlin – 27 Rick and Myra Cohen – 27 Adam and Naomi Gerstenblith – 27 Corey and Lauren Schwartz – 27 Dan Markey and Robyn Strauss – 27 Gary and Wendy Schonman – 27 Daniel and Wendi Abramowitz - 28 Hagai Dagan-Schlachter and Anne Schlachter-Dagan – 28 Rob and Elyse Kaplan – 28 Peter and Gail Sherer - 28 Philip and Elizabeth Weintraub – 28 Michael Edwards and Beth Panitz – 29 Greg and Harriet Friedman – 29 Howard and Susan Jacobson – 29 Noah and Erica Jacobson – 29 Paul and Melissa Kutner – 29 Arthur and Margie Lappen – 29

Alan and Sharon Cohen – 30
Albert and Melissa Faro – 30
Ira and Susan Jaffe – 30
Yale and Gayle Kaplan – 30
Josh Prober and Denise Katz-Prober – 30
Jeffrey and Deborah King – 30
Ken and Dawn Kiron – 30
Joel and P-Lo Schwarz – 30
Frank and Ruth Vernet – 30
Michael and Lynn Gittleson – 31
John and Linda Karesh – 31

and Mazal Tov to...

Jennifer Rottenberg and Jeremy Himmelstein on the birth of their daughter, Eliza Himmelstein.

Lena and Dr. Robert Maman on the birth of their son, Ruben Abergel Maman.

Dr. Barbara and Dr. Thomas Gluck on the birth of their grandson, Asher Elliot Bellovin. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Lauren Gluck and Daniel Bellovin.

Jill and Asher Gendelman on the birth of their granddaughter, Sadie Aria Robins. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Moriah and Corey Robins.

Paula and Harry Harrison on the birth of their granddaughter, Naomi Ruth Robinson. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Arielle Borsos and Matthew Robinson.

Dr. Irena and Jeffrey Lavine on the birth of their daughter, Dahlia Erin Lavine.

Dr. Karen Zargar and Dr. Wesley Citron on the birth of their daughter, Aria Shay Citron.

Beverly and Stuart Markowitz on the birth of their nephew, Robby Freilich. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Amanda and Shlomo Freilich.

Beverly and Stuart Markowitz on the birth of their niece, Sloan Avery Markowitz. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Marissa and Eric Markowitz.

Morey Rosner and Deborah Firestone on their recent engagement.

Barry and Harriette Steine – 29

Jay and Gail Wasserman – 29 Stuart and Debbie Anolik – 30

David and Robyn Cantor - 30

B'nai Israel Congregation deeply appreciates all contributions directed to the various funds of our congregation.

B'NAI ISRAEL Please note:

Due to increased printing and labor costs:

- 1. Each contribution will be acknowledged by mail to one designated recipient.
- 2. Only contributions of \$18 or more will be printed in the Scroll.
- 3. Donor acknowledgements will be sent by email and will also appear on year-end statements.

Donations Made January 5-February 14

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT bnaiisraelcong.org/donate

Endowments

Abrutyn Family Leadership Training Endowment In Memory Of:

Mort Greenberg by Vickie Abrutyn

Arnold and Sylvia Heft Sustaining Endowment

In Memory Of:

Anna Abramson by Marty and Harriet Feldman Rose Heft by Marty and Harriet Feldman Geri Singleton by Marty and Harriet Feldman

Beverly G. Schnitzer Tikun Olam Endowment

A Speedy Recovery For:

Debbie Stillman by Suzy and Sol Levy In Honor Of:

Jeff and Debra Fredman with much appreciation for your friendship and caring by Beverly and Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

In Memory Of:

Mort Greenberg by Ellen and Jake Rothmel Bernice and Stanley Weissberg by Fonda and Jeff

Mort Greenberg by Fonda and Jeff Lowe Mort Greenberg by Suzy and Sol Levy

Cantor Ilana Wolpert Music Enrichment Fund In Appreciation Of:

