



Brotherhood Synagogue בית

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Cheshvan / Kislev 5784 November 2023

What This War Is About, Part I

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Much of the world reacted to the massacre of Israelis by Hamas by calling the atrocity scenes unbearable. When Israelis say those images are "unbearable," they mean it literally according to Israeli journalist Yossi Klein Halevi. "We cannot bear this, cannot allow the massacre to redefine us as a nation. We are at war to erase the catastrophic perception of Israelis as victims. Nothing is more antithetical to the Israeli ethos than for Jews to be burned alive with their hands bound behind their backs, with the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) nowhere in sight."

The support Israelis seek is based on the understanding that Israel faces a genocidal regime on her southern border, that the regime must be destroyed not only for Israeli's sake but for the sake of the region, and that the only way to destroy a terrorist infrastructure embedded in a civilian population is the way the IDF is proceeding.

"The outpouring of sympathy for Israel was good for our souls, especially in those traumatic first days," wrote Halevi. "But we all knew that much of that sympathy would begin to evaporate with the terrible scenes of devastation in Gaza. And we also knew, given the choice, we preferred to be condemned than pitied." Israel needs to make their case against Hamas not by seeking the world's pity but its understanding.

Israelis are not engaged with the Palestinians in a competition for victimhood. The Palestinians will always win that

competition. In opting for a state, for power, the Jewish people opted out of the victimhood competition. There is a price to pay for the loss of innocence. Israelis have no choice but to own it.

There are many Opinion pieces warning that Israel is about to repeat the mistakes America made in Afghanistan and Iraq. Israel is walking into a trap, they say, there is no quick fix. Hamas is an idea, not just a movement. You need an endgame, a vision for Gaza the morning after, a vision for peace with the Palestinians. But those concerns are irrelevant to Israel's most pressing need, which is the restoration of their shattered deterrence.

At no time in Israeli history, including the first catastrophic days of the Yom Kippur War, has Israeli military credibility been so undermined. The IDF failed miserably, not only to preempt the attack at the border but also to stop the atrocities as they were happening, effectively abandoning the towns and kibbutzim to their fate.

To lose deterrence is to invite aggression on all Israel's besieged borders. It is to convey to her enemies that Israel has lost its edge and no longer has what it takes to survive as the only non-Arab and non-Muslim state in one of the world's most dangerous regions. This is what makes this an existential war for Israel.

Those who caution against invading Gaza rarely offer Israel an alternative. Not to react decisively carries potentially greater danger for Israel than military miscalculation.

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 6:30 PM

Veterans Shabbat

Speaker: Miranda Platcow

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 9:30 AM

Bat Mitzvah of Zoey Abramson

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 4:30 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Max Chisling

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6:30 PM

Shabbaton Dinner and Speaker:

Brooke Kamin Rapaport

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 9:30 AM

Bat Mitzvah of Isabella Press

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 9:30 AM

Or join Brotherhood Shabbat services from your computer, tablet or phone:

Zoom meeting ID: 225 253 5818

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

Password: 1818

Using your phone, call 646-558-8656 and enter the Meeting ID 225-253-5818

If this war ends in another Hamas-Israeli stalemate, the Iranian front along Israel's borders will become far more emboldened. To focus only on the fighting in Gaza is to misunderstand what is happening there. This is a war with Iran by proxy. 🌊

Rabbi Irving J. Block Memorial Lecture

Wednesday, November 1, 8:00 pm

Speaker: Rabbi Marc Schneier



Interfaith Diplomacy: Muslim-Jewish Relations and the Israel-Hamas War

For the past 30 years, Rabbi Marc Schneier has been a leader in helping to improve the relationship of key ethnic groups and faith communities and is responsible for founding and leading one of the most dynamic synagogues in the United States, The Hampton Synagogue.

In 1989, Rabbi Schneier founded the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding originally to rebuild the historic Black-Jewish alliance in the United States and for nearly the past 15 years, to build Muslim-Jewish relations globally.

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.

On October 19 our group enjoyed an extraordinary private guided tour of the new Gilder Center at the American Museum of Natural History. We learned about the creation of this beautiful structure, and enjoyed seeing some of the unusual exhibits displayed there. A delicious lunch in the Gilder Center preceded the tour, thank you Joyce Sparrow for arranging it all.

Tuesday, November 16 at 2pm we will have the unusual opportunity of touring the Library and Rare Book Room of the Jewish Theological Seminary at 122nd Street and Broadway. The JTS Library opened in 2021, and its Rare Book Room more recently, in 2022. We will be guided through the library's exceptional collection of rare materials, including the world's largest collection of early Hebrew manuscripts. Thank you Lucia Zoercher for arranging the tour for us! Please contact Lucia at monteverdihadd@yahoo.com if you would like to join us. The cost of the tour is \$20, please send payment in advance to Lucia via Zelle (Lucia Zoercher, 631-599-8981) or to her email address. We will have lunch together prior to the tour, arrangements to be made by Gaby Kende and Susan Gottsman—thank you both!—details will be sent to those that are attending the tour.

Please reserve the evening of **Thursday, December 14** for our yearly Hanukkah party. We will meet in Brotherhood's 2nd Floor Reception room at 6pm, enjoy dinner together, and play our traditional gift giving game. Further details to be sent to *Life Goes On* members, as we get closer to the date.

