



# Brotherhood Synagogue ב"ה

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Tammuz / Av/ Elul 5783 July / August 2023

## Lightning Round of Questions for the Rabbi

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

**A**s we head into the summer and conclude this year's "questions for the rabbi," I present a lightning round of questions and short answers to some of the queries raised:

Why do Jewish texts use B.C.E. and C.E. in place of B.C. and A.D. in their system of dating? B.C., meaning "before Christ," and A.D., meaning "Anno Domini (Latin for "in the year of the Lord"), are abbreviations used by Christians. Their use implies the acceptance of Jesus Christ as divine, a concept rejected by Judaism. Hence, in Jewish scholarship B.C.E., meaning "before the Common Era," and C.E., meaning the "Common Era," were introduced to draw a distinction between Christian and Jewish belief.

Why according to the Jewish calendar does the day begin at sundown?

The custom of reckoning days in this fashion is based on the system used in the Book of Genesis. At the end of each day of Creation, the Torah says: "And God saw that it was good. And it was evening and it was morning..." Similarly, in Leviticus it says: "... from evening unto evening shall you keep your Sabbath."

Why is the English date on which a Jewish holiday falls different each year?

The English date on which a Jewish holiday falls is different each year because the Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar whereas the civil (secular) calendar is solar. In the Jewish calendar there are twenty-nine or thirty days in a month. The Jewish calendar was adjusted to harmonize with the civil calendar by adding an extra month (Adar II) seven times in each nineteen-year period and by reducing or

increasing the number of days in the months of Cheshvan and Kislev.

Why is "God" often spelled "G-d"?

The third of the Ten Commandments reads: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." But what is God's name? The biblical reference to God, spelled out with the Hebrew letters *yud, hey, vav, hey*, is generally considered the "authentic" name of God, a name never to be pronounced (except by the High Priest when officiating on Yom Kippur in the Holy of Holies) or written out. Over the centuries other names for God, such as Adonai, "Lord," were given some of the same status and used only in prayer. On other occasions *HaShem* ("the Name") or *Adoshem* (a contraction of *Adonai* and *HaShem*) were used in its stead. More recently, some have chosen not to write out in full the English name "God" or "Lord."

Why is the word *goy* considered derogatory?

The word *goy* (plural, *goyim*) is a common biblical word meaning "nation" or "people." In time it became a popular synonym for "gentile" or someone not Jewish. The word has sometimes been construed as being derogatory by its context and intent but is not necessarily so.

Why do the Hebrew letters *bet*"*hey* appear on top of Hebrew documents and in the correspondence of Jews?

*Bet*"*hey* is an abbreviation for *b'ezrat haShem*, meaning "with the help of God." It is employed by religious Jews who wish to be constantly cognizant of God's role in the world. It is found on the top right corner of this newsletter. 🌊

## Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Lee Goldberg*

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Cantor Isaac Yager*

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Jenny Hurwitz*

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Nate Loewentheil*

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Matthew Murzin*

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 9:30 AM



FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Elizabeth Lusskin*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Ryder Kessler*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Jonathan Lightman*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 6:30 PM

*Speaker: Francis Levy*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 9:30 AM



**PLEASE DONATE BLOOD!** While Brotherhood Synagogue sponsors a Blood Drive every November, the need for blood is constant for accident victims, cancer patients, and even newborn babies.

If you are able, please consider donating at one of the New York Blood Center's many locations. **And, remember to use Brotherhood's ID number 14200**—your donation will be considered as on behalf of the synagogue.



## PLAY MAH JONGG!!

**Summer Wednesdays 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
at Brotherhood**

Brotherhood is holding Mah Jongg games in July & August. Play is open to members & nonmembers!

**Dates:** July 12 & 19 | August 2, 9, 16 & 23

**Cost per session: \$11**

pay by **CASH AT THE DOOR** or

**CHECK PAYABLE TO BROTHERHOOD SYNAGOGUE**

All levels welcome!\*\*

To join a game, please email Janet Heller

[jheller711@gmail.com](mailto:jheller711@gmail.com)

*\*\*We will be offering classes for beginners again after the high holidays!*

## Life Goes On

*Life Goes On* is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss.

As in previous years, our group will not have any formal meetings during July and August. That said, you may receive an email for an informal meeting, say, a walk by Riverside Park or a movie outdoors—please join us! Our September event is still in the planning stage, and information will be sent to our members as soon as it is available.

Our May event, the guided tour of The Cathedral of St. John and its Textile Conservation Lab, was incredible! Our guide was extremely knowledgeable, and as she guided us around this extraordinary building she told amazing stories about the Cathedral's unusual history and how it was built. Lunch prior to the tour was perfect, delicious, comfortable, and fun. Thank you so much, Ruth Grossman, for organizing a fascinating and lovely afternoon for us.

In June, our favorite tour guide Rick from NYC Discovery took us on a grand tour of Grand Central Station and its new Madison Avenue Extension. We learned about the secrets of Grand Central's history, about the symbolism behind its decor, and the mysteries behind the Beaux Arts gem. Lunch prior to the tour was wonderful. Thank you so much, Joan Goldfield, for doing the work to make the tour possible for us.

Details for our fall book club schedule will be forwarded to *Life Goes On* members as soon as available. The book club is live again—actually hybrid, because some members do join us online. Thanks as always are due to Professor Margaret Birns for leading our discussions and presenting more information about the books to enrich our conversation. Many thanks to Brotherhood Synagogue for hosting us with treats and wine.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, please come to our meetings—we would be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call Agnes Marton at 917-519-4427 or e-mail her at [lagnesmarton@gmail.com](mailto:lagnesmarton@gmail.com) or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, email [rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org).

## Brotherhood Book Club

**Thursday, July 20, 7:00 pm  
Thursday, August 17, 7:00 pm**

July 20: Judith Oringer will lead a discussion of *The Postcard* (La Carte Postale) by Anne Berest.