Cantor Josh Perlman for helping at our shiva for the passing of congregant Irwin Altschuler's mother by Leslie and Irwin Altschuler

David Easton Video Education Endowment

In Memory Of:

Irma Lee Ettinger by Glenn and Cindy Easton

David Milestone Memorial Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund In Appreciation Of:

Cantor Josh with thanks for all that you did to support Ruthie through her bat mitzvah preparations and for leading beautiful services by Karen Foxman and Jeffrey Pollak

Rabbi Berkowitz for learning and preparing with Ruthie through the bat mitzvah process and leading a beautiful and meaningful service by Karen Foxman and Jeffrey Pollak

Rabbi Safra for learning and preparing with Ruthie through the bat mitzvah process and leading a beautiful and meaningful service by Karen Foxman and Jeffrey Pollak

Diane Lipson Schilit Youth Endowment

In Memory Of:

Morton Greenberg by Marci Rose Borenstein Mort Greenberg by Robbi and Jeff Shane

Dr. Mitchell and Thelma Goldfarb Rubinow **Endowment For Special Needs**

In Memory Of:

Jeffrey L. Krauthamer by Mark R. Little

Elaine Zetlin Pollin Korn Sustaining Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

Morris Zetlin by Alan Pollin

Ethan Ross Alperstein Sanctuary Garden Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

Mort Greenberg by Lois Alperstein

Goldie And Henry Stein Endowment for Special Education

In Memory Of:

Mort Greenberg by Rita and Chet Stein

Hazzan Deborah Togut Memorial Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

John Yazdi, on the occasion of his yahrzeit by Jeffrey

Jeffrey Krauthamer by Robert and Robin Waldman

Hazzan Robert Kieval Music Library Fund

A Donation Was Made By:

Janet Stein

Israel Feldman Family Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

Morton Greenberg by Sharon Doner

Jerry Neil Memorial Sustaining Endowment

In Memory Of:

Jerry Neil by Toby Hollenberg

Jonathan A. Schnitzer Rabbinic Chair **Endowment**

In Appreciation Of:

Rabbi Michael Safra for his kindness and assistance at the death of Betty Altschuler, mother of congregant Irwin Altschuler by Leslie and Irwin Altschuler In Memory Of:

Morton Yadin by Rabbi Philip and Sharon Pohl Morton Greenberg, beloved husband of Ellen by Sharon and Steve Moss

Jonathan, Suzanne and Amy Schilit Nursery **School Endowment**

In Memory Of:

Elana Glinert by Lisa and Larry Cines

Karen Gerton Nursery School Enhancement **Endowment Fund**

Etz Hayim <u>H</u>umash

dedication: \$60,

Siddur Sim Shalom

dedication: \$30

A Donation Was Made By:

Jill and Asher Gendelman

In Celebration Of:

Manny Gerton's 70th birthday by Reesa Pearlman In Honor Of:

Rabbi Berkowitz with thanks for the comfort and support provided surrounding the passing of my father by Karen Foxman

Louis and Helyn Fanaroff Sustaining Endowment In Memory Of:

Ruth Selis, loving mother of Michael by Debby and Gary Bortnick

Ruth Selis by Wendy Fanaroff

Morton Greenberg by Wendy Fanaroff

Ira Platt, beloved husband of Harriet by Wendy Fanaroff

A Speedy Recovery For:

Elaine Steppa by Sharon and Steve Moss

Mandel and Stein Prayer Book Fund

In Memory Of:

Morton Greenberg by Abby and Phil Rogers Hyman Stein by Chester and Rita Stein

Meisel Family Endowment for Special Needs

In Memory Of:

Marilyn and Neal Chaikin by Suzy and Sol Levy

Norman N. Kunitz Endowment for the Study of Racism, Sexism, Prejudice and Anti-Semitism

In Memory Of:

Bert Silver by Sanford Gold

Rabbi Joshua Rubinow Simon Memorial **Endowment for Camp Ramah Tikvah Program**

In Memory Of:

Rabbi Matthew Simon by Vicki Berman and Yeheskel Dori

Rabbi Matthew and Dr. Sara Rubinow Simon Legacy Endowment for Jewish Engagement

In Memory Of:

Rabbi Matthew Simon by Philip Pohl Morton Greenberg by Rina and Sylvan Mintz

Rabbi Matthew and Sara Rubinow Simon **Endowment for Childrens Programming**

In Memory Of:

Rabbi Matthew Simon by Ellen Greenberg Belle Schwartz Dicker by Norma Krupenie

Rabbi Michael Safra Adult Programming Endowment

In Appreciation Of:

Rabbi Safra by Larry Bensignor

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Safra with thanks for the comfort and support provided surrounding the passing of my father by Karen Foxman

Rachmill Schlafstein Memorial Bar and Bat Mitzvah Tzedakah Box Endowment

In Celebration Of:

The bat mitzvah of Mallory Weiner by Diana and Steve Newman

Rose And Frank David Epstein Educational **Endowment**

In Memory Of:

Morton Greenberg by Barbara and Richard Daumit

Wilma and Ron Lenkin Holocaust Education Endowment

In Memory Of:

Morton Greenberg by Robin and Craig Lenkin

Funds

Early Childhood Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Safra and Rabbi Berkowitz for the wonderful caring attention given to us recently by Harriet and Harvey Stein

In Memory Of:

Mort Greenberg by Beverly and Stuart Greenfeig Morton Greenberg by Debbie Taylor

General Fund

A Donation Was Made By:

Eric and Lynne Slud

Technuf LLC

In Appreciation Of:

Uriel's Israeli programming by Don and Carol Vogel Cantor Bolts' support and her help preparing for my aliyah by Clara Pribluda

Cantor Josh Perlman by Lisa and David Merkin Bill Bakshi and all that he does to support the minyan everyday by Richard and Diane Saltzman In Honor Of:

Rinat Glinert and Zach Stern on the birth of their daughter Nava Juliet by Nanci and Jay Wechsler Akiva Weinglass's bar mitzvah by Naomi McNally The following have made donations in memory of Morton Greenberg, beloved husband and father of Ellen Greenberg and Steven Greenberg:

Amy S. Gordon

Anne and Jeffrey Abend

Don and Carol Vogel

Edward and Irene Kaplan

Sheila and Ira Wolpert

Sherry Sundick

Steven Greenberg

Joan and Frank DiCostanzo

Lesley and Bob Gasperow

Lorraine and Richard Rose

Michael and Susan Friedman

Micki and Lowell Gordon

Robin and Bruce Bortnick

In Memory Of:

Morris Zetlin by Morton and Cynthia Zetlin

Alvin Brooks by Morton and Cynthia Zetlin

Henry Gold by Sanford Gold

Bert Silver by Marjorie and Lawrence Kravitz Jeffrey Krauthamer by Martin and Nancy Peckerar Elana Glinert by Jay and Nanci Wechsler

Maury C. Metro by Howard and Sharon Metro Netta Asner-Minster's brother-in-law by Don and Carol Vogel

Greatest Need

A Donation Was Made By:

Nina Gurman

In Honor Of:

Cantor Josh, Rabbi Berkowitz, Cantor Bolts, Bill Banchee, service leaders (Bob Kaplan, Bonnie and Eliot Prissman, and others), the regular attendees, fellow mourners, and others who were present with my sincerest appreciation and thanks for helping me during this most difficult period by Nina Gurman In Memory Of:

Rita Rubinstein, and in honor of all those that supported me in the evening minyan for the past 11 months while I was reciting the mourner's kaddish by Nina Gurman

Morton Stanley Greenberg by Bob Kaplan and Mona Chase

Morton Greenberg by Bobbie and Jim Edelen and Sharon Greenberg

Ruth Silver, dear sister of Anita Kornbluth by Susan Holtzman

HAZAK

In Appreciation Of:

Dr. Harvey Stein by Suzy and Sol Levy

A Speedy Recovery For:

Harriet Stein by Suzy and Sol Levy

In Honor Of:

Alan Lipschultz's birthday by Harriet and Ted Fredman

In Memory Of:

Norman and Rubin Bernstein by Harriet Stein

Karen Gerton Nursery School PTA Fund

In Memory Of:

Theresa Solomon by Lisa and Evan Jacobson Elaine Hirschfeld by Lisa and Evan Jacobson Elana Glinert by Lisa and Evan Jacobson

Kiddush Fund

In Celebration Of:

Alice Harris's birthday on April 20 by Naomi Harris

L.I.F.E. Lecture Fund

In Honor Of:

Suzy and Sol Levy's 50th anniversary, and Suzy's "big" birthday by Lynn and Lewis Gertz

In Memory Of:

Pearl Schwartz by Harvey and Harriet Stein A Speedy Recovery For:

Lynn Gertz by Suzy and Sol Levy

Morning Minyan Fund

A Donation Was Made By:

Lawrence Greenberg

A Speedy Recovery For:

Rabbi Arthur Rulnick by Irwin and Sylvia Rosenthal In Appreciation Of:

Joel Shankman by Joey Franco

In Honor of:

Lew Gertz's birthday by Lew and Lynn Gertz The following have made donations in memory of Morton Greenberg, beloved husband and father of

Ellen Greenberg and Steven Greenberg:

Larry Fishbein

Laurie Alban Havens

Steven Greenberg

Susan Weinmann and Mike Wilcove

In Memory Of:

Phyllis Fishbein by Larry Fishbein Alan Fishbein by Lawrence Fishbein Art Rayman by Lew and Lynn Gertz My grandfather by Mark Raphael Sarah Simon by Steven Hausman Hyman Stein by Chet Stein Leo Samet by Janice Raffle

Rabbi Safra Fund for Programming and Service Leadership Training

In Appreciation Of:

Rabbi Safra for your kindnesses to us and our daughters by Perry and Deborah Immerman and Family

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Safra, with gratitude for his kind understanding and support as we shared details and stories for the eulogy for Ira Platt and the explanations of each ritual of the service for our next generation by Harriet Tudor Platt and Family The special birthday of Alan Lipschultz by Harvey and Harriet Stein

Sisterhood Fund

In Memory Of:

Howard Teller by Esther Teller

Dora Krout by Esther Teller and Family

Tzedakah and Welfare Fund

A Donation Was Made By:

Nellie Abell

In Appreciation Of:

Rabbi Berkowitz for his kindnesses to us and our daughters by Perry and Deborah Immerman and Family

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz on officiating at our son's wedding on December 31, 2023 by Richard and Sandra Cohen

In Memory Of:

Philip J. Berg by Allison B Karasik Morton Greenberg by Michael Chernikoff Morton Greenberg by Nancy Fiedelman Bert Silver by Norma Krupenie

Yahrzeit And Yizkor Fund

A Donation Was Made By:

Robin Wind-Faillace and Walter Faillace Stuart Metro and Paula Pascal Levine In Memory Of:

Rose Scharf by Alan and Lisa Isenberg Norma Gordon by Amy S. Gordon Bronislava Ryaboy by Anatoly and Margarita Kozushin

Jerry Klotzman by Barbara Halpern Alvin Steinberg by Andy and Jill Klein

Tillie Pellman by Anita Gross Eleanor Westerman by Arnold and Judith Westerman

Shirley Serber by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Neustadt Elana Glinert by Avery and Noah Sudow Charles A. Friedenberg by Barbara Nadel

Nadine Penan by Barrett and Frances Penan Gertrude (Gussie) Wise by Barry and Linda Rosenberg

Rose Kownatsky by Barry and Linda Rosenberg Selma Rosenberg by Barry and Linda Rosenberg Milton Epstein by Bobby and Karen Epstein Harold Weiner by Bobby and Karen Epstein