Our next book club is scheduled for **Thursday, November 2, at 6:45 pm** in the Library Room—please note the change in time! We're reading *All the King's Men* by Robert Penn Warren. The book is rated one of the greatest novels of the 20th century. *All the King's Men* portrays the dramatic and theatrical political rise and governorship of Willie Stark, a cynical populist in the 1930s American South. Professor Margaret Birns will lead our book club discussion as usual, and the cost remains \$20 per person. Please know that you must advise Agnes in advance if you plan to participate—we can not reserve Professor Birns' time without a sufficient number of participants.

December book club date has been set for **Monday, December 18, at 6:45 pm** in the Library.

We will be discussing *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. Further details to follow.

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 or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, email rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org.

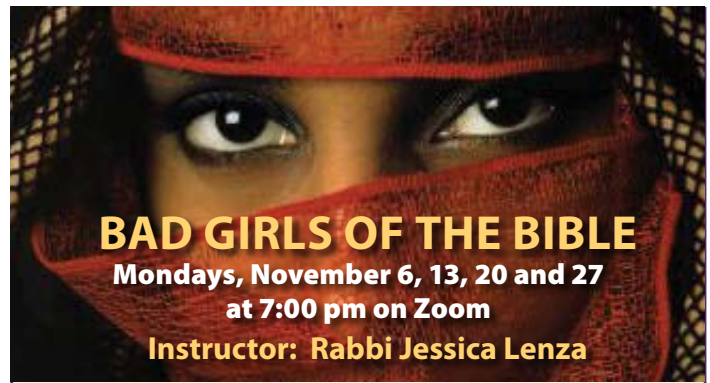
Shabbat Club

Saturday, November 18, 12:30 pm

Our congregant, Neal Epstein, will give us an "Update on Israel." Events are rapidly changing, so check the weekly email messages for a more specific topic. Neal will share what he knows through his access to Hebrew news and commentary, and to Hebrew speaking friends in Israel.

All are welcome to this meeting which will take place in the Reception Room on 2. Refreshments will be served.

Please contact [Deborah Newman](mailto:Deborah.Newman@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) with your ideas for future meetings.



BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE

**Mondays, November 6, 13, 20 and 27
at 7:00 pm on Zoom**

Instructor: Rabbi Jessica Lenza

Explore the rich history of the female countercultural pioneers in our sacred texts. Wielding whatever power they could muster despite the patriarchy of the Bible, our female ancestors boldly and cleverly flouted taboos—sometimes earning praise from the Rabbis, other times being excoriated. Learn about these rebel ladies who dared to defy the status quo and how bad girls can inspire us to be good.

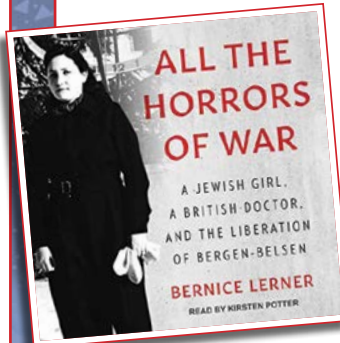
[Register here](#)

Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00 pm on Zoom

A Special Book Talk in Commemoration of Kristallnacht

In commemoration of Kristallnacht*, Brotherhood's Special Events Committee will host a talk and open conversation with **Bernice Lerner, Ed. D.**, Senior Scholar at Boston University's Center for Character and Social Responsibility and former Dean of Adult Learning at Hebrew College, about her book, *All the Horrors of War: A Jewish Girl, a British Doctor, and the Liberation of Bergen-Belsen*.

Please find her book at a 30% discount at press.jhu.edu with code HTWN or on Amazon, Kindle, etc.



*Kristallnacht, also known as the "November Pogrom," owes its name to the shards of shattered glass that lined German streets in the wake of violence directed at Jews and Jewish-owned businesses. The shards were broken from the windows of synagogues, homes, and Jewish-owned businesses plundered and destroyed during the violence. We commemorate Kristallnacht because it is regarded by some historians as the tipping point into which the Holocaust turned physically violent.

[Register here](#)

In commemoration of Kristallnacht, a [donation](#) in any amount to support Brotherhood Synagogue would be greatly appreciated.

Veterans Shabbat

Service to Honor Veterans
of the US Armed Forces and
the Israel Defense Forces

Friday, November 10
6:30 pm at Services



Please join with the Social Action Committee during in person Shabbat Services at Brotherhood on Friday, November 10. This year the national observance of Veterans Day takes place on this same date. Our speaker will be **Miranda Platcow**. As a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Miranda Platcow is uniquely able to share with us what it is like to be a Jewish cadet at the Academy as well as what services are available to Jewish cadets. As an Army officer, she served as an intelligence officer and paratrooper. Miranda additionally did graduate work at Tel Aviv University in Security and Diplomacy Studies as a Fulbright Fellow. She currently is a computer forensic analyst with the US Department of Homeland Security. Miranda will also join us at the one following services.

All veterans are urged to attend to be honored and all congregants urged to attend to show their support and appreciation.

Anti-Semitism on Campus and Beyond



All-CUNY Panel Discussion with

Moderator Julia Jassey of Jewish on Campus



Sunday, November 12 @ 4:00 | This is an IN-PERSON Event

The current war in Israel has exposed frightening anti-semitism and anti-Israel sentiment throughout our institutions of higher learning.