August 17: Marcia Teviovitz will lead a discussion of *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

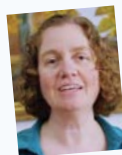
Please contact Gail Pierris [abend@nyc.rr.com](mailto:abend@nyc.rr.com) if you are interested in joining.



## July Classes with the Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program

Brotherhood Synagogue Adult Education in partnership with the Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program (CSP) presents the following roster of amazing online classes during the month of July!

**Please click on the class titles for full description and to register** or go to [occsnp.net/current-online-events/](http://occsnp.net/current-online-events/).



**Hebrew Infusion: Language and Community at American Jewish Summer Camps**

Sunday, July 9 | 7:00 pm

Prof. Sarah Bunin Benor



**The Journey Back to Self: Overcoming Trauma in the Yaakov Narratives**

Tuesday, July 11 | 1:00 pm | Tanya White

### CSP SCHOLAR SERIES

*Understanding Arab Culture: Understanding Ourselves*

**In the Lands of Sultans, Kings, and Pharaohs:**

**The Jewish Odyssey in Three Islamic Realms**

Dr. David Mendelsohn



Thursday, July 13 | 6:30 pm

**Part 1: In the Land of the Sultans**

Thursday, July 20 | 6:30 pm

**Part 2: Life in the Atlas Kingdom**

Sunday, July 23 | 6:30 pm

**Part 3: Between the Nile and the Pyramids**

**Rafraam's Guide to Libyan Prison**

Monday, July 17 | 6:30 pm

Dr. David Mendelsohn & Rafraam Chaddad



**"The Good Seven Years": Artist Talk with Rafraam Chaddad**

Tuesday, July 18 | 6:30 pm

**Unifying Narratives: CSP Scholar Series Finale with Dr. Mendelsohn**

Tuesday, July 25 | 3:30 pm

Brotherhood Synagogue continues to offer Adult Education classes on Zoom through your kind and generous donations. Please consider making a donation of \$36 or more to help cover the cost of this and other important education programs. [Visit our website](#) and designate your contributions as a gift to "Adult Education" in the dropdown menu.

## Tisha B'Av SERVICES

To commemorate this sad day on the Jewish calendar, Tisha B'Av was designated a full fast day, although one is permitted to work

On the evening of Tisha B'Av, Jews gather to hear the mournful chanting of the Biblical book of Lamentations (Eicha), an ancient dirge written by the prophet Jeremiah after the destruction of the First Temple. Congregants often sit on the floor of a darkened room like mourners. This year, Erev Tisha B'Av services will take place on **Wednesday, July 26 from 8:00 – 9:00 pm.**

We will hold morning services for Tisha B'Av on **Thursday, July 27 at 9:00 am** and mincha/ma'ariv services (at which tallit and tefillin are worn) on **Thursday evening at 7:45 pm** followed by a light meal to break the fast.

Tisha B'Av (the 9th day of the month of Av) marks the day when the Babylonians destroyed the First Temple in Jerusalem in 586 BCE and also when the Romans burned down the Second Temple in 70 CE.

## Summer Candle Lighting and Torah Portions

Friday, June 30, 8:13 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Chukat-Balak

Friday, August 4, 7:50 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Eikev

Friday, July 7, 8:11 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Pinchas

Friday, August 11, 7:41 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Re'eh

Friday, July 14, 8:08 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Matot-Masei

Friday, August 18, 7:32 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Shoftim

Friday, July 21, 8:03 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Devarim

Friday, August 25, 7:21 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Ki Teitzei

Friday, July 28, 7:57 pm  
Saturday: Parshat Vaetchanan



## Shabbat Club

### Shabbat Club Summer 2023

Shabbat Club will take a break for the summer months and return in September. Please continue to contact Deborah Newman [debd.newman@gmail.com](mailto:debd.newman@gmail.com) with your ideas for future topics or speakers. Have a great summer!

## Please join us!

at Brotherhood Synagogue's upcoming  
Open House for Prospective Members



If you've been thinking about joining a downtown congregation,  
please come to our

**Open House  
at Brotherhood Synagogue**  
to learn more!

**Thursday, September 7 • 6:00-7:00 pm**

Our warm and welcoming synagogue offers schools for kids,  
classes for adults, engaging programming, and a socially  
conscious membership.

## Prospective Member Open House

*Please tell your friends, family,  
neighbors, and colleagues  
about Brotherhood!*

*We would love to have them  
join us on September 7 at our  
Open House!*

## Round Challah Baking for the New Year!

with Brotherhood member,  
**Millie Fell**

**Sunday, September 10,  
Noon - 3:00 pm**



If you love the taste of freshly baked Challah and have wanted to learn how to make it yourself, this is the class for you! Millie will teach you how to make round Challah for the holidays from scratch. All you need is to bring a large ceramic mixing bowl—we will supply the rest!

**\$36 for members  
\$46 for non-members.**

The fee covers cost of supplies and  
benefits the synagogue.

[Register here](#)

## COMING THIS FALL - SAVE THE DATES

Brotherhood Adult Education Presents in Person

### Beginning Conversational Hebrew

No previous knowledge of Hebrew required. Our  
Israeli method of teaching is for all Hebrew language  
skills: speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing.

**Beginning October 10 at 6:30 pm for 6 weeks  
(October 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14)**

**Instructor:** Orly Farhi-Haley

**Cost:** \$75 members | \$100 Nonmembers



## Aging Alone, Together Workshop



**The Chesed Committee** is pleased to announce that DOROT will be bringing its "Aging Alone, Together" workshop to Brotherhood members this fall. There will be six sessions offered over Zoom, focused on giving adults ages 60 to 100+ the tools, strategies, and support to age successfully and plan for the future. The program is specifically designed for those who may have to function without the support system traditionally provided by family. Look for more details closer to the date, but we encourage you to mark your calendars for this free program, running six Wednesdays from October 4 to November 8, 1:30-3:00 pm.