Flora Sandler by Brenda Sandler Sally Gould by Brenda Sandler

Bernard I. Morcheles by Brian and Hillary Gruber and Family

Lawrence Pincus by Carolyn Pincus Murray Perelman by Carren Oler Reva Perelman by Carren Oler Harley Felstein by Carren Oler Bessie Katz by Cherie Baer

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

Hyman Stein by Chet, Rita, Jonathan, Amanda, Emma and Benny Stein

Hayman Stein by Chester and Rita Stein Nathan Fanaroff by Debby and Gary Bortnick and

Bertha Kligman by Danny and Debbie Glazer Morris Kligman by Danny and Debbie Glazer Alfred Wald by Cheryl and Bernard Rod Albert Emsellem by David and Helene Emsellem Larry Rozanski by David and Helene Emsellem Elsie Gedaly by Davida Alexander Louis H Fanaroff by Debby and Gary Bortnick Family

Ben Slovak by Debra and Weston Kosova Charlotte Goldberg by Anonymous David Fingeret by Bernice, Don, Cori and David Fingeret

Jack Pollekoff by Carol Vogel Louis H. Jacobson by Don and Renee Fishman Ronald Tisch by Eddi Tisch, Marissa, Courtney, Zachary and Rider

Harold Gobstein by Elaine Gobstein David Goodman by Elaine Goodman Fanny Simon by Elaine Goodman Nathan Freishtat by Elaine Goodman Ellen Shatzman by Eliot Shatzman Philip Shatzman by Eliot Shatzman Edith Novenstein by Evan and Judy Novenstein Ethel Beloff by Fae Beloff Esther Hemmati by Farhad Hemmati Jasa Belkindas by Riva Sokolsky

Stephanie Tubbs by Fred, Stefanie and Samara Langsam

Alexander Langsam by Fred, Stefanie and Samara

Joel S. Ganz, M.D. by Fred, Stefanie and Samara Langsam

Leonard Chod by Paul Chod Rosalie Chod by Paul Chod Sophie Gertz by Gary Gertz

Mildred Goldberg by Gary and Margy Lawrence Herman Goldberg by Gary and Margy Lawrence

Gerald S. Rubin by Gayle Kaplan Mildred Bronsky by the Bronsky Family

Anna Ely by Gerald Wolf

Barbara Katz by Gerald Solomon

Miriam Friedman by Gregory Friedman

Geniya Zabolotskaya by Hana Ryaboy and Mariya Ankudinova

Semen Levit by Hana Ryaboy and Mariya Ankudinova

Samuel Cutler by Herschel Cutler Martin A. Saginor by Hortensia R. Saginor Lee L. Forman by Howard Forman Thelma Finkelstein by Howard and Judy Kramer Jennifer Rose Arwas (Yitta Leah Raisel) by Ian, Pamela and Isaac Arwas

Roslyn Shor by Ira and Karen Selss Bernard Oser by Irnie and Cindy Oser Norman Epstein by Irwin and Ilene Barney Eli Silberman by Sydelle Silberman

Alvin Rosenthal by Irwin and Sylvia Rosenthal Ethel Leah Penn by Irwin and Sylvia Rosenthal

Margaret Koller by Steven Kahan Gloria Shaw by the Gutmann and Shaw families Stuart Mendelson by Jackie Mendelson and Family

Geraldine Raznik by Jacqueline and Benjamin Shapo

Nathan H. Schiff by Janet Schiff Alex Cohen by Janet Stein Raymond Stein by Janet Stein Alex Cohen by Janet Stein

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B'NAI 🀺 ISRAEL stands against antisemitism 🔯

NEW Resource Page on Website: Fighting Antisemitism

Our Fighting Antisemitism Committee announces the launch of a dedicated page on the B'nai Israel website designed to offer resources, support, and pertinent programming information addressing the concerning rise of antisemitism. This page serves as a hub for essential resources. One critical feature is the provision of information and links detailing the process for reporting incidents to the ADL and Montgomery County Police, with oversight by the JCRC. Thank you to the Chairs of this Committee, Robin Lenkin and Lisa Miller, for leading this process!