Now more than ever it is essential for our college-bound students to understand the landscape they will be entering when they step onto campus.

How do we equip our teens to navigate the hostile environment they will surely encounter if they haven't already experienced it in high school?

We are pleased to welcome students from Baruch College to share their experiences.

Julia Jassey is the Founder and Director of [Jewish on Campus](#), a student-led organization dedicated to empowering Jewish students through social media grassroots organizing and providing them with resources to combat antisemitism on their campuses.

Daniel Heideman is a junior and has been VP of Hillel for two and a half years.

Stav Izraev is a senior and is Treasurer of YOFI club, a youth organization of Israel.

Raina Allen is a junior and is active in Hillel and Tamid.

This community-wide event is especially relevant for high school students and their parents. Light refreshments will be served.

[Please consider a donation](#) in support of this and other programs we are sponsoring. Select "Anti-Semitism Task Force" from the drop down menu.

Please register here

Volunteer for DOROT Thanksgiving Food Delivery

Sunday, November 19, 11:00 am



DOROT's Thanksgiving Food Delivery and Visit is a meaningful way for generations to help generations celebrate Thanksgiving.

After a brief orientation at Central Synagogue (123 East 55th Street between Park and Lex) we then deliver a prepared Thanksgiving meal to a senior and spend an hour visiting.

Space is limited. **All group members must be 18+.**

Orientation is at 11:00 am but please arrive at 10:45 so we can gather as a group. You should allot three hours from the start of orientation until the visit with a senior is completed.

For those of you not already coming with others, we can pair up on Sunday. **A government issued photo ID is required to participate.**

Please email Roberta Kahn rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org to volunteer AND you must ALSO complete the [registration form found HERE](#).

FAMILY COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT A Visit to the Hebrew Home in Riverdale

Sunday, December 3, 10-11:45 am

Join us for a day of family community service as we visit with residents, join in a wellness class, and tour the facilities at the Hebrew Home in Riverdale. **We will meet at the Hebrew Home at 10:00 am.**

Ages 8 and up are welcome to participate but we are limited to only 15 visitors so [please email Beth Barry](#) (blbar1@aol.com) ASAP if you would like to volunteer.

DRIVERS ARE NEEDED so when you email Beth, please indicate if you are able to drive and provide rides for others.

COLLECTION NOVEMBER 15-30

During the last two weeks of November we will be collecting the following items in the synagogue lobby to bring to the residents:
**new mens t-shirts | new men's and women's socks | notecards, envelopes, stamps
soaps | lotions**

Dinner and Speaker Friday, November 17

An evening with
**Brooke Kamin
Rapaport**

**Why Public Art?:
Lessons from New York's
Madison Square Park**

Our first congregational dinner of the year will take place on Friday, November 17 when we will welcome Brooke Kamin Rapaport, Artistic Director and Martin Friedman Chief Curator of Madison Park Conservancy, our very near neighbor. So many of our members enjoy the wonderful programs sponsored by the



Conservancy — art, music, dance, conservation, and exercise. Brooke will speak on *Why Public Art?: Lessons from New York's Madison Square Park*.

Dinner RSVP by November 15

Members: \$45 | Nonmembers: \$50
Children: \$25

Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Ian and Lisa Abramson on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Zoey Abramson**. Zoey, a student at Baruch Middle School, will celebrate her simcha with her younger brothers, **Benjamin** and **Eli**.

Brian and Pamela Chisling on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Max Chisling**. Max, a student at Quad, will celebrate his simcha with his younger sister, **Kayla**.

Randi Press on the Bat Mitzvah of her daughter, **Isabella Press**. Isabella is a student at Baruch Middle School.

Weddings, Mazal Tov to:

Helaine and Lew Teperman on the marriage of their son **Jacob Teperman** and **Emily Nash**.

Hillary Widlitz and **Amir Hazan** on their marriage.

Births, Mazal Tov to:

Amy and Jake Dell on the birth of their son, **Levi Jordan Dell**; and to older sister, **Layla**.

Millie and Alan Fell on the birth of their grandson, **Oz Turowsky**, born to **Rachel Fell** and **Max Turowsky**.

Maya Memling and **Alan Friedman** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Phoebe Lenox Friedman**, born to **Allie Schmidt** and **Charlie Friedman**; and to older brother, **Asher**.

Tess and Jason Neider on the birth of their daughter, **Hailey Marlo Neider**; and to older sister, **Sienna**.

Rebecca and Andrew Wynne on the birth of their daughter, **Noa Sadie Wynne**; and to older sister, **Jordyn**.

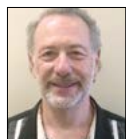
Condolences to:

The family of **Ben Fox** on his passing.

Milena Cornick on the passing of her sister, **Maya Schaper**.

Harold Fein on the passing of his wife, and our member, **Marcia Fein**.

President's Post by Seth Hulkower



Jewish education is central to the mission of Brotherhood Synagogue. In August I sent a [letter about our Hebrew School](#) and this month I want to share with you what we provide for our youngest children. Brotherhood provides both an [Early Childhood Program](#) and a Jewish [Nursery School](#) offering wonderful educational and play opportunities for children from 3 months to five years old. Each of these provide terrific connections to Jewish education and to our community.