## Happenings in Our Kehilah

### Graduation News, Congratulations to:

**Ari Kitt** on his graduation from Eleanor Roosevelt High School and his acceptance to New York University.

**Jenni R Pietromonaco** on her graduation from FIT (Bachelor of Fine Arts).

**Daniella Alony** on her graduation from Bank Street with a double master's degree in early education and special education.

**Alexander Diamond** on his graduation from Drexel University with a master's degree in computer engineering.

**Ethan Jones** on his graduation from Hunter College with a master's degree in art education.

**David Fell, MD**, on his completion of a fellowship in Uveitis at the Cleveland Clinic and the start of a fellowship in Retina at the Tufts Medical Center.

**Zachary Schwam, MD**, on his graduation from his Neurotology/Lateral Skull Base Surgery Fellowship at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and his being on staff of the Otolaryngology Faculty.

### Births, Mazal Tov to:

**Lindsay and Jared Blumberg** on the birth of their daughter, **Ryan Sophia Blumberg**; and to older brother, **Shai**.

### Condolences to:

**Perry Green** on the passing of his father, **Steven Green**.

**Sonya Wexler** on the passing of her husband, and our member, **David Wexler**.

**Irma Godlin** on the passing of her husband, and our member, **Paul Godlin**.

## Minyan | Tuesdays, 5:40 pm on Zoom

Cantor Yager will be leading our weekly Tuesday Minyan at 5:40 pm. **Please consider joining us to help make a minyan so that those in mourning can fulfill the mitzvah of saying Kaddish.** This is especially important in the summer months when it can be harder to get a minyan.

To follow along and participate in the weekly service, [a link to our Mincha siddur can be found here](#).

**Zoom meeting ID:** 225 253 5818

**Zoom link:** <https://zoom.us/j/2252535818>

## President's Post by Seth Hulkower



I'll begin this monthly column by introducing myself in writing and I hope to get the chance to introduce myself to each of you personally over the next year. Lissa and I first started dropping in for services at Brotherhood when our daughter, Talia, was about one, but we didn't become dues paying members until it was time to enroll Talia in Hebrew School and then we enrolled her sister, Sasha, three years later. Both girls celebrated their Bat Mitzvahs at Brotherhood and continue to have strong ties to the congregation even though they now live in the far-off lands of Brooklyn, NY and Bozeman, MT.

Over the next few months I'm going to use this column to focus on specific programs, educational offerings, all the things that are done to keep the doors open from 8 in the morning to late at night, and the people who make those varied activities what they are. Today I'm going to write about a large, integrated effort that our staff and an extensive team of volunteers is engaged in and how it's critical to the future of our congregation.

In January we kicked off a wide-ranging Strategic Planning process and you've heard about it in this space from Russell Kohn, in letters and email from the synagogue and maybe even by word of mouth. This is a critical endeavor looking at where we are as a community and where we need to be to meet the needs of our members going forward. I'm thrilled with the level of engagement that we've seen so far: over ninety members participated in the Community Conversations and over

250 members participated in the survey. Out of this interview and survey work we established seven task forces to focus on areas that can be strengthened or in some way enhanced. I just recently spent a Sunday morning with 50 members and staff in a series of visioning sessions to advance the task force process.

The task forces will be working for the next few months to flesh out the needs in their respective areas and develop proposals for what we might change and all of that will come back to the Board. Our goal is to present the findings to the community in December. We have terrific engagement on the task forces and you may hear from participants asking you to get involved as the work grows. Please say yes if they call.

With all the activity going on at Brotherhood, I want to make sure that the lines of communication are as open and interactive as possible. You can always reach me via email at [president@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:president@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) or by leaving a message with our office staff. In addition, I'm planning on holding Town Hall sessions in September and March which will be run as hybrid meetings, both in-person in the Sanctuary and via Zoom for those who can't attend.

I said at the outset that I hope to introduce myself to each of you personally. Now I have an admission to make—I'm not always good at connecting names and faces. So if I introduce myself to you more than once (or even twice), please know that it's me and not you.

Warmly, Seth Hulkower

## Brotherhood's Cemetery Visitation Project/ Drivers Needed

The Social Action Committee will continue its longstanding project of taking people to area cemeteries to visit graves of loved ones in the season of the High Holidays if there are sufficient volunteer drivers. Individuals who have not driven previously and want to perform this mitzvah this year, as well as past drivers who can drive this year and who have not emailed Arthur Plutzer that response should contact Manda ([mhegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:mhegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org); 212-674-5750).

We are requiring that drivers and passengers be vaccinated and that masking be at the driver's discretion.

We will continue to take non-members, relatives and friends of members when possible, but we are directed to prioritize members of the congregation.

Individuals who want to go to a cemetery in New Jersey, Westchester, and Long Island should contact Manda in the office and provide the cemetery and your telephone, email, and whether you can go during a weekday or only on Sunday.

We look forward to continuing this tradition of mitzvah and service started at the request of our founding Rabbi Irving Block.