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/ antisemitism

Reflections From My JNF Volunteer Mission to Israel

by Craig Strent

I recently returned from a volunteer mission to Israel organized by Jewish National Fund (JNF)–USA. Here's the story of my trip.

And there I was, with my hands in the earth on the kibbutz, planting a tree to beautify the community ahead of the return of its residents, when a feeling of peace came over me, that I was exactly where G-d meant for me to be at that very moment. I had this



feeling throughout my mission with JNF, as did so many of the other volunteers on the trip, including fellow congregants Josh and Suzanne Schonfeld, and Dave Gordon. We felt a pull, a desire to be in Israel at this time, not knowing what we could do to help, just knowing we needed to be there right now to help any way we could. And help we did. Lemons don't pick themselves, and I learned that if they are not pulled from the tree, it not only destroys this year's crop, but the tree self corrects and adjusts production downward the following year.

We spent time painting trucks, preparing cargo on an army base, and beautifying a kibbutz for the return of its residents. We visited with families of hostages and members of entire communities that have been displaced from their homes. We planted trees to honor those killed on October 7th and visited the site of the Nova Festival to better understand what happened there. The trip was a combination of helping, listening, empathizing, and supporting Israel.

With all we did, nothing inspired me more than the performance of the Special In Uniform Band. The IDF has figured out a way to include those with special needs into the military, find their unique skill sets, and provide them the same opportunity to serve as their peers. This says everything about the Jewish people and the State of Israel to me. The performance was incredible, and the musicians were the most enthusiastic I have ever experienced. I've seen many signs that have said "we will dance again," and with the Special in Uniform Band playing beautiful music and encouraging us on, our group danced together with joy in support of Israel.

A final observation, which may not come as a surprise to any of you is, I observed that when the going gets tough in Israel, Jewish Moms (and Druze moms too!) head to the kitchen. I saw mom's cooking for soldiers in pop up rest stations on the side of the road, at rehabilitation homes, and in their kitchens across the country. One mom in the north, whose son was deployed in the south, told some on our tour she was cooking for local soldiers up north, knowing other moms were feeding her son down south. It was a group effort for certain, and the soldiers are kept well fed and in good spirits as a result and this helps them carry on their difficult work.

As I return home, folks are already asking me what they can do to help. Here are my 3 recommendations for you to help in your own way:

- 1) If you can do it, go to Israel now on a JNF mission or other organized trip. Volunteer and do the work not being done because of the war effort, support the economy, speak to those impacted by the war, and show the soldiers and displaced people that you are with them.
- 2) Purchase Israel Bonds. This is so easy and you can do it in the smallest denominations or in very significant amounts. It's a no brainer at 5+% in many cases and with Israel going into deep debt to support the war, the funds are very much needed.
- 3) Educate others. There is a LOT of misinformation on social media and in the news. I hesitated very strongly about whether to post details of my trip and the itinerary on social media. In the end, I decided it was more important to spread facts than to worry about what the misinformed might say. I hope you will join me in that effort.



We are all touched by B'nai Israel.

It makes a difference in our lives. And it is our endeavor to ensure that it makes a difference in our community for many years to come.

As our parents planted for us, let us sow the seeds that will make a difference for our children and grandchildren.

-Talmud Ta'anit 23a

CREATE YOUR JEWISH LEGACY www.jewishlegacygw.org

As we celebrate our successes, we are grateful for the commitment and generosity of those who came before us. Dues and annual donations do not provide sufficient resources for all we must do to sustain Jewish life at B'nai Israel. And so we invite and encourage you to create your own legacy.

It is so easy to make a planned gift or bequest through B'nai Israel's Create a Jewish Legacy Program. Simply include B'nai Israel in your estate planning as a beneficiary in your will, under your retirement plan or life insurance policy. It carries no financial obligation in the present, but it will have a huge and lasting impact on our future.

> Avery Sudow Development Director 301-816-5569 avery@bnaiisraelcong.org

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