The Early Childhood Program (ECP) began in 2006 and has introduced hundreds of our community's youngest children to Jewish and Israeli life, learning, values, and traditions. The program nurtures and celebrates our traditions by way of music, movement, theater arts, storytelling, play, and arts & crafts, with a special focus on Shabbat, holidays and Hebrew language. The ECP offers a Baby Class (3 to 12 months); a Pre-toddler class (ages 12 to 18 months); three Toddler classes (ages 18 months to 3 years); and two Thursday Corner drop off classes (ages 3 to 5). It's not too late to have your children join one of these classes, and registration for our Winter/Spring term will start in the coming weeks. If you're interested, please contact Roberta Kahn at rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org.

The Brotherhood Synagogue Nursery School was founded in 2001 and has classes for two-, three- and four-year-olds. The mission of the school is to help children reach their social, emotional, creative, cognitive, spiritual and physical potential, and Jewish values are core to this mission. The Nursery School is led by Merrill Feinstein, our Director for the past 19 years. Merrill has devoted her career to early childhood education, teaching students, teaching teachers, and advocating for early-childhood professionals as a staff member for the Coalition for Advancement on Jewish Education. Our teachers and staff are a mix of native New Yorkers and transplants from places as diverse as Philadelphia, Dallas, Jerusalem, and Hiroshima. All of them have extensive teaching experience and have taught at other Jewish institutions before coming to Brotherhood. We have great classrooms and the coolest playground in Gramercy Park—and on Fridays all the kids get together with Rabbi Alder and Cantor Yager to welcome in the Shabbat.

So, what's it like to send your child to the Brotherhood Nursery School? I'm going to use the words of some of our parents who wrote for this Bulletin in the past year:

- As Debbie Newman wrote in January: "I can still remember my daughter's first day in the Yellow Room, watching her toddle over to the teachers, baby-like and bewildered, and worrying how she'd make it all the way til pickup—a measly 1.5 hours away. By the end of the year, she's become best friends (for life?) with the other four kids in her class, perfected the art of the potty, and learned to wear her mask 24/7 and sing approximately ten different songs about Shabbat."
- As Karen Sumberg wrote in March: "My sons have truly thrived here. Sachin's and Elias' love of learning and self-confidence were nourished and allowed to flourish at every opportunity. As a part of an inclusive community, they have been able to reflect on, discuss, and share the different parts of their Jewish and Indian identity."

And it's not just what the Nursery School means to the children but also what it means to the parents:

- Amanda Epstein wrote in February: "No one prepared me for the amount of pressure I would put on myself to make sure that they are good people who contribute to society and who are happy, confident, self-aware, and have empathy for others.... I can't tell you how lucky I feel to be a part of this Brotherhood Community. Thank you to everyone who has helped me this past year and a half."

The Nursery School is now holding tours and applications for the 2024-25 school year are due on December 1, 2023. If you're interested, please email the [Nursery School](#) here or call 212-995-9867.

Warmly, Seth Hulkower

Brotherhood Book Club

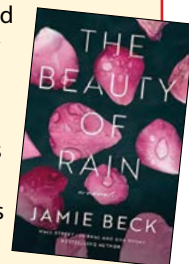
Thursday, November 16, 7:00 pm

Wendy Lieberman will lead a discussion of *The Beauty of Rain* by Jaime Beck.

Upcoming:

December 21- Linda Kates will lead a discussion of *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

Please contact Gail Pierris abend@nyc.rr.com if you have any questions.





The Brotherhood Committee on the Refugee and Immigration Crisis

BCRIC has entered into a partnership with two local houses of worship, East End Temple and Middle Collegiate Church (which is currently located at East End Temple following a fire that destroyed its church building). This partnership will increase our ability to continue providing meals and children's activities for asylum-seeker families with children in local public schools. We will also be partnering with Children's Workshop School, which is in the East Village.

Our first joint activity will be a dinner with children's activities to be held at East End Temple on **Sunday December 3 from 5-7pm**. We are looking for volunteers to prepare pareve and dairy dishes, and other volunteers to interact with adults and lead children's activities, (For volunteers interacting with adults, priority will be given to Spanish speakers.)

There are many other ways to support asylum-seekers in New York City. Each month we will highlight one volunteer and/or donor opportunity.

Team TLC: Many Brotherhood members heard about Team TLC when Ruth Messinger was our speaker over Refugee Shabbat Weekend. Following a terrible flood in its Little House of Kindness space, Team TLC is searching for a new space and looking at other ways of distributing clothing and offering support services to asylum-seekers. More information about volunteering and/or donating clothing is available at <https://www.ttlcnyc.org>.

On **Sunday November 19 from 1-5pm**, Congregation Shaaray Tefilah will host a Day of Service, Education, and Mobilization focused on ways that we can work together to support asylum-seekers. There will be opportunities to learn how to help migrants complete documents for work authorization, to participate in service activities and advocacy projects, and much more. Look for more information in Brotherhood's weekly emails.

For more information, please contact Barbara Stern at blee50@verizon.net.