# YAHREZEITS

^Garden of Remembrance \*Book of Remembrance

## July 1-7

Ray Aaronson\*, Florence Alster^, Mrs. Mollie Bender, Diana Berel\*, Mae Lena Slotnick Block\*, Edra Bloom, Robert Brown, Ruben Cohen, Rosalind Cohen, Hazel Colbert, Clara Coppersmith^, Isadore Davis, Milton Fischbein\*, Irving Gaines, Richard Goldman, Benjamin Gordon^, Kenneth Greenberg^, Marilyn Greenblatt, Sucher Gross\*, Daniel Hamburger, Albert M. Kaltman\*, Nathan Kaye, Harry Kirshbaum^, Avraham Kolodicki^~^, Avraham Kolodicki^~^, Elsie C. Lowinger^, Naomi Mahlowitz, Ida Medwed, Aaron H. Meyers^, Sylvia Murzin-Lipson^, Sandra Newman^, Ernest Noymer^, Gloria Protaz^, Irving Protaz^, Gloria Protaz^, Mildred "Mickey" Ray^, Florence Reiff^, Anna Rosenthal, Naomi Rubin Strumpf, Margot Salzman, Sylvia Sidney, Irving Silver, Joseph Silverstein^, Jack Soffer, Jack Sorrell, Edith F. Vyner^, Judith Weinman, Ruth Weintraub^, Isidore Weiss^, Lilian Weissman, Gertrude Werner\*, Gustav Wertheim, The Family Weygman^, Harold Wiles, Emma H. Wolff^

## July 8-14

Harry Adler, Barry Arnold, Deanna Basch, Samuel M. Baum\*, Abraham Berkowitz\*, Charles Botbol, Rachelle Bronfman, Ben Brown, Skylar Click, Barbara Sugarman Cohen^, Sabina Herbst Ehrlich^, David Fein, Sylvia Fendel, Bernard Fine, Craig Fox, Sue Toder Friedes, Eugene O. Gadsden\*, M. Milton Glass^, Max Goldberg^, Ellen Goldbrenner, Florence Goldin^, William Goldman, Sheila Gourse\*, Jesse Gruber^, Jennie Herbst^, Lillian Hoban, Henry Jones, Albert Kosta^, Dorothy Leff, Ida Leibowitz, Tevel (Ted) Leifschutz^, Benjamin Leinweber, Aaron Lerner, Minnie Levitt^, Lillian Levy^, Sarah Mandel, Mollie Mandelowitz\*, Louis Mayer, Morris Meyerson^, Herman Philip Miller, Louis Pearl\*, Gertrude Pilpel^, Gertrude Pine, Judith Graham Pool\*, Saul Presser\*, Veronika Riemer^, Fannie Rosenfeld, Beatrice Rothstein^, Amiya Samanta, Arthur Schoenberg, Richard Schoenberg, Monya Schwartz^, Max Schwartz^, Harry Seinfeld^, Judith Pitreich Seinfeld^, Solomon Shlomo Seinfeld^, Irwin Shapiro, Leo Shargel, Walter Siegel, Adeline Silver, Claire Sirkin\*, Bessie Block Slotnick\*, Jack Spilkin, Samuel Statsinger^, Awilda Warfield^, Natalie Zenkel

## July 15-21

Fay Althausen, Morris Barr, Jeanne H. Berger\*, Tomi Deutsch Berney, Rivka Borochoy, Pearl Braff, Betty

K. Braverman^, Mr. Harry Cohen, Milton Cohn^, Philip Cooper, Akiva Distenfeld, Howard Ehrlich, Betty Ellowitz, Susan Ember^, Alan Feitell^, Mr. Joel M. Fields, Saul Flame, Selma Flash^, Joseph Frankel\*, Arthur Friedman, Rev Max Goldfarb, George Goldman, Jean Hans, Kate Herrmann\*, Razelle Hirshovitz^, Herbert Holtzman, Ethel Horowitz\*, Marvin D. Kenigsberg^, Lillian Rose Seinfeld Lester^, Joan Sarah Levine, Bertha Hilda Levine^, Dora Levy, Ethel Levy^, Sarah Lifschutz, Mania Markowitz^, Josepha Marton^, Golda Alpert Miller^, Belle Mintz^, Adam Oblegorski, Sidney S. Reiss\*, Samuel Rosen, Adele Rosenstein, Jacob Rossman\*, Rita Sager^, Sherwood Schwartz, Albert Schwartzberg, Simon ben Simcha Sellam, Sidney Selzer, Bella Shafer^, David Shapiro^, Rochelle Silber, Jacob Sweet^, Lena L. Tevelow^, Rose Tomkin^, Jessica A. Troiano^, Bertha Tudor^, Sylvia Diane Vanacore, Anna Weisburg^, Hannah Weissler^, Russell Weith\*, Paula Yassky

## July 22-28

Adolph Abeles^, Eugene Alexander, Bernard Alpren^, Esther Lila Baum^, Rabbi Shepherd Z. Baum^, Esther Lila Baum^, Caroline Baumann\*, Joseph Benardo^, Sanford Berk, Irving Berry, David Bienstock\*, Herman Braunstein^, Mr. David Bronshteyn, Joseph Cohen^, Hugh Conway^, Sue Davis^, Eli Evans, Florence Fishman\*, William Fox, Martin Fox, Ann Gaines, Maurice G. Gans^, Tillie Gwirtz, Rose Godlin, Esther Goldberg^, Natalie Goldstein, Florence Greenfield, Estelle Halpern\*, James J. Herzig^, Benjamin Hoffman, Rose B. Kalb\*, Herbert Kanen^, Gertrude Katz\*, Michael J. Kaufman, Zel Kelvin^, Feige Kolodicki^~^, Sarah Rebecca Kuperman\*, Marilyn Kurtzman, Lorraine Laighold, Benjamin Levine\*, Nathan Lewis, Barbara Margulis, Dr. Matthias Marks\*, Annie Menaker^, William Richard Miller, Bertha Moed, Rose Moskowitz^, Mollie Newman, Mr. Irving Olshever, Max Panchina, Robert Richkin, George Ringler\*, Betty Roberg-Reice, Abraham Rosenstock, Sheila Saks, Charles Schaffer^, Sally Bloch Schneek^, Julius Schorr^, Jenny Schwartz^, Hinda Settle^, Judith Sheppard, Philip Shorin^, Louis A. Siegel^, Mark L. Silverman^, Flora Silverstein^, Beverly Simon^, Noah Simring^, Rebecca Ilana Sivak^, Seymour Spira, Julius J. Stein^, Martin Stone, Gertrude Unterweiser\*, Elfreda E. Valentine^, Gertrude Wachsler^, Robert J. Ward^, Harry Weintraub\*, Murray Winsaft, Fanny Wolf^