YAHREZEITS

^Garden of Remembrance *Book of Remembrance

November 4-10

Goldie Appel*, Sara Batalion, Rabbi Irving Block**, Ruth Bloomfield^, Pearl Brown, Annette Cantor Wexler, Louis A. Capaldo*, Lewis D. Cohen, Sylvia Dolitsky, Rose Entus, Samuel Fassler*, Fred H. Feldman*, Samuel A. Fineman^, Jack Fink^, Sylvia Friedberg^, Lina Frommer, Jacob Goldberg, Sadie Goldberg, Betty Goldin**, Edith Goldman, Louis Green^, Judith Gutman, Abraham M. Hoffman^, Robert Victor Hoffman^, Samuel Hofstetter, Henry L. Hudes*, Minnie Jedwick^, Samuel Kaplow^, Aaron Kars, Harry Katzman**, Ruth Rose Klonsky^, Sylvia Krentzman^, Benjamin Levine, Samuel Levine*, Bernard Levy, Peter Loy, Anna Meyer*, Louis T. Meyer*, Douglas Norwick, Meyer Pollack*, Gerald Rockower, Gerald Sager^, Philip Salant, Samuel Schechter, Melvin Schurberg, Henry A. Silver^, Shiphrah Silver^, Jean Gordon Sperling^, Mary Spiegel*, Herman Steinberg^, Arlene Williams Stern, George Vassil, Sophie Versh*, Milton Warren, David Wilf, Miriam Wosk, Betty Yager, Herman Zeitlin^

November 11-17

Maurice Abraham, Joseph Azizo, Harry Blumenthal^, Edward Bratter, Leonard Chernick^, Martin S. Drucker*, Joyce Alexis Edelman^, Prof. Taamrat Emmanuel, Henry Entus, Belle Feuerstein^, Penny Forman^, Doris C. Freedman^, Shirley Friedes, Samuel Friedman^, Arthur Frommer, Yoram Fuchs, Ruth Kempner Fuss, Sylvia Gewirtz*, Abraham Glazer, Yankel Glickstein, Harry Gold^, Rabbi William Goldberg*, Mr. Arthur Greenbaum, Dora Grossman**, Hilda Harris^, Emma Hayeem, Morris Herbst*, Naomi Holcomb*, Solomon Hudes*, Florence Jacobs, Harry Jacobs, Dr. Herman Jacobs*, Rose Kaminsky^, Ida Kaplan, Hannah Kaplan^, Max Karten, Fannie Karten, Minnie Katz*, Irving Korman, Barnet Kurland^, Ann Rechtschaeffer Levy, Brenda Alice Levy^, Stephen Lewin^, Elias Lieberman, Helene Lind*, Daniel Lipner, Jack Low^, Harris Mahler*, Abraham Mald*, John Malino, Harry Meyer*, Emanuel Morgenstern**, Robert N. Strauss, Anita Perlman, Fred Phillips^, Morton Raskin^, Betty Ress^, Kate Richkin, Herman L. Rosenberg*, Morris Rosenthal, Louis Schneier^, Rabbi Jeshua Schnitzer, Kate Schonhaut^, Herbert Seidel, Molly Seidman*, Etta Shankman^, Anne Silberling^, Mollie Silverstein, Semyon Vaidman, Eric Wagman, Max Joseph Wasserman^, Flora Weinstein*, Dr. Maurice Yarkow^

November 18-24

Freida Abraham^, Ralph Adler, Lenore Alterman^, Jay Barnett, Dora Berger, Sarah Brown, Allan M. Campbell, Ray Cohen, Minnie Cohn^, Merle Davis, Lily Ente^, Roger Flather, A. Herman Friedman*, Ephraim Glasser, Honey F. Golby*, Alexander Gordon, Pauline Gordon^, Rose Gottlieb^, Hugo Hamburger, Benjamin Hauptman, Benjamin Hushansky, Barbara Joslyn, David Katz*, Geza Kestenbaum^, Kate Knopf^, Edith Kowal^, Robert Krane, David Kreloff, George Levy^, Harry Liebowitz, Louis Lipshie*, Anna Marie Ross Maikish, Herbert Marton, Robert Merker, Isabelle Mersky^, Jonathan Moore, Maurice Musiker^, Richard Nafalis*, Michael Nappi, Fannie Nelson, Louis Newman, Peter Noviello, Abraham Novom^, Gertrude Novom^, Herman Nussbaum, Joseph Rogoff, Dr. Meyer Rosenblum, Sara Rosenstock, Walter Rosenthal, Samuel Rossman*, Reuben Rothman*, Mitchell Rubinstein, Jesse Salsberg, Joseph Simon^, David Sandler, Miriam Statsinger^, Rev. Jesse W. Stitt**, Kay R. Strauss, Louis Sussman, Lillian Teitelbaum^, Ida Wigdor, Tania Zarrini

November 25-December 1

Nellie Beck, Lila Blinder^, David Bober, Freya Bodkins^, Betty Casper, Sidney Cohen, Ida Cohen**, Edith N. Conway^, Annaliese E. Daniel, Julius Duberstein*, Isidore Dursht^, Rebecca Ellenzweig, Barnett Finebaum*, Gary Fisher, Benjamin Friedman^, Gerald J. Friedman^, Anny H. Gelber*, Lenore Goldstein^, Lillian Gordon^, Abraham Kasman, Andrea Katz-Andrade, Benjamin Klein*, Hanna Lederer, Abe Leinweber, Gloria Love^, Gussie Low^, Samuel L. Magerfield*, Caroline Nachman, Ethel Offerman^, Joseph Pessar^, Anna Poswolsky*, Rose Greenberg Rechtschaeffer**, Joseph Ripinsky^, Terry Rosenberg, Morris Rosenberg^, Arthur Rosenblum^, Annie Schindel^, William Seinfeld^, Pearl Sekular^, Audrey Shebroe, Nathan Siegel, Bessie Siepser*, Jonas Spiegel*, Irving Statsinger^, Roz Statsinger^, Morris Sussman, Paul Tuchfeld^, Golden Wasser, Alexandra Ginsberg Weiler^, Edward Weisman^, Esther Wittenstein*, Calvin Younger

The Chesed* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

That there is support for our members as we process our grief and anxiety over current events at home and in Israel in our own ways. Rabbi Miriam Herscher, who serves as our part-time social worker, is available as a listening ear, and can also connect members to a wide array of support organizations. She can be reached at: socialworker@brotherhoodsynagogue.org or 917-664-1956.

*The Chesed Committee provides help and compassion to Brotherhood members in times of need. Reach us at chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org or through the synagogue office.

The Brotherhood Synagogue

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www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org



RABBI DANIEL ALDER
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK²¹ 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



November 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 online classes during the month of November!

Please click on the class titles for full description and to register

or go to occsnp.net/current-online-events/.



Danger: Women with Books

Wednesday, November 1 and
Thursdays, November 9, 16 & 30

7 pm | Prof. Marc Michael Epstein

11/7: **Danger: Women with Books**

11/9: **Re-writing the Rules: Women, Halakha and the Creation of Jewish Books**

11/16: **To Write Holy Words: A Soferet Encounters the Sacred**

11/30: **Queering The Torah Text: Strange Letters and A Woman's Hand**

Antisemitism, Israel and the Politics of Resentment on the Campus Today

Sunday, November 5 | 1:00 pm
Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller

CSP Israeli Author Event: Inside Information

Tuesday November 7 7:30 pm | Eshkol Nevo

CSP Book Launch Event: Duets on Psalms: Drawing New Meaning from Ancient Words

Sunday, November 12 | 1:00 pm
Rabbi Elie Spitz and Rabbi Jack Riemer



CSP Musicology Event: Chazzanus, Aesthetics and Non-Conformity

Monday, November 13

1:00 pm | Jeremiah Lockwood



A New Jewish Voice: Europe

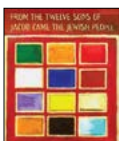
Tuesday, November 14 | 1:00 pm

Barbara Lerner Spectre, Founding Director, Paideia

Artist Spotlight Series: Heritage, Tech, and Tradition / Part 2 - Hagar Cygler: Family, History and Split Narratives

Tuesday, November 21 | 1:00 pm

Hagar Cygler with Shirel Horovitz



CSP Online Salon

Theater Event:

True Colors: Stories from Jews of Color Exploring Identity and Community

Sunday, November 26 | 7:00 pm

The Braid

The Sephardic Holocaust: The Destruction of the Jews of Greece

Tuesday, November 28 | 1:00 pm

Prof. Devin Naar



Union BBYO @
Brotherhood

BBYO is the leading pluralistic Jewish teen leadership movement aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences.

UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS

**unless otherwise indicated, Union BBYO Chapter Programs take place every other Thursday evening from 6:30pm-8pm at Brotherhood Synagogue.

- Israel Solidarity Program: Thursday, November 2
- Luau Party: Thursday, November 9
- Thanksgiving Food Packing: Thursday, November 16
- Hannukah Party with Chaverut BBYO: Thursday, December 14
- New Member Murder Mystery Event: Thursday, January 4

Interested? Follow [@UnionBBYO](https://www.instagram.com/UnionBBYO) on Instagram for live calendar updates, reach out to Lily Pace, Chapter President, at lilyp07@gmail.com, or Associate Regional Director, Aliya Cohen, at agottehrercohen@bbyo.org for more info!

Friday Family Shabbat

5:30 pm family services for K-6 grade

6:30 pm: Shabbat Dinner
(see dates by grade below)

November 17

Shabbat dinner for
3rd and 4th grade families

December 15

Shabbat dinner for 7th grade families

Brotherhood Synagogue continues to offer Adult Education classes 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](https://www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org) and designate your contributions as a gift to "Adult Education" in the dropdown menu.

Hebrew School News

And still, *Am Yisrael Chai*—the people of Israel, our people, our community—live. We go to work and to school each day, and welcome Shabbat at the end of each week. We gather to mark life's moments, from births to deaths and everything in-between. The *V'havta* reminds us that teaching our children Torah in every place, at every time, is an obligation, and our Brotherhood Synagogue staff and faculty ensure that Jewish learning continues safely in our community even in times of great pain.

One of the happier life moments we celebrated in early October was the birth of Hailey Marlo Neider! While Tess spends quality time with her growing family, I'm honored to serve as interim Hebrew School principal. My first couple of weeks on the job were busy with Sukkot celebrations and supporting students and teachers in the aftermath of the Hamas attacks, but we also fit in plenty of learning,

growth, and community building. It was especially wonderful to be together for Family Shabbat services and a dinner with 5th & 6th grades on October 20. Be sure to save the date for your child's grade-level Shabbat this year—up next is **3rd & 4th grades on November 17**, and **7th grade on December 15**! You can register using your ShulCloud account. Further down the road, we're looking forward to the annual **Hanukkah Party on Sunday, December 10**.