## July 28-August 4

Irving W. Albert^, Rose Bender^, Max Breitman\*, Lee Brody, Joseph Brown, Nat Cohen, Shirley Cohen, Julius Cohen^, Joseph Cohen^, Julius Cohen^, Benjamin Cooperman, Emmanuel Enerio, Barbara King Ferraiolo^, Ray Fink^, Rose Garber, Abraham Gerstein, Israel Giman, Samuel P. Goldman^, Howard Goldstein^, Albert Gordon^, James J. Herzig^, Leonard Hirshovitz^, Ethel Hochhauser^, Nedra Jedwick^, Jack Judashko\*, Herbert Kanen^, Fanny Kasman, Michael J. Kaufman, Zel Kelvin^, Esther Kessner\*, Mino Koen, Louis Kornblatt, Mr. Stephen Kramer, Louis Kuperman\*, Irving Leffel, William Richard Miller, Rose Moskowitz^, Chiam Alta Nachman, Mollie Newman, Jack Nirenberg, Morris Papush, Max Panchina, Doris Rattner^, George Ringler\*, Herman Robinove\*, Samuel Roth, Julia Rubenstein, Dr. Philip Rubin, Francine Salom, Mrs. Irma Schonhaut^, Julius Schorr^, Mrs. Esther Siegel, Anna Silverman\*, Beverly Simon^, Lisa Simoncic, Abraham J. Stelzer^, Mrs. Carole Knopf Stutzel^, Simon Teitelbaum^, Paul Unger, Harry Weintraub\*, Murray Winsaft, Fanny Wolf^, Barry Zonon^

## August 5-11

Saul Alter^, David Barry, Frank Bauer, Eve Bijaoui, May Blatt^, Sadie Block, Natan Bornstein, Balfour Brickner, Joan Cantor, Sylvia Davis, Anna Elsky^, Gussie Esrig^, Jacob Etelson\*, Katherine Falk, Dora Hindin Fine^, Regina Friedman\*, Alan Gerstein, Henrietta Goodkin\*, Harry Greene^, Jean Gross^, Martin Hanfling, Rose Hirsch\*, Caron Wendy Kallman^, Bertha Kane^, Charlotte Kast\*, Madeleine Kern, Eva Kirshner\*, Bernard Korach, Sophy L. Koven^, Benjamin Kramer, Anna Lapidese, Selma Leber, Jack Levine, Peter Adam Levine^, Kitty Lichtenstein, Leon Mandell, Israel Markowitz, Sheila Marton, Pinchos Medwed, Joseph Meiselman^, Ida Neidich\*, Sonia Padva\*, Abraham Pilpel^, Shirley Plitt\*, Perle Potash, Annie Riemer\*, Shirley Schachter^, Beatrice Schneider,

Continued on next page

## Memorial Book 5784

In July we will be sending out our annual request for listings in our Memorial Book. If you presently have a listing in the book and would like to continue with it, please send the bottom portion of the letter back to us along with your donation and note any changes you would like to make. If you would like to add a new listing to the book, please fill out the form and return it to us. If you have any questions, please call Manda at 212-674-5750 or drop her a note at [mhegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:mhegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org).



Donations can be made at <https://brotherhoodsynagogue.shulcloud.com/payment.php>. Please choose Memorial Book from the drop down menu and note any changes in the Payment Notes section of the donation web page. Thank you.

## The Brotherhood Synagogue



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New York, N.Y. 10003  
Phone: (212) 674-5750  
Fax: (212) 505-6707

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

RABBI DANIEL ALDER  
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK<sup>21</sup> D.D.: Founding Rabbi  
SETH HULKOWER: President

ALISHA GOODMAN:

Executive Director

PHILLIP ROTHMAN:

Executive Director Emeritus



Congregation founded in 1954  
Historic Landmark Building erected in 1859

## A Year of Accomplishment and Activity for Social Action

The Social Action Committee at Brotherhood is responsible for undertaking activities that can be identified by the Hebrew expression *Tikkun Olam*—to heal and repair the world. We are an active committee, and our activities this past year focused on direct service opportunities, drives, in the moment responses to Humanitarian Crises, education/speakers, and partnership with other committees (BCRIC, Racial Justice, Interfaith).

Direct Service Opportunities: After a hiatus due to the pandemic, we were able to re-open our **Homeless Shelter** from January to March, and we are looking forward to trying to expand the number of days we can offer this service again next year. We continued to take members with no easy access to **transportation to area cemeteries** to visit the graves of their departed loved ones. Our **English in Action** program helped newcomers to our country gain fluency and confidence in conversational English. And, we held another very successful **Chuck Ginsburg Memorial Blood Drive** and will hold our **next drive on October 22, 2023**—save the date and donate!

We held many drives this past year that are summarized below:

- **City Harvest October Food Drive:** We collected over 500 pounds of food.
- **City Harvest Passover Food Drive:** Over 400 pounds collected.
- **Wheel it Forward:** A new drive this year to collect gently used medical equipment that is refreshed and reused by others.
- **Backpacks for the Street:** Winter gear drive collecting adult hats, scarves, coats, sweaters, and other warm clothing. We also had staff from Backpacks for the Street come and speak with our Hebrew School students—part of our effort to engage more directly with our kids.

- **Project Cicero:** Our annual Book Drive supporting children K-12 in under-resourced NYC schools

Our **Veteran's Shabbat** honors our own Veterans of the US Armed Forces and the Israel Defense Forces. This year we featured Joshua Lubarsky (Colonel US Army Reserves) as our Shabbat speaker.

Under SAC sponsorship Brotherhood joined the **Jewish Climate Leadership Coalition** this year, a nationwide group of nearly 200 synagogues and Jewish organizations convened by **Adamah** (formerly Hazon), committing to creating annual goals for our community that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as mobilize our community around climate action.

And we were active with joint programming with other committees:

- **Dinners for Asylum Seekers:** In conjunction with the BCRIC, we are hosting monthly dinners for families in partnership with PS 11.
- **Afro-Semitic Experience Concert:** We co-sponsored this concert at Brotherhood with the Interfaith committee. It was well attended and a lot of fun!

- **Assembling and Distribution of Hygiene Kits to Refugee Families:** A joint event with Interfaith and BCRIC.

We encourage all members of our community who would like to help in promoting our mission to join us. We hope to welcome new members to our committee to help build upon our strengths and bring new ideas and, of course, we hope you will join us by attending our events and supporting our drives through your generous donations.

Please contact Abby Goldstein ([abbyg@rcn.com](mailto:abbyg@rcn.com)), Beth Barry ([blbar1@aol.com](mailto:blbar1@aol.com)), or Helaine Teperman ([helaine.teperman@bernstein.com](mailto:helaine.teperman@bernstein.com)) if you are interested!

*Yahrzeits, continued from page 4*

Benjamin Schwartz, Angelina Seffens, Henry Shapiro, Bertha Shear<sup>^</sup>, Hilde Sigal, Minnie Signer<sup>^</sup>, Linda Sobel, Mr. Jerry M. Solomon<sup>^</sup>, Paul Soroka, Dr. Arnold Statsinger<sup>^</sup>, Celia Stern, Phyllis Stern<sup>^</sup>, Claire Sussman, Marjorie Teperman<sup>^</sup>, Mary Turkheimer<sup>^</sup>, Stanley Seymour Wasserman, Lizzie Weckstein<sup>^</sup>, Muriel Winick<sup>^</sup>

### August 12-18

Haviva Abada, Rose Bernstein, Dr. Leon Brody<sup>^</sup>, Thomas Cohen, Albertina Cohen, Thomas Cohen, Dinah Cohen, Sumner Cooper, Philip Edlis, George Faleck<sup>^</sup>, Mamie Joan Feingold<sup>^</sup>, Mr. Nathaniel L. Fish, Al Forman<sup>^</sup>, Mary Frankel<sup>^</sup>, Frank Fruchtman<sup>^</sup>, Addie Gabel, Leo Giddins<sup>^</sup>, Martin Gilman, Lenore Ginsberg, Bessie "Billie" Ginsburg<sup>^</sup>, Louis Glass<sup>^</sup>, Morris Goldenberg<sup>^</sup>, Gladys Goldman, Jacob Goldman<sup>^</sup>, Arthur Gottlieb, Sidney Grossman<sup>^</sup>, David Grossman<sup>^</sup>, Helen Halper, Mrs. Ruth Heisler<sup>^</sup>, Sally Hendel<sup>^</sup>, Michael Insdorf<sup>^</sup>, Martin Jelin<sup>^</sup>, Sidney Katz<sup>^</sup>, Rachel Kommissaroff, Louis Krieger, Ruth Kroll, Selma Lande<sup>^</sup>, Mollie Leinweber, Judith Lipner, Benjamin Liss, Rose Mandell, Dov Beryl Manischewitz, Rose Meiselman<sup>^</sup>, Nachum Miller, Ethel Newman, Rita Perlow Langue, Herman Plasse, William Riemer<sup>^</sup>, Nathaniel Schorin, Issie Schwartz<sup>^</sup>, Dorothy Schwartz<sup>^</sup>, Max Edward Shaine<sup>^</sup>, Harry Shargel, Sophie Silver, Jerry Strumpf, Benjamin Tenenbaum<sup>^</sup>, Marilyn Vogel<sup>^</sup>, Louis Wasser, Anna Weiss<sup>^</sup>

### August 19-25

Mr. David Alter, Oscar Berliner, Anna Berlowitz<sup>^</sup>, Maurice Brandes, Sophie Braver<sup>^</sup>, Samuel Cassell<sup>^</sup>, Mary Edlis, Frank Estrine, Isa Feinstein<sup>^</sup>, Peyser C. Freedman<sup>^</sup>, Dr. Harold Gabel, Julia Gerstenhaber, Sam C. Giman, Alex Gold<sup>^</sup>, Anne Goldman<sup>^</sup>, Frieda Gross<sup>^</sup>, Seymour Herman, Harriet Hochman, Cecile Insdorf<sup>^</sup>, Stefanie Kalkstein, Boris Karalunsky<sup>^</sup>, Estelle Katz<sup>^</sup>, Helen Langer<sup>^</sup>, Bea Langerman, Virginia Leffel, Julius Levine<sup>^</sup>, Henry Lieberman<sup>^</sup>, Mickey Low<sup>^</sup>, William Maloff, Rose Martus<sup>^</sup>, Samuel Meadow, Raphael Miller<sup>^</sup>, Ruth Monheit, Burton Newburg<sup>^</sup>, Lawrence Novick, Nancy Philipps, Sonia Ribero Greenspan, Jack Schachter<sup>^</sup>, Irving Schaffer<sup>^</sup>, Joseph Schkurman<sup>^</sup>, Lee Seiger<sup>^</sup>, Harry Shulman<sup>^</sup>, Nellie Siegal<sup>^</sup>, Elihu Silver, Dorothy Silverman, Caroline Stein<sup>^</sup>, Abraham Jacob Storick, Anna Topal<sup>^</sup>, Regina Toporek<sup>^</sup>, Molly Walder<sup>^</sup>, Jacob Weckstein<sup>^</sup>, Frances Weintraub<sup>^</sup>, Gerta Wertheim, Sophie Yaker<sup>^</sup>

### August 26-Sept 1

Lorraine Bloom, Jerome Blumenthal<sup>^</sup>, Nathan Cantor<sup>^</sup>, Lena Cooperman<sup>^</sup>, Harvey Domow, Bernard Drimmer<sup>^</sup>, Myer Elson<sup>^</sup>, Albert Falk, Freda Fell, Dr. Frank Ferraiolo<sup>^</sup>, Herbert F. Finney<sup>^</sup>, Alfred Fisher, Lillian Fishman, Abraham Friedman<sup>^</sup>, Barbara Gazes, Theresa Genzer, Harriette Getz, Ruben Glassman, Donald Goldstein, Joseph Gross<sup>^</sup>, Adele Gross<sup>^</sup>, Elaine Handler<sup>^</sup>, John Harper, Herman Harris, Frederic Herrmann<sup>^</sup>, Howard Jeffreys<sup>^</sup>, Rhoda King<sup>^</sup>, Max N. Koven<sup>^</sup>, Sarah Ladani, Pearl Levitz, Frances Weissler Lilienfeld, Milton Meyerowitz, Zelda Michaels, Ms. Nina Rachel Moore<sup>^</sup>, Allen B. Novick<sup>^</sup>, James Joseph Orlow, Morton Pintel<sup>^</sup>, Abraham Jacob Rechtschaeffer<sup>^</sup>, Anne Rich, Leon Rooney, Yankel Rosenbaum, Pauline Rubinoff<sup>^</sup>, William Schneck<sup>^</sup>, Melanie Schneider, Fannie Seidler<sup>^</sup>, Elaine Simon, Sanford Solender, Bertha Tenenbaum<sup>^</sup>, Damayanti Vasudevan, Hannah Wildstein, David Zenreich

Brotherhood Synagogue

# Hebrew School Registration is OPEN 2023-2024

Contact:  
[TNeider@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:TNeider@brotherhoodsynagogue.org)





For 8th-12th Graders



Hi Brotherhood Synagogue & BBYO Families!

In early June, we had the absolute pleasure of electing the 5th Chapter Board for Union BBYO, our very own teen-led chapter based out of Brotherhood Synagogue!

**CONGRATULATIONS to all candidates who ran! Each candidate contributes in a big way to the success of Union BBYO!**

We're happy to announce below those elected to Union's 2023-2024 Chapter Board as we look ahead to an amazing Fall Semester of Jewish Teen programming, Community Service, and so much more!

**Lily Pace, N'siah** (Chapter President)

**Sasha Levine, S'ganit** (VP of Programming)

**Liza Neuman, Morah** (VP of Membership)

**Alex Greenholtz, Sch'licha** (VP of Jewish Enrichment)

**Filippa Lombana, MazGiz** (Secretary & Treasurer)

Are you looking to get involved in leadership? Stay tuned for Chair Applications that will be sent out in the fall!! We wish you a wonderful summer, and cannot wait to come back together as a Union BBYO community in September!!

**Not a BBYO Member Yet? Join Today!**

Interested in connecting with other Jewish teens in the area? Joining BBYO is easy! BBYO Membership is a one-time fee of \$249 and lasts from purchase through 12th-grade graduation. Membership includes:

- access to member-only events, such as overnights, summer programs, and International Convention
- eligibility to be elected to a board position
- a global network of Jewish leaders
- lifelong connections and meaningful Jewish experiences

**BECOME A MEMBER OF BBYO!**

Happy summer,

Emmy Goodman, Regional Director, [egoodman@bbyo.org](mailto:egoodman@bbyo.org)

Aliya Cohen, Associate Regional Director, [agotthehrercohen@bbyo.org](mailto:agotthehrercohen@bbyo.org)

## ♪ Cantor's Notes ♪ by Cantor Isaac Yager

As the academic year comes to a close and summer begins I feel a great sense of gratitude to our community. I want to thank everyone for their support of the first annual Herman and Evelyn Diamond z"l Memorial Concert. It was meaningful to have such a variety of participants join in musical celebration to honor the memory of Evelyn and Cantor Diamond. Thank you to the Diamond family, Ivan and Margot, for sponsoring the concert. Thank you to my colleague Hazzan Asa Fradkin and his Chamber Chorale, our high holiday cantor Jody Sheinbaum, Brotherhood member and trustee Paul Hill, our congregational choir Harmoni-AH!, my sister in law Amanda Kelly, and my wife Meredith for all lending their musicality to this special event. And because I was vocally under the weather for the performance and could only perform minimally, I am especially grateful to my wife for stepping up and taking over the majority of the singing. As those who heard her can attest to, she's really good. And while I was disappointed that I could not contribute to the singing as I had intended, it was also nice to just listen and enjoy all of the the incredible talent. Additionally, as my teaching wraps up at the start of the summer break, I feel especially indebted to Alba Dwass for all of her insight and assistance with the conversion program at the synagogue. Four newly minted Jews have entered our community with several more in the pipeline. Alba has helped guide these individuals into their own personal Jewish identities by joining our weekly class and sharing with them her own knowledge and experience as a Jew by choice. She has served as an emissary of our congregation, sitting with and explaining the service to our students when they have attended on Shabbat and counseling them on Jewish life post conversion. She has made an incredible impact on the program, thank you Alba. And thank you to everyone who has supported this year of new beginnings. It has made me all the more excited for the future. Have a great summer! 🌊

## Fall 2023 Early Childhood Programs at Brotherhood

ECP classes at Brotherhood help our community's youngest children grow and flourish in an atmosphere where Jewish life, learning, values, and traditions are nurtured and celebrated through music, movement, arts & crafts and more! We are offering the following classes starting in September:

- **Baby Class** (3-12 months)
- **Pre-Toddler Class** (12-18 months)
- **Toddler Class** (18 months-3 years)
- **Thursday Corner** (3-5 years)

Class sizes are limited and are filled on a first come, first served basis so **register EARLY!**

**Register here**

[Please email Roberta](#) if you have any questions about ECP at Brotherhood.



**FRIDAY FAMILY SHABBAT for Young Children**  
returns in the Fall on the following dates  
at 5:30 pm:



September 22 | October 13  
October 27 | November 10  
November 17 | December 1  
December 15

**Please mark your calendars!**

**If you are receiving a printed copy of the Monthly Bulletin, PLEASE RECONSIDER!!**

You can help Brotherhood save on printing and postage costs by unsubscribing from the printed bulletin and reading it online. **The online edition is even better than the printed version! It contains live links to things that may be of interest to you.** Please call (212.674.5750) or [email Manda](#) to unsubscribe.

# Brotherhood Synagogue's TIKVAH PROGRAM

Brotherhood Synagogue's Tikvah Program provides a meaningful and individualized Jewish educational experience for special needs students from all Jewish affiliations, and at no cost to the participant families. The Tikvah curriculum includes: Hebrew reading, prayer study, Torah study, holidays, culture and more, with the opportunity to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. 'Tikvah' means 'hope', and we see our students as the hope of the Jewish people.

*Read 3 testimonials from Tikvah families:*



**M**y 11-year-old son was diagnosed with a learning disability and ADHD when he was six years old. Between kindergarten and fifth grade our family crashed and burned through two Brooklyn synagogue memberships and their accompanying Hebrew schools, as well as an independent Jewish education program with smaller-sized classes. I was told by all of them that he would be supported despite his disability, but halfway through the year, when I typically checked in, I was told he wasn't doing well at all. I'd pull him from one program after another, each time becoming increasingly disheartened.

Then I heard about Brotherhood Synagogue's Tikvah program on the Brooklyn special needs kids listserv. It sounded too good to be true. What a phenomenal, much-needed model: A Hebrew school program specifically serving children with special needs. And not only that—the program was free!

When I first spoke to one of the Tikvah teachers, Myra Hushansky, on the phone, it felt bashful from the get-go:

"Myra," I asked, "are you from Brooklyn?"

"Yes," she said, "I'm from East New York."

"East New York!" I exclaimed. I couldn't believe it. East New York was where my late father—who would be 99 if he were still alive—had been born and raised. On his deathbed, he asked me to promise I would raise my child Jewish.

I told Myra that I doubted my son would ever be a Bar Mitzvah boy.

She replied with what I came to learn was her steady faith, "Children with dyslexia are very musical, so they are good at chanting. And they have an excellent memory. So I wouldn't be at all surprised if he was Bar Mitzvahed."

I was on cloud nine for days afterward.

Every Sunday afternoon during this past school year my son was blessed with one-on-one instruction by Myra. When they first met it was instant rapport.

I said, "Maybe I should just sit in on the first class?"

"No," she said. "We'll be fine."

And they were.

During the 45 minutes that he and Myra were in a class together, I sat in the sanctuary. Another coincidence: Above the congregation's ark are the words I had inscribed on my father's grave:

'May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.'

After class my son relayed to me the same words each week: "Myra is so calm and kind."

Walking through the crowded streets toward the subway, he seemed to bring Myra's calm, kind spirit along on our more than hour-long ride back to Brooklyn. Recently he and the larger group of Tikvah children went on field trips to the Eldridge Street Synagogue, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, and the Museum of Jewish History. We said goodbye to Myra for the summer last week, but we look forward to seeing her again in the fall. Thank you so much, Myra, and thank you to everyone who made this blessed program a reality for us.



**W**e are writing to express our deepest gratitude to the Brotherhood Synagogue. Both our sons spent a number of years in the outstanding Tikvah Program. Each subsequently made their Bar Mitzvah, but more importantly, found a community of teens and young adults that helped shape them during their formative years.

With then Executive Director Phil Rothman, and especially Myra Hushansky, the extraordinary Director of the Tikvah Program, we knew this learning community was in excellent hands. Myra and her teaching team designed a curriculum to engage children of all abilities to learn about the Jewish religion and culture. The educational programming also involved lessons and activities addressing social responsibility. The Tikvah teaching team made the material accessible and interesting for youth with various academic abilities—a gift to parents whose children have learning challenges.

Over the years, we watched our children grow intellectually and emotionally. Both are now in college, with social circles and opportunities we didn't dare to dream about before Tikvah. They are grateful for all the Brotherhood Synagogue has given them, and the community has our deep appreciation and eternal gratitude.

Ilene Wilets, Dominick Balletta & sons

**W**e can't say enough about the Tikvah program at Brotherhood Synagogue.

Our son, Josh, has been learning from Myra for almost 10 years. Myra has taught him the stories from the Torah and from the Prophets. He has made family trees from Adam to Joshua and learned about Saul and David and Solomon. He has talked endlessly about all of the people in the Torah—their many accomplishments and their foibles.

Josh has learned many of the Saturday morning prayers and learned to read from the Torah and the Haftarah. Two years ago, at the height of the Covid pandemic, he celebrated his Bar Mitzvah over Zoom with dozens and dozens of family and friends from Brotherhood in attendance.

But Josh hasn't just learned the stories, the words, and the tunes from Myra—she has also imparted in him the neshama and the ruach of being a Jew and practicing Judaism.

Josh is in services every Saturday morning. He stands at the back and waves to all of his friends as they enter the shul. He loves being there and hates when he has to miss it (which is very rarely—usually because he has to go to services somewhere else for a cousin's or friend's Bar Mitzvah). The shul is a very special place for Josh and that is a gift that was given to him by Myra and Tikvah.

Brotherhood's Tikvah program is offered free of charge to families with special needs children and your generous support helps make this happen. To make a gift now in support of Tikvah, [visit our donation page](#) and select "Tikvah Special Education Program" from the dropdown menu, or reach out to [Jennifer Rosenberger](#), Director of Development and Member Engagement to learn of ways you can support Tikvah.