Brotherhood Teens have been busy as well; in addition to having several wonderful Teen Madrichim assisting in Hebrew School classrooms, and an active BBYO chapter, teens also took part in two October programs—they volunteered in the Chuck Ginsburg Memorial blood drive and participated in the important and informative Gun Violence panel. Next up is **CPR Training for teens on November 12 at 2 pm** followed by our annual **Knowledge for College**

event at 4 pm where a panel of current college students will share info to help prepare our teens for what they may encounter at college (or in their current schools) with regard to anti-semitism/anti-Israel sentiment. We hope parents will accompany teens to Knowledge for College. Email me at croman@brotherhoodsynagogue.org if your teen would like to attend these programs or otherwise get involved.

As we move through the days of Cheshvan, the only month in the Hebrew calendar without a Jewish holiday, and toward our secular (but no less meaningful) celebrations of Thanksgiving, I am grateful to play a small part in the learning journey of Brotherhood Synagogue students and families this year.

L'Shalom,
Caryn Roman
Interim Hebrew School Principal



for Young Children*

Please join us to welcome Shabbat together with stories and song!

Friday, November 10 &

Friday, November 17

5:30-6:00 pm

with Daphna & Saskia
in the Community Room
at Brotherhood

* For children 4 and under. Older sibs welcome!

SAVE THE DATE

PASTA SHABBAT

Friday, December 1

following Friday Family Shabbat
with Saskia and Daphna

Family Shabbat 5:30 – 6:00 pm

Pasta & Salad Dinner 6:00 pm

Adults \$20, Children \$10

REGISTER HERE



Brotherhood Synagogue Early Childhood Programs (ECP) 2024 Winter/Spring Registration is NOW OPEN!

Early Childhood Programs (ECP) at Brotherhood Synagogue help our community's youngest children grow and flourish in an atmosphere where Jewish life, learning, values, and traditions are nurtured and celebrated. Cognitive



skills along with social, emotional, and physical development are encouraged through music, movement, theater arts, storytelling, learning activities, play, and arts & crafts with a special focus on Shabbat, holidays, and Hebrew language. Our weekly classes emphasize joyful Jewish experiences and a connection to community in a safe and fun learning environment.

We are offering the following classes:

- Baby Class 0–12 months
- Pre-Toddler Class 12–18 months
- Toddler Class 18 months–3 years
- Thursday Corner 3–5 years

Please visit [Early Childhood Programs at Brotherhood](#) to learn more and register or [email Roberta](#) if you have questions.

Nursery School Thoughts

by Ariana Ost Martz

From the archives, a note about gratitude.

In Judaism we are taught to begin each day with the most ancient gratitude practice of all. Upon waking, we recite the “modeh ani” prayer with fervor. The “modeh ani” is a gift to us parents as it can help us teach our children to approach the world through a thankful lens.

*“modeh anee lefanecha Melech el
chai vekayam sheh-he-chezarta bee
nishmatee b’chemla raba emunatecha.”*

“I give thanks before you, King living
and eternal, for You have returned
within me my soul with compassion;
abundant is your faithfulness!”

Isn’t it amazing to see modern day buzzwords like compassion, abundance, and faithfulness in this ancient prayer? This prayer removes our sense of control over our lives by stressing that getting our soul back each morning is not to be taken for granted.

Yes, gratitude is an easy word to throw around. But how do you come to truly mean it?

Upon implementing a morning gratitude practice, our mind might start racing with to do lists, complaints, fears, and the stories we tell ourselves. If we interrupt the automatic mental loop, however, and focus instead on all the wows in our lives, then we will attract more of them.

The energy and intentions with which we start our day sets the tone for the hours that follow. Power and opportunity are only present in the moment. We can only act now, think now, be now and do now. Making the choice to start your day with a positive perspective and feeling of gratitude means that you will see your time through that lens, no matter what the world may throw at you.

Experiencing gratitude makes our children more sensitive, compassionate and kind. We must teach them to acknowledge that there is magic all around, especially in the quiet moments. How do we enable our children to understand these concepts?

How can they come to understand how grateful they should be? Rituals and songs are fun tools that help add a playful dimension to tradition and mindfulness.

Every morning and evening, we ask our daughter what she is happy about, thankful for and excited for. More often than not, the answer is related to school! We are so grateful that Brotherhood is an integral part of our lives. We feel blessed that we walk by the lush, green, serene and vibrant Gramercy Park every day.

When you change what you see, you change how you see. 🌈

🎵 Cantor’s Notes 🎵 by Cantor Isaac Yager

I have been sharing a bed with my four year old daughter for a while now. After various other experimental nighttime arrangements involving the rest of my family, setting up camp in her room turned out to be the best solution to avoid the regular shenanigans of bed switching at 3:00 am. Over time I have gotten used to this arrangement, even finding myself newly dependent on the calming effect of our rotating unicorn nightlight. But, as with any roommate, there are some issues. Admittedly, I’ve occasionally hemmed and hawed about my regular wake up call of toddler feet in my face or a nice kick to the ribs. And then unthinkable tragedies happen like the one that took place in Israel earlier last month. Perspectives shift and priorities change. I have been having a hard time watching and reading the news since the terrorist attack took place and war commenced. And while our homeland’s fragility is a source of my anxiety, it’s the unfathomable stories of parents and children under attack and in captivity that put me completely over the edge. Packing my daughter’s school lunch, I cried into her bento box listening to three teenagers describe to a news correspondent the way in which their parents shielded them from gunfire, sacrificing

their own lives to protect their kids. One night I was unable to sleep after looking at the blurred images of bodies and hearing the description of murdered mothers and fathers clutching their children in desperation. But in my insomnia, in between toes in my nose and an occasional knee jerk to my belly, I looked over at my bedmate and felt only gratitude. Suddenly the bruises were more than tolerable. I wrote of the attack to my cousin who lives with her family outside Jerusalem. She responded, “Yes these are very hard times for all of the people of Israel all over the world. It is a nightmare but it’s our reality. It’s us now, the generation who are responsible to take action. We used to count on our parents, they knew what to do, now we are the parents. Today I went to a funeral of a friend’s daughter that was murdered at the Nova party. Parents who bury their children that have been violently abused and then murdered, unheard of. And there are more than 1300 parents that have and will do this. My heart is broken. Seeing kids continue to laugh and play gives me hope and happiness for present moments and for the future. Thank you for your prayers. Israel needs light wherever it may come from.” My heart is broken too, but we will prevail as we always do. It’s our responsibility. Am Yisrael Chai. 🌈

Brotherhood Synagogue



Cheshvan / Kislev
November 2023

☆ Shabbat Corner: 10 am | Aleph Bet Club: 11 am | Junior Congregation: 10 am Starting October 14

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 9:30 am: Tikvah 2:30 pm: NY Common Pantry Food Prep	30 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Combating Gun Violence	31 9:30 am: Toddlers I 10:30 am: Toddlers II 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Beginning Conversational Hebrew	1 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 1:30 pm: Aging Alone, Together 4 pm: Hebrew School 8 pm: Rabbi Irving J. Block z"l Memorial Lecture	2 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers III 11:15 am: Lunch & Learn 11:30 am: Babies 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner I 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner II 6:30 pm: Union BBYO	3 5:32 pm: Candles 3 pm: Tikvah 5:15 pm: Nursery School Services and Dinner 6:30 pm: Services	4 ☆ 9:30 am: Services VAYEIRA
5 9:30 am: Tikvah	6 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Bad Girls of the Bible	7 9:30 am: Toddlers I 10:30 am: Toddlers II 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Beginning Conversational Hebrew	8 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 1:30 pm: Aging Alone, Together 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Game Night 7 pm: All the Horrors of War	9 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers III 11:15 am: Lunch & Learn 11:30 am: Babies 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner I 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner II	10 4:25 pm: Candles 3 pm: Tikvah 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat for Children 3 & under 6:30 pm: Veterans Shabbat Services - Speaker: Miranda Platcow VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE OFFICE CLOSED	11 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Zoey Abramson 4:30 pm: Bar Mitzvah of Max Chisling VETERANS DAY CHAYEI SARAH
12 9:30 am: Tikvah 2 pm: Teen CPR Training 4 pm: Knowledge for College	13 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Bad Girls of the Bible	14 7:30 am: Minyan 9:30 am: Toddlers I 10:30 am: Toddlers II 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6 pm: Harmoni-AH! 6:30 pm: Beginning Conversational Hebrew ROSH CHODESH	15 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Game Night	16 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:15 am: Lunch & Learn 11:30 am: Babies 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner I 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner II 6:30 pm: Union BBYO 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	17 4:19 pm: Candles 3 pm: Tikvah 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat for Children 3 & under 5:30 pm: Family Friday Service Grades K-6 6:30 pm: Services 7:30 pm: Shabbaton Dinner - Speaker: Brooke Kamin Rapaport	18 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Isabella Press 12:30 pm: Shabbat Club TOLDOT
19 9:30 am: Tikvah 11 am: Dorot Thanksgiving Deliveries	20 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Bad Girls of the Bible	21 9:30 am: Toddlers I 10:30 am: Toddlers II 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6 pm: Harmoni-AH! 7 pm: Board Meeting	22 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 6:30 pm: Conversion Class	23 THANKSGIVING DAY	24 4:14 pm: Candles 4 pm: Knitting Circle 6:30 pm: Services	25 ☆ 9:30 am: Services VAYETZE
26	27 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Bad Girls of the Bible	28 9:30 am: Toddlers I 10:30 am: Toddlers II 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6 pm: Harmoni-AH!	29 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Game Night	30 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:15 am: Lunch & Learn 11:30 am: Babies 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner I 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner II 6:30 pm: Union BBYO	1 4:11 pm: Candles 3 pm: Tikvah 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat for Children 3 & under 6:30 pm: Services	2 ☆ 9:30 am: Services 4 pm: Bat Mitzvah of Lily Hendricks VAYISLACH

Mah Jongg Game Nights & Beginners Mah Jongg Classes!!

On the following Wednesdays in November & December we're holding Mah Jongg games at Brotherhood:

November 8, 15 & 29 | December 6, 13 & 20

Please email Janet Heller (jheller711@gmail.com) if you'd like to join a game.

By popular demand, we are adding another Beginners Mah Jongg class!

Janet will teach a morning class on the following dates: **Wednesdays**
November 8, 15 & 29 and December 6, 13 & 20 | 10:00 am –12:00 noon

Cost \$90

[Register here](#)

BIG BAND
EYAL VILNER'S 16-PIECE SWING BAND!
BIG LATKES
LOTS'A VODKAS
ADMISSION: \$20
DECEMBER 9
8:00 